

the natural shipping point for cattle from Southern Colorado and New Mexico, extensive stockyards have been erected. The only regular line of Messrs. Barlow, Sanderson & Co.'s Southern Overland Mail Coaches start from here, and they send out their coaches to Pueblo on the west, Trinidad and Santa Fe on the south, making close connections with the train which leaves Las Animas daily and connects with the trains on the main line going east and west, at Kit Carson. The stores and warehouses of two large forwarding and commission firms, and also the hotel, are built of adobe, and give the place a singularly picturesque appearance. From here may be seen, on a clear day, Pike's Peak, 150 miles distant, and the Greenhorn Mountains, 120 miles distant, while five miles to the east is situated the large military post of Fort Lyon. It is one of the very best points for invalids to spend the winter, the elevation being only 3,784 feet.

From Kit Carson we journey on to Hugo, where we halt for dinner, and where I had, without exception, one of the most enjoyable meals I ever had in my life. The invigorating mountain air had already given me a keen appetite, and the tempting white bread, fresh pure butter made by the good lady of the house, and the delicious antelope steak, and profusion of such vegetables as Colorado only can produce, formed a dinner in which the most fastidious epicure could find naught to cavil at.

It would be a piece of folly for me to attempt what every one else whose writings I have seen have failed in, and that is, to give in poetry or prose, hexameter