

GRAY'S PEAK—is reached by carriage-road, and easy bridle trail from Georgetown. The road passes through Silver Plume and Brownville, both important as silver mining towns. The scenery on the route is very beautiful, and after reaching the summit, one of the grandest mountain views in the world lies before the tourist. Should you see sunrise from the summit of this grand old mountain, you would feel like exclaiming with the poet:

“The hills—the everlasting hills—
How peerlessly they rise!
Like earth's gigantic sentinels
Discoursing in the skies!”

MIDDLE PARK—with its celebrated hot sulphur springs—bathing in which, it is said, “restores health to the invalid and gives beauty to the homely,”—is reached by stage, which leaves Georgetown every other day.

In the park, trout are caught in all the streams, and elk, deer, bears, and small game are plentiful among its hills. This is a trip that tourists who are fond of hunting game worthy of their best efforts to obtain, or catching the shining trout for their morning sport, will not fail to make, and when made, will never be forgotten.

To the southeast of the town, the road leads over the mountains to Breckenridge, in the South Park, crossing the range at an altitude of 13,000 feet.

Georgetown is the home of some of Colorado's oldest and most esteemed pioneers, among whom is Stephen Decatur, Esq., late Commissioner from the State, to the Centennial Exposition, at Philadelphia.

The “Commodore,” as Mr. Decatur is more commonly called, has become widely known and respected throughout the State as a correspondent for many of the Eastern papers, and as editor, for a long time, of the *Georgetown Miner*, as well as for his course in the legislative halls of the State.

In conclusion—as we have advised the tourist in regard to the carriage routes from the city, it would seem quite proper to state that there are several livery stables in the city; but the one where the tourist will get the most complete outfit at the most reasonable price, is known as the “Metropolitan Livery Stable and Omnibus Line,” by S. W. Nott.

We now return to Golden, and start down the creek between the Table Mountains en-route for the capital of Colorado.

JUNCTION—is two miles east, near the site of the old town of Arapaho—where

gold was discovered in 1859 and over fifty houses erected, none of which are now standing.

The Junction is a small station where passengers—while the road from Ralston to this point, on the east side of the Table Mountains was in operation—“changed cars” for different points, the same as is now done at Golden.

From the junction our course is along down the north bank of Clear Creek—passing the mouth of Ralston and many irrigating canals—through some fine farms and well cultivated fields. We pass many cosy farm houses, and a side-track, six miles from the junction, called

ARVADA—where we cross the creek to the southeast, and—after gaining the high rolling prairie four miles further—arrive at the

SUMMIT—another station only in name. On this “Summit,” had we time to look around, the view would be most beautiful. The city of Denver lies to the southeast, the “Divide,” to the south, the great Platte Valley close in the foreground, and to the right and left, the broad plains in the far east limitless apparently to the eye, while in the background, are the Rocky Mountains, the base of which is near, but the peaks, and the “range,” to the north and south, is only bounded by the horizon. But, we must away! Downward, over the rolling prairie, two miles further brings us to a broad, beautiful piece of bottom land, containing a few hundred acres, where—in 1860—was the old race-track.

In 1874, the writer had as fine crops on one hundred acres of this land, as could be seen in the country, but, the great flood of May “came as the waves come when navies are stranded,” and took the “boy's” last 15 cents to the Missouri River.

From the Summit it is 3½ miles down to the Platte River, where the train crosses it, and another half-mile stops us at

Denver—the capital, and great railroad and commercial center of the State of Colorado. The population of this remarkable city is 20,000; an annual average increase—commencing at 0, nineteen years ago—of over 1,000 people.

Denver is the county seat of Arapaho county, fourteen miles east, in a direct line, from the base of the Rocky Mountains. It is situated in the valley of the South Platte River—on the eastern bank—