

lift and support the bristling finial, and there the perennial snows finish the decoration. We steered for the shingly beach at the head, and moored off shore to prevent damage to the boat, pitched the tent and reconnoitred, preparatory to making a start next day up the Burn.

The following morning broke clear, and as we went, we cut a track with our billhooks; though this encroached upon our time, we hoped to profit by it ere long. On either side of the water the abutments rose sheer, and from Steep Peak a very fine body of water came plunging and cascading in

reach on the Arthur River, between Lake Ada and the Sutherland Fall, which we used to call Kelvin Grove. The water is about fifty yards wide and four feet deep, and almost without movement, the *fagus* forest on either side forming an evergreen canopy of interlacing branches. Through this avenue the light entered in bands and shafts, illuminating large boughs that were moss laden until they resembled some vast showroom of velvets and plush, enriched by successive chords ranging from the palest lemon yellow to the deepest olive green. Down from the forked limbs of many of the



KEPLER MOUNTAINS, FROM ISLAND CAMP.

great fury until silenced in the river. As we progressed the boulders became very much larger until they reached the dimensions of small cottages, and we were at length arrested by a unique water shoot. From the manner in which the huge blocks of stones are packed the water by impulsion appears to shoot from its higher to a lower level without a break, and is a sight well worth going a long distance to see. From this point the river draws more to the westward, and I know of no other stream that resembles it at this point, except the

giant trees hung that graceful fern, the *aesplinum flaccidum*, waving its tender fronds, and adding to the beauty of this fairy glen. The river looked like a tessalated pavement, so highly polished was the surface that the whole of the superabundant foliage was reflected. This stretch was quite a half mile long, and surpassed aught else of this particular character I had seen in my travels.

We decided to go no further in this direction at present, deferring the completion to another time, satisfied with ascertaining