fiery lake and quiet reigns for a short time, but only to be soon again broken and the same operations repeated. So enchanting is the spectacle furnished by these phenomena that one can sit for hours to watch them, and even then only leave them with reluctance. As seen by night they produce a far stronger impression than when seen by day.

Hale-mau-mau is about the same size as the New Lake, but is surrounded by higher walls and heaped-up masses of broken lava.

At the north end of the crater are large deposits of sulphur where we found many very fine crystals of sulphur, but all so brittle that we could not preserve them.

There are many other objects of interest in that neighborhood, but they would require too extended a description for this article.

G. H. B.

Prospecting under Difficulties.

NOT many years ago two young mining engineers, just fledged from a well-known institution for scientific training, looked about inquiringly for a promising field for future success in the practice of their profession. Hearing of the richness of West Virginia, in zinc, coal and iron deposits, they thought the chances would be better in a place where the divining-rod—a forked peach-tree limb—was still regarded as the best means of discovering hidden treasures.

Armed with the weapons of science and rendered cautious by long experience of the uncertainty of chemical reactions, they argued that the first step should be a "prospecting" tour, though they were confident of being able to cope with the uncouth "moonshiners" of that little-known mountainous region.

This point decided, they at once negotiated with a railroad ticket scalper for round-trip tickets at reduced rates through the terra incognita, thus securing a safe retreat in case of meeting with disappointment.

One, possessing more than ordinary financial ability, naturally became treasurer of the exhibition, and was intrusted with the precious coupons that smooth the path of the dusty traveller by rail when accosted by troublesome conductors, and with the spare cash that was to lubricate the hands of the sour-visaged conjurer of hash. He, also, was intrusted with the taschenuhr that was to indicate the times of gastronomic devotions.

Arriving upon the field of exploration, they divided into parties of one for the purpose of expediting their examinations. One struck off in the direction of the mountains, but the heat of the day was great, the road dusty, and soon becoming tired, he wandered to one side and entered a farm-house to solicit a drink of water to cool his parched throat. Here he encountered a beautiful farmer's daughter, who with a shy courtesy, handed him a tin dipper filled with limpid spring water in answer to his appeal for help, at the same time glancing admiringly at the stalwart form of the handsome metal seeker. The latter was not slow to avail himself of the proffered split-bottomed chair and the modest invitation to rest himself "a little." Fascinated by the ingenuous child of the wilderness, he tarried longer than was necessary to restore the elasticity of his frame, and fell to conversing on such subjects as naturally suggested themselves, though the burden of the colloquy was bee-farming and honey-making which is an important industry in that region. Here was a field for the display of his scientific knowledge. He explained the geometrical construction of the comb-cells, the properties of the adhesive cement used by the insects in securing the comb to the roof and partitions of the hive, the method of filling the cells with honey, and how the bees took advantage of capillarity and viscosity in their operations. He discussed the best form of adits to gain the interior of the hives, the methods of ventilating and lighting these aerial mines without the use of Sturtevant blowers or Edison lights. In impressive language he told his wondering listeners how no bees could have lived in early carboniferous times, since no flowers existed from which...