The estimated height of the mountains, on either side, is from 1,500 to 1,600 feet; the width of the space between the two mountains at the base, 1,000 feet; and at the summit, 2,000 feet; the whole distance through the mountain is about two miles. In making an estimate of the amount of water thrown out by the passing of the Delaware, if only one mile in length is taken into the account, would then give the enormous amount of cubic feet to be 12,000,000,000, a sufficiency of matter to cover a township of five miles square, or twenty-five square miles, fifteen feet in depth!

Well might it be said, "There has been a convulsion that must have shaken the earth to the very center, and the elements to give signs that all was lost." But He who governs the world and has all things at His command—He who holds the globe by the might of His power, can remove the mountains from their foundations and bury them in the deep, and the great machinery of the universe continue to move, and lose none of its functions."

Various are the conjectures as to the formative cause of these Gaps in the mountain. "It would seem," says a certain writer, in speaking of this Gap, "from the quantity of alluvial lands above the mountain, that, at some remote period, a dam of great height here obstructed the progress of the Delaware. If it had been as high, or half as high as the mountain, it would have raised the water that it might have run into the North River. It probably had an elevation of 150 or 200 feet, forming a lake of more than thirty miles in length, covering the Mecesonike settlements. This height must have formed cataracts similar, the quantity of water excepted, to that of Niagara.

"It has been conjectured that this dam was engulfed by some great convulsion of the earth, and the following reasons have been assigned for this opinion: The distance through the mountain is about two miles, within which the river has an average width of half a mile, and the water is as still as a mill-pond, so that a raft will be driven by the impulse of the wind up or down; and the boatmen report that a hundred and ten years ago, no bottom could be found with their longest line. Had the mountain been worn by abrasion, such a gulf would not have existed, and the bottom of the river here would have consisted of the same material which forms the side of the pass; but the bottom is of alluvial mud, and the nucleus of the mountain is of a hard granite, peculiar to the place. It is also well known that alluvial particles, which float in the swift current subsides in the pools; and it has been noted by an accurate observer that the river is always much more muddy, or ribly, as the phrase is, above than below the Gap Hence a proportion of the alluvial carried down the stream must have been deposited in this gulf. Supposing the dam to have sunk 1,000 years ago, and two feet of earth per annum to have been thus deposited, 2,000 feet must thus have been heaped upon the original dam, supposed to have been 160 or 200 feet high."

All are agreed that it was owing to some great cause, a mighty disturbance of elements, which wrought a change in the current, as well as the strata of rock. Professor Rogers maintains, while some hold some vast lake had burst its barriers, by some mighty convulsion, which produced transverse dislocation in the Appalachian chains, may have caused this rent, or chasm.

*Die Lophia Wasser-Kraft." i.e., the Lehigh Water Gap, in the Kittatinny, or Blue Mountain, the dividing line between Carbon County and that of Lehigh and Northampton, is so named from the river Lehigh, which steals its way through the Gap, prominently walled on both sides, forms a sublime object of admiration, and presents to the observant spectator, one of the most picturesque prospects in east Pennsylvania. At almost every season of the year, the diversified defile is exceedingly attractive. The writer visited this place in September, 1844. In ascending the eastern bank some hundred feet, the scene heightens in grandeur, and the stream—the beautiful, yet curling, rippled waters of the Lehigh River, add much, nay every thing, to make it impressive beyond oblivion. Though it is seemingly a rugged stream here, yet as you follow it in its course, through a fertile region of

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Rupp, op. cit., pp. 113-114.