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the chief points of interest may be obtained in a day by a round-trip from Catskill to either of the above hotels and thence via *Stony Clove* and the *Kaaterskill Railroad to Tannersville, Phoenicia, and Kingston* (or in the reverse direction); but a stay of 1-3 weeks is desirable for a closer acquaintance with the mountains. The Catskill railways generally cease running in winter. Fair trout-fishing is obtained in the mountain-streams. The red sandstone to which the name Catskill has been attached belongs to the latest Devonian formations of America.

a. From Catskill to the Catskill Mountain House and the Hotel Kaaterskill.

Catskill (95 ft.; *Prospect Park Hotel*, with view of the Hudson, \$ 3-4; *Grant House*, 1 M. to the W., with view, \$ 3-3½; *Summit Hill Ho., Union, Irving Ho.*, \$ 2-3), a village with 4920 inhab., is finely situated on the W. bank of the Hudson, at the mouth of the *Catskill Creek*. There are numerous pleasant walks and drives in the vicinity, and boating and fishing may be enjoyed on the two rivers. It is a station of the Hudson steamers (p. 165) and the West Shore R. R. (p. 170).

Catskill is the starting-point of the narrow-gauge CATSKILL MOUNTAIN RAILROAD, which runs hence to (13 M.) *Cairo* (35-45 min.) and to (16 M.) *Palenville* (¾-1 hr.). The railway ascends the Catskill Creek to (8 M.) *South Cairo* and (10 M.) *Cairo Junction*, where the Cairo branch (3 M.) diverges to the right.

Cairo (345 ft.; *Columbian*, \$ 2-3; *Winter Clove Ho.*, \$ 2) is an unpretending little summer-resort, commanding a good view of the Catskills.

Beyond *Cairo Junction* the train skirts the base of *Cairo Round Top Mt.* 12 M. *Lawrenceville*. — 14 M. *Mountain House Station*, where the road to the (4 M.) *Catskill Mt. House* (p. 178) begins.

The ROAD FROM THE MOUNTAIN HOUSE STATION TO THE MOUNTAIN HOUSE (4¼ M.) ascends very rapidly, and good walkers can accomplish the distance almost as fast as a carriage. After passing through (½ M.) the toll-gate at the foot of the mountain, we turn to the left and ascend to *Sleepy Hollow*, the scene of Rip van Winkle's famous adventure, and to (1 M.) the *Rip van Winkle House* (1275 ft.). A slab of rock is pointed out as the actual spot of his twenty years' slumber! Farther on the road toils up the 'Dead Ox Hill', rounds 'Cape Horn', passes the 'Short Level', again turns abruptly to the left, climbs 'Featherbed Hill', traverses the 'Long Level', passes the top of the Otis Elevating Railway (see below), and leads to the W. or rear entrance of the *Catskill Mt. Ho.* (see p. 178).

15¼ M. *Otis Junction*, the starting-point of the OTIS ELEVATING RAILWAY, which leads directly to *Otis Summit* in 10 min., ascending 1600 ft. in its length of 1½ M. (fare 75 c.). The top of this railway is only 100 yds. from the *Catskill Mt. House* (p. 178), with which it is connected by a covered walk. It reduces the time of the journey from Catskill to the Mountain Ho. to 1 hr. (from New York 3½-4 hrs.). Passengers for the *Hot. Kaaterskill, the Laurel House, etc.*, go on by the Kaaterskill branch of the U. & D. R. R. (p. 181).

16 M. *Palenville* (*Stony Brook Ho.*, \$ 2-3; *Maple Grove Ho., Pine Grove Ho., Richmond, Drummond Falls Ho.*, \$ 2; *Palenville Ho.*, 1 M. from the station, \$ 2), finely situated at the entrance to the *Kaaterskill Clove* (p. 178), lies 3 M. from the Kaaterskill Hotel.

Palenville is much frequented by artists, and many pleasant walks and drives may be made from it. Coaches run hence to *Haines's Falls* and *Tannersville* (p. 181; \$1).

Some travellers prefer to drive all the way from Catskill to (12 M.) the *Mountain House* or the (14 M.) *Kaaterskill Hotel*.

The **Kaaterskill Clove* is a narrow wooded ravine, like the 'Notches' of the White Mts. (pp. 139, 143), enclosed by *South Mountain* (see below) on the right and *High Peak* (p. 179) and *Round Top* (p. 179) on the left. A rough road ascends through the Clove, crossing the creek 1 M. from the station. $\frac{1}{4}$ M. *Artist's Grotto* and *La Belle Falls*. A little farther on are two land-slips. At (1 M.) *Profile Rock* we cross the creek (profile seen by looking back from the bridge). $\frac{1}{4}$ M. *Fawn's Leap*; $\frac{1}{4}$ M. *Buttermilk Falls*; $\frac{1}{4}$ M. Bridge over *Lake Creek*. Here we may either turn to the right and follow the lateral ravine to (1 M.) the *Kaaterskill Falls* or take the path up the Clove proper to ($\frac{1}{4}$ M.) *Haines's Falls* (p. 181). The road ascends to ($\frac{1}{4}$ M.) the *Haines House* (p. 181).

The *ROAD FROM PALENVILLE TO THE HOTEL KAATERSKILL (3 M.; see above; coach-fare \$1 $\frac{1}{2}$, trunk 50 c.) runs from the station to the W. through the village, then turns to the right, and ascends along the N. side of the Kaaterskill Clove (see above). In $\frac{1}{2}$ M. we cross the so-called *Gulf*, with the *Point of Rocks* and *Indian Head* high above us to the right, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ M. farther on we bend back on our course and proceed for some distance to the E., climbing towards ($\frac{1}{2}$ M.) the head of the Gulf, several hundred feet above the point where we crossed it below. To the left diverges the *Ledge Drive* (p. 179). In $\frac{1}{2}$ M. more we reach the hotel (p. 179).

The *Catskill Mountain House* (2225 ft.; \$3-4 per day, \$14-21 per week, acc. to room and season; 400 beds) is magnificently situated on the ridge of *South* or *Pine Orchard Mountain* (2500 ft.). The **View from the rocky ledges in front of the hotel is of a unique beauty and interest.

The E. escarpment of the mountain rises so abruptly from the plain, that the effect is almost as if we were leaning out of the car of a balloon or over the battlements of a castle 2000 ft. high. The plain between the mountains and the Hudson, 10 M. off, is spread out at our feet like a low-relief map, with checkerboard squares of fields, patches of woodland, villages, and farm-houses. Catskill is distinctly seen due E., and Athens (p. 165) and Hudson (p. 167) may be made out a little more to the N. The moving trains on the banks of the Hudson are curiously distinct and minute. The E. background is formed by the blue Berkshire Hills (p. 150), over which the shadowy White Mts. (p. 134) are sometimes visible.

Walks. By following the road leading towards North Mt. and North Lake and taking the first path to the right, we soon reach (10 min.) the *Artist's Rock*, on the E. ledge of N. Mt. (view), beyond which the path ascends some steps and reaches (3 min.) *Prospect Rock*, which commands a very extensive *View. The ledge-path next leads to (5 min.) *Sunset Rock*, beyond which it bends to the left to (7 min.) *Jacob's Ladder* and the *Bear's Den* (*View). The ledge-path ends at *Newman's Ledge* (view of *Sleepy Hollow*, p. 177), 10-12 min. beyond the Bear's Den. — The path to the left at the fork, 5 min. beyond the Bear's Den, ascends towards the crest of *North Mountain* (3300 ft.), a walk round which takes in all 4-5 hrs. The path crosses the '*Burnt District*' to (20 min. from Bear's Den) the cavity called the *Cellar*. Here we bend towards the left and walk round the crest to ($\frac{1}{2}$ hr.) the so-called **First Outlook*, at the top of the mountain, and (10 min.) the *Second Outlook*. The trail descending from this point through the trees is sometimes a little difficult to follow; but there is little danger of being lost if the general direction of the hotel be taken at the Outlook and followed by compass. An additional help in case of doubt is the water-pipe leading to the hotel (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 hrs.). It is advisable not to try this walk alone. — By following the path to the left at the entrance to the North Mt. walk, passing the E. end of North Lake, and

ascending along the stream, we reach ($\frac{1}{2}$ hr.) *Mary's Glen*, with small waterfalls. We may return by crossing the stream above the falls and following a path leading S.W. to ($\frac{1}{4}$ hr.) the main road, which we reach at the *Charcoal Pit*, $\frac{1}{3}$ M. from the hotel.

The *Catskill Mt.* House is about 1 M. to the N.E. of the Kaaterskill Hotel (see below), and the excursions made from the latter (see below) can all be made from the former also.

The ***Hotel Kaaterskill** (2495 ft.; \$4-5 per day, \$21-25 per week; 1500 beds, including dépendances), the most fashionable resort in the Catskills, is situated on one of the highest points of *South Mt.* (see p. 178) and commands a view little, if at all, inferior to that from the *Mountain House* (see p. 178). Immediately to the S.W. rise *High Peak* (3660 ft.) and *Round Top* (3470 ft.), thickly clad with timber from top to bottom, and due W. is *Hunter Mt.* (4025 ft.). *Kaaterskill Station* (p. 182) lies about $\frac{3}{4}$ M. to the W., at the end of *South Lake* (p. 182).

Walks. Most of the paths, roads, and points of interest are clearly indicated by sign-posts and arrows painted on the rocks.

1. To the *Catskill Mt. House*, 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ M. Different paths, indicated by sign-posts, begin in front (E.) and to the N. of the hotel, and lead viâ the *Fairy Spring*, the *Mossy Path*, the *Druid Rocks*, the *Lemon Squeezer*, and the *Ledge Path*. The last skirts the E. edge of the mountain, affording fine views of the Hudson Valley, the best from the so-called ($\frac{1}{2}$ M.) *Grand View*. A short digression may be made to the left to the top of *South Mountain* (2500 ft.; *View). — A pleasant round may be made by going viâ the *Ledge Path* and returning viâ the *Druid Rocks*, making a complete circuit of *South Mt.*

2. *Palenville Overlook*, $\frac{1}{3}$ M. The path leads to the E. from the hotel. The ***Overlook** (1660 ft.) commands a fine view of *Kaaterskill Clove* (p. 178).

3. *Inspiration Point and Sunset Rock*, 1 M. A path beginning at the hotel-stables (to the S. of the hotel) leads through low wood, crossing a road, to ($\frac{1}{3}$ M.) a point on the *Ledge Drive*, where stands a sign-post indicating the path to ($\frac{1}{4}$ M.) *Inspiration Point* (*View), overlooking *Kaaterskill Clove*. Thence we follow the path along the brink of the *Clove* to ($\frac{1}{4}$ M.) ***Sunset Rock** (2120 ft.), which commands a magnificent view of the *Clove* and of the tree-clad mass of *High Peak* (see above). — We may continue this walk to *Kaaterskill Falls* (see below), either by the paths on the level of the rock or by descending the ladder-steps to the bottom of the *Clove*. The easiest route to follow is the path to the extreme right ("To Hotel Kaaterskill"), which ascends to (5 min.) the *Ledge Drive*. We follow this road to the left, and in about 1 M., turning twice to the left, reach the *Laurel House* and the *Falls* (see below).

4. *Laurel House and Kaaterskill Falls*, 1 M. We may either follow the road leading to the S.W. from the front of the Hotel and joining ($\frac{3}{4}$ M.) the *Ledge Drive* (see above), or we take a path leading W. from the Annex to ($\frac{1}{4}$ min.) an old 'logging road', which leads to the left and joins the *Ledge Drive* near the *Laurel House*. — The *Laurel House* (2085 ft.; \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -4 per day, \$15-25 per week) is situated at the head of the *Kaaterskill Falls*, 300 yds. from the railway-station mentioned at p. 181. — The ***Kaaterskill Falls**, in an imposing rocky amphitheatre, reached by a flight of steps behind the hotel (adm. 25c.), are 260 ft. in height, in two leaps of 180 ft. and 80 ft. In dry weather the water is dammed up at the head of the falls and turned on for visitors like the *Lichtenhain Waterfall* in the *Saxon Switzerland*. A little lower down are the *Bastion Falls* (40 ft.). — A good view of the Falls is obtained from *Prospect Rock*, on the S. side of the *Clove*, reached by a path ($\frac{1}{2}$ M.) from the *Laurel House*.

5. To *Haines's Falls*, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$ M. The most direct route is by a forest path from *Prospect Rock* (see above), which comes out on (1 M.) *Feather-bed Lane* (p. 180), about $\frac{1}{2}$ M. from the Falls. This route is a little

difficult to find unaided, but the following is quite distinct. To the *Laurel House*, as above, 1 M. Hence we follow the road to the W., crossing the railway. On reaching the ($\frac{1}{2}$ M.) main road we follow it to the left for $\frac{1}{4}$ M. We then descend to the left by *Featherbed Lane* to the ($\frac{1}{2}$ M.) bottom of the *Clove*, turn to the right, and reach the ($\frac{1}{4}$ M.) *Haines's Falls House* (p. 181), where a placard indicates the way to the *Falls* (p. 181).

Other short walks may be made to ($\frac{1}{2}$ M.) the *Boulder* and to the points mentioned in connection with the *Mountain House* at p. 178.

The ascent of *North Mt.* (p. 178) takes about 1 hr. — That of *High Peak* (3660 ft.) takes $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. from the *Haines's Falls House* (p. 181) and is rather toilsome, but the view is very fine.

Longer EXCURSIONS, by railway or carriage, may be made to *Tannersville* and *Onteora Park* (p. 181; 5-8 M.), *Stony Clove* (see below), *Catskill* (p. 177) *Sleepy Hollow* (p. 177), *Overlook Mt.* (see below), *Plattekill Clove* (p. 181), etc.

b. From Kingston (Rondout) to the Hotel Kaaterskill.

49 M. ULSTER AND DELAWARE RAILROAD in $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 hrs. (fare \$ 2.71). This line skirts the S. and W. sides of the Catskills. Through-carriages run by this route from New York and Philadelphia to *Tannersville*, *Haines's Corners*, the *Laurel House*, the *Hotel Kaaterskill*, and many other points. The Day Line steamers connect directly with the railway at *Kingston Point*.

The regular terminus of the railway is at *Rondout* (p. 169), but the track has recently been extended to *Kingston Point*, the steam-boat landing 2 M. to the E. After leaving *Rondout* the train stops at (4 M. from *Kingston Point*) the *Union Station* in *Kingston* (p. 169). The line ascends gradually through the beautiful valley of the *Esopus*. 10 M. *Stony Hollow* (410 ft.). — 11 M. *West Hurley* (530 ft.) is the starting-point of the road (coach \$ 1.50) to (9 M.) the top of *Overlook Mt.* (3150 ft.), near which stands the *Overlook Mt. House* (\$ 3; 2980 ft.; 300 beds), a favourite resort, the *View from which, embracing the *Hudson*, the *Highlands* (p. 163), and the *Catskills*, is considered by some authorities the finest in the district. *Mead's Mountain House* (\$ 2), about halfway up the mountain (7 M. from the railway), is well spoken of. — Near (20 M.) *Shokan* (535 ft.) *High Point Mt.* (3100 ft.) is conspicuous to the left. The train now turns to the N., disclosing, to the left, a fine semicircle of mountains, sending off radiating spurs to a common centre (the two most to the right are *Mt. Cornell*, 3680 ft., and *Mt. Wittenberg*, 3775 ft.). Near (23 M.) *Boiceville* we twice cross the *Esopus*. — Beyond (26 M.) *Mt. Pleasant* (700 ft.) the valley contracts; to the left rises *Panther Mt.* (3825 ft.). *Indian Head* (3580 ft.) and other high mountains are seen to the right.

29 M. *Phoenicia* (800 ft.; *Tremper House*, \$ 3-4; *Martin*, \$ 2), the junction of the *Stony Clove Railroad* (see below), is pleasantly situated and a good centre for excursions (to the top of *Mt. Wittenberg*, *Stony Clove*, *Woodland Valley*, *Big Indian Valley*, etc.). — We now leave the main line and ascend by the *Stony Clove branch* (views to the left) through **Stony Clove*, a beautiful wooded ravine between *Mt. Sheridan* (2490 ft.) and *Hunter Mt.* (4025 ft.) on the left and *Mt. Tremper* (3840 ft.) and *Stony Mt.* (3855 ft.) on the