

or pentameter, any adequate idea of the almost supernaturally grand sight to be obtained of the mountains approaching Denver; suffice it to say, that the city is built on the plains, within 12 miles of their base, and that to the north may be seen Long's Peak, over 70 miles away, rising 14,050 feet above sea level; Gray's Peak, south of this, 14,134 feet; immediately opposite the city on the west, the beautiful pine-clad foot-hills, backed up in the dim distance by the great snowy range; and to the southward Pike's Peak, 76 miles distant, towering 14,216 feet above tide-water and 8,000 feet above the level—the whole forming a continuous view of over 200 miles of mountains.

In this wonderful air, the summit of Pike's Peak can be seen from First View station, 150 miles distant; and now, as we are approaching Denver, every gorge and chasm in the rugged sides of this historic mountain are as clearly discernible as if less than 12 miles away.

Volumes might be filled with what has been told and written of Denver, and no city in the Union is probably so well known by reputation as this one. It will be therefore sufficient for me to say here, that I found the best of hotels, and especially complete livery stables, where carriages and horses for driving in the delightful boulevards and environs of Denver, or saddle-horses, teams and outfits for a visit or camping expedition to the neighboring fishing, hunting and pleasure resorts of the mountains, may be had at short notice and fair rates.