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THE CANYONS OF THE COLORADO.*

I.



ECHO ROCK

THE Colorado Basin, which, on account of its general elevation, is called the Colorado Plateau, is that part of the Great West drained by the Colorado River and its tributaries. The whole area is about eight hundred miles in length, and varies from three hundred to five hundred miles in breadth, containing about three hundred thousand square miles. The Rocky

Mountain Range, "the Switzerland of America," forms the eastern boundary of the plateau; the Basin Range System, the

* We have pleasure in reproducing from the pages of the *National Repository* this admirable article, by Miss Rosa Lattimore. For the beautiful engravings by which it is illustrated we are indebted to the courtesy of Major J. W. Powell, of the United States Army, who personally conducted the Government Survey herein described, under the direction of the late Prof. Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington.—ED.