

Denver.—The city of Denver lies at an altitude of 5,197 feet, near the western border of the plains, and within a dozen miles of the Rocky Mountains, the Colorado or front range of which may be seen for an extent of over 200 miles. The view of the snowy summits, with Pike's Peak in the southern part of the range and Long's Peak in the north, is indescribably grand. The "Queen City of the Plains" was born of the Pike's Peak gold excitement in 1858-59. In 1860 it was a straggling camp, consisting principally of log cabins and tents. 1870 it had 4,579 inhabitants; in 1880, 35,719; and within the succeeding year over 600 buildings were erected, and the population increased to over 40,000. The present number of inhabitants is estimated at between 80,000 and 90,000. Its streets are regularly and handsomely laid out; its public and business edifices and its private residences are elegant and substantial; schools, churches, and newspapers abound; and, in short, Denver has every sign of thrift, enterprise, wealth and progress.

Manitou is six miles from Colorado Springs. The town is situated in a narrow valley penetrating the main range through the foot-hills. The red rocks of the neighboring elevations give the surroundings a very singular aspect. The town is invisible until a low ridge extending across the valley is passed, and then the white houses and large hotels come suddenly into view. The most prominent buildings are the new and elegant bathing-establishment and the pretty stone station. Through an opening in the hills the snow-white crest of Pike's Peak is seen. The principal springs, six or seven in number, are situated on the banks of Fountain Creek, a swift mountain stream which flows through the centre of the village, or on Ruxton's Creek, which flows into the other from Engleman's Canon just below the Ute Pass. The Navajo, Shoshone, and Manitou Springs are within one minute's walk of the hotels, as is also the splendid bathing-establishment opened in 1884.

The Garden of the Gods lies east of Manitou Springs, between it and Colorado Springs. It is a park-like tract inclosed by cliffs and hills; and scattered about its surface are fantastically formed rocks carved by the elements in past ages. The approach on one side is through a great gateway, the massive portals of red sandstone rising to a height of 380 feet. The view of Pike's Peak had through this gigantic frame is very fine. The rock forms are of every size, and are tinted with different colors, red and yellow predominating. Castles, towers, and pinnacles, grotesque heads and groups, and many other strange objects are seen. Williams's Canon is near Manitou Springs; and a mile from the entrance is the Cave of the Winds, an extensive and beautiful cavern. The Manitou Grand Caverns, which are situated in the Ute Pass, with an entrance about 200 yards above Rainbow Falls, were more recently discovered.

Colorado Springs to Glenwood Springs, and return to Pueblo.—This trip, of a little over two hundred miles via the Colorado Midland Railroad, is simply