Fourteen Thousand Feet was first published by the Colorado Mountain Club in 1925 with a second edition in 1931, both long out of print. The readability and scarcity have caused very high prices for the few copies reaching rare book outlets.

As a result of repeated requests, the Colorado Mountain Club is reproducing the 1931 edition. Printed with the 1931 edition was a popular Climbers Guide to the High Colorado Peaks, by Elinor Eppich Kingery. This is not reproduced here since it has been superseded by Ormes' Guide to the Colorado Mountains published by the Colorado Mountain Club, 6th Edition 1970.

The major portion of the present reprint is devoted to the derivation of the names of the fourteeners and the circumstances of their naming, with much historical material not found elsewhere. The previous editions have been cited in innumerable publications for almost fifty years. The remaining portion describing the early ascents gives the story of the golden age of the Colorado Rockies before mountaineering became a highly popular organized sport with ropes, pitons and other mechanical aids. The history of ascents since 1931 for Colorado mountains, irrespective of altitude, with additional material prior to that date, is the subject of a book expected to be published shortly by the Colorado Associated University Press.

John L. Jerome Hart, author of the edition reprinted, received his A.B. degree at Harvard in 1925, and attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, where he received three further degrees. Several of the peaks on the official list were named by him. Since 1970, he has occupied the office of President of The American Alpine Club, the national mountaineering organization.

JOHN L. JEROME HART'S

FOURTEEN THOUSAND FEET

A HISTORY OF THE NAMING AND EARLY ASCENTS OF THE HIGH COLORADO PEAKS

1972 Reprint of the 1931 Second Edition
Published by the Colorado Mountain Club

WH
978.8
Hart

COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY WILLIAM H. JACKSON, AUGUST 1873

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A History of the Naming and Early Ascents of the High Colorado Peaks

SECOND EDITION

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By

JOHN L. JEROME HART

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THE ALPINE CLUB
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THE COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB

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PREFACE

The first edition of the portion of this work dealing with the naming and early ascents of the high Colorado peaks was published in April, 1925, by The Colorado Mountain Club. For their assistance in the preparation of that edition I am very grateful to Messrs. Ellsworth Bethel, Carl Blaurock, Albert R. Ellingwood, Richard H. Hart, Edmund B. Rogers, James Grafton Rogers, Dudley T. Smith, and Roger W. Toll, and Miss Blanche Curry. Of particular use were the list of 14,000 foot peaks made in 1914 by Mr. Ellsworth Bethel and Mr. James Grafton Rogers, and "Mountain Peaks of Colorado" published by Mr. Roger W. Toll in 1923, being a list of all the named summits of Colorado. The index to the first edition was prepared by Miss Lucretia Vaile, and this index has been revised for the second edition by Mrs. Lewis E. Perkins. The map was prepared by Mr. Frank Yale and revised for this edition by Mr. Alan B. Fisher. I am indebted to Messrs. William R. Driver, Alan B. Fisher, George H. Harvey, Jr., Merritt H. Perkins, and Tom Thiedemann, Miss Blanche Curry, Miss Grace Harvey, and Mrs. Hugh Kingery for their assistance with the present edition.

Because of the large amount of new material available, the section on the names of the Mt. Evans group and Crestone group and the section on the early ascents of Longs Peak, Grays Peak, and Blanca Peak have been rewritten. The following accounts have been considerably enlarged,—the names for the main range of the Rockies, Grays and Torreys, the Mosquito Range and its peaks, the names of the Sawatch Range, the Indian as an Alpinist, and the early ascents of Pikes Peak. New material has been added throughout, as can be seen from the fact that two hundred authorities are referred to by footnotes in the second edition instead of one hundred twenty-two in the first. I am indebted to the persons who have communicated new facts to me since the publication of the first edition and hope that other persons will volunteer further information. New mountains added to the list of 14,000 foot peaks since the first edition are Little Bear Mt., El Diente, Mount Oxford, and Tabeguache Peak. An account of the name and early ascents of the Mount of the Holy Cross has been included.

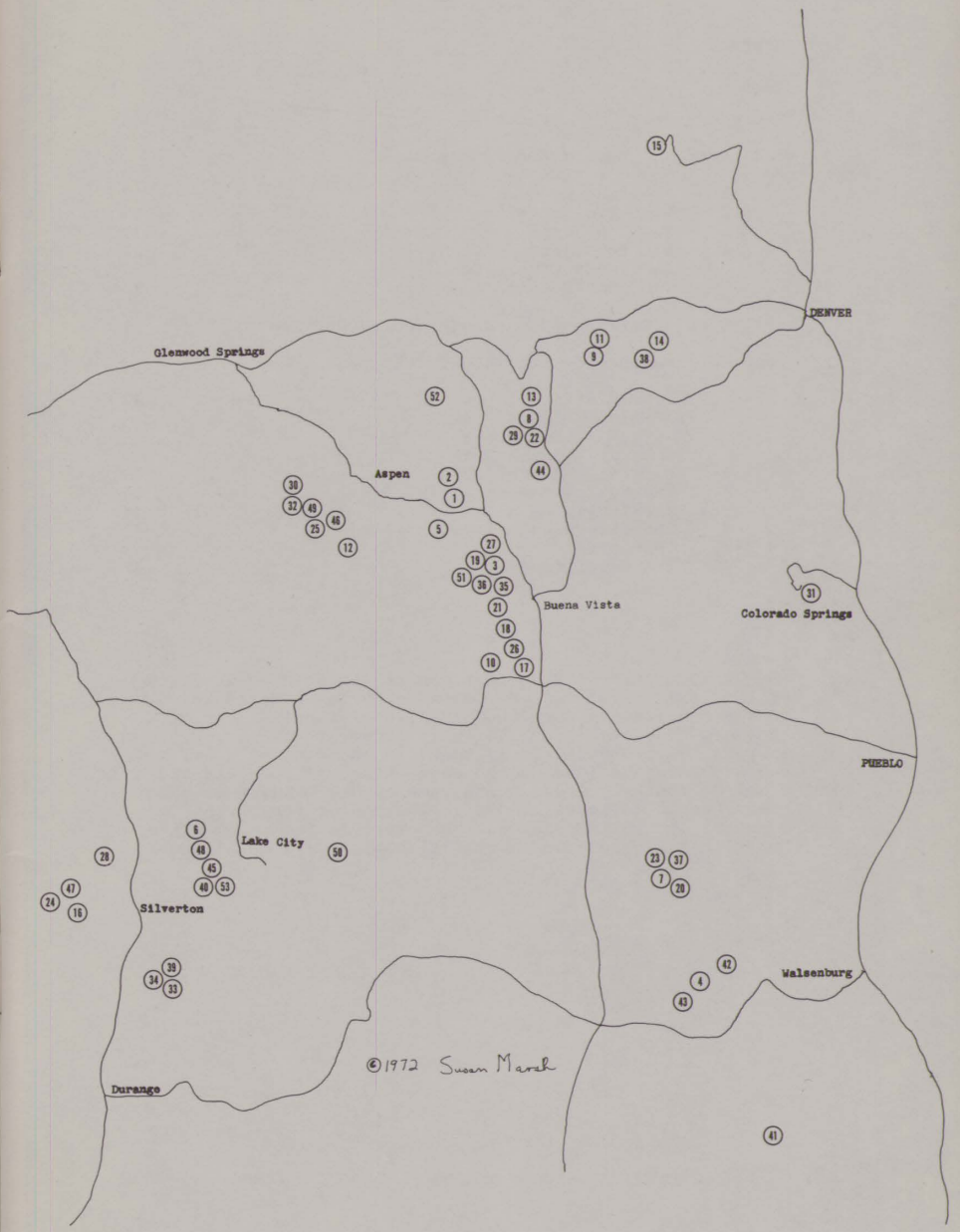
The United States Geological Survey has just issued part of the Snowmass quadrangle, showing Snowmass Mountain as 14,077 feet, or 107 feet higher than the figure given on the Hayden Atlas. This corroborates the statement in the text that Hayden's heights in this region are all over a hundred feet too low, and makes it probable that Capitol Peak is about 14,100 feet in height.

ELEVATION OF NAMED SUMMITS IN COLORADO OVER 14,000 FEET

Adapted from U.S. Geological Survey List
May 1972

NO.	MOUNTAIN	ELEVATION	QUADRANGLE	IN TEXT
1.	Mt. Elbert	14,433	Mt. Elbert (7-1/2)	18,44,46
2.	Mt. Massive	14,421	Mt. Massive (7-1/2)	18,44,46
3.	Mt. Harvard	14,420	Mt. Harvard (7-1/2)	19,43,46
4.	Blanca Pk.	14,345	Blanca Pk. (7-1/2)	23,38,41,46,48
5.	La Plata Pk.	14,336	Mt. Elbert (7-1/2)	18
6.	Uncompahgre Pk.	14,309	Uncompahgre Pk. (7-1/2)	28,39,40,42,45,46
7.	Crestone Pk.	14,294	Crestone Pk. (7-1/2)	23,24,27,39,48
8.	Mt. Lincoln	14,286	Alma (7-1/2)	14,16,17,38,43,46
9.	Grays Pk.	14,270	Montezuma (15')	8,10-12,14,16,37-38, 43
10.	Mt. Antero	14,269	Poncha Springs (15')	21,46
11.	Torreys Pk.	14,267	Grays Pk. (7-1/2)	8,10-12,14,38
12.	Castle Pk.	14,265	Hayden Pk. (7-1/2)	21,44
13.	Quandary Pk.	14,265	Breckenridge (7-1/2)	16
14.	Mt. Evans	14,264	Mt. Evans (7-1/2)	8,12-15
15.	Longs Pk.	14,255	Longs Pk. (7-1/2)	8,10,14,32-35,40,46, 48
16.	Mt. Wilson	14,246	Telluride (15')	31,42,46
17.	Shavano Pk.	14,229	Poncha Springs (15')	20-21,46,47
18.	Mt. Princeton	14,197	Poncha Springs (15')	19,43
19.	Mt. Belford	14,197	Mt. Harvard (15')	Not in Text
20.	Crestone Needle	14,197	Crestone Pk. (7-1/2)	24,27,39,48
21.	Mt. Yale	14,196	Mt. Harvard (15')	19,43
22.	Mt. Bross	14,172	Alma (7-1/2)	16,43
23.	Kit Carson Mtn.	14,165	Crestone Pk. (7-1/2)	23,24,25,26,27,39, 47,48
24.	El Diente Pk.	14,159	Dolores Pk. (7-1/2)	31,47,48
25.	Maroon Pk.	14,156	Maroon Bells (7-1/2)	21,44,46,47
26.	Tabeguache Mtn.	14,155	Garfield (15')	21
27.	Mt. Oxford	14,153	Mt. Harvard (15')	19
28.	Mt. Sneffels	14,150	Mt. Sneffels (7-1/2)	28,30,39,42,45,46,47
29.	Mt. Democrat	14,148	Climax (7-1/2)	16,43
30.	Capitol Pk.	14,130	Capitol Pk. (7-1/2)	22,44,46,47
31.	Pikes Peak	14,110	Pikes Peak (7-1/2)	8-10,14,35-36,46,48
32.	Snowmass Mtn.	14,092	Snowmass Mtn. (7-1/2)	22,44,45,46
33.	Windom Pk.	14,087	Needle Mtn. (15')	30
34.	Mt. Eolus	14,084	Needle Mtn. (15')	30,46
35.	Mt. Columbia	14,073	Mt. Harvard (15')	19
36.	Missouri Mtn.	14,067	Mt. Harvard (15')	Not in Text
37.	Humboldt Pk.	14,064	Crestone Pk.	23,24,26,27,39,48
38.	Mt. Bierstadt	14,060	Mt. Evans (7-1/2)	8, 12-15,43
39.	Sunlight Pk.	14,059	Storm King Pk. (7-1/2)	30
40.	Handies Pk.	14,048	Handies Pk. (7-1/2)	29,43,45,46
41.	Culebra	14,047	Culebra Pk. (7-1/2)	23, 45, 46
42.	*Mt. Lindsey	14,042	Blanca Pk. (7-1/2)	23, 24,38,45,46
43.	Little Bear Pk.	14,037	Blanca Pk. (7-1/2)	18,24,38,39
44.	Mt. Sherman	14,036	Mt. Sherman (7-1/2)	16
45.	Redcloud Pk.	14,034	Redcloud Pk. (7-1/2)	29,45,46
46.	Pyramid Pk.	14,018	Maroon Bells (7-1/2)	22,44,45,46,47
47.	Wilson Pk.	14,017	Mt. Wilson (7-1/2)	31,42
48.	Wetterhorn Pk.	14,015	Wetterhorn Pk. (7-1/2)	29,42,46
49.	North Maroon Pk.	14,014	Maroon Bells (7-1/2)	47
50.	San Luis Pk.	14,014	Creede (15')	28
51.	Huron Pk.	14,005	Mt. Harvard (15')	Not in Text
52.	Mt. of Holy Cross	14,005	Mt. of Holy Cross (7-1/2)	14,18,31,44
53.	Sunshine Pk.	14,001	Redcloud Pk. (7-1/2)	30,45

* Called "Old Baldy" in the text



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NOTE

A 1972 list of the "fourteeners" is printed in place of the 1931 list, and a map prepared by Susan Marsh keyed to the new list is furnished in lieu of the 1931 map. The more accurate recent government surveys no longer list as fourteeners Grizzly Mountain and Stewart Peak, but add Mount Belford, Huron Peak, Missouri Mountain and Mount of the Holy Cross. The name of Old Baldy Peak has been changed to Mount Lindsey. The photograph of the Mount of the Holy Cross, on the cover, is from a negative by William H. Jackson, made available by Carl A. Blaurock.

I. THE NAMING OF THE FOURTEEN THOUSAND FOOT PEAKS

The names of the peaks can be most conveniently classified by ranges, not only for showing location, but also for showing who named the peaks and what kinds of names they gave. The Front Range was the first entered by explorers and scientists. They, as was natural, chose to honor scientists and explorers. The high parts of the Mosquito Range, on the contrary, were first entered by miners. To them politicians were great men, and politicians therefore received peaks from the admiring miners. In the Sawatch Range the number of peaks prevents generalization: the northern four were named aimlessly, because the country was settled before the surveyors arrived; the collegiate peaks, on the other hand, were explored by the earliest of Colorado surveys, and their names are a direct result thereof; the four southern peaks owe the names by which they are known to some concerted action—the source and method of which is now unknown. The Elk Mountains were named by the Hayden survey: all five were given names descriptive of their magnificence. The names in the Sangre de Cristo Range disclose two periods: first, the three most prominent peaks, Crestone, Culebra, and Sierra Blanca, were given simple names by the Mexicans; and second, the less conspicuous summits, Old Baldy, Humboldt, Kit Carson, and Little Bear, were named by the Americans. Finally we have the peaks of the San Juan Range and San Miguel Range, with one Indian (Uncompahgre), two Spanish (San Luis and El Diente), and (probably) one miner's name (Handies), but primarily consisting of peaks named by each of the three great surveys, and showing that fact by the diversity of names—Stewart and Wetterhorn (by Wheeler); Sneffels, Eolus and the Wilsons (by Hayden); and Sunlight, Sunshine and Windom (by the United States Geological Survey).

Most of the names were given not without thought,—a fact which is evident throughout. The Hayden Survey has had the greater effect on our names. The following quotation may be true—

"The most difficult work of the expedition was in finding appropriate names for mountains, streams, and parks. Heretofore, the system of nomenclature has largely followed the tide of politics. But the lavish distribution of proper names over the face of the country is a vicious principle, inducing confusion and perplexing the student. Yet it will go on until some patient scholar shall sit down and tabulate a comprehensive system to be adopted by the government. Whoever shall undertake this task must be a profound philologist."[1]

Of the fifty-one names now authorized, nineteen are personal, eleven are descriptive, seven are Spanish, five are those of colleges, and nine are of different types. The personal names include six politicians (Elbert, Lincoln, Evans, Bross, Windom, and Stewart); four explorers (Long, Kit Carson, Pike, and Humboldt); and a surveyor, a miner, a painter, a general, two Indians, and two scientists (Wilson, twice, Handie, Bierstadt, Sherman, Antero, Shavano, Gray, and Torrey). The descriptive names are commonplace—Massive, Castle, Baldy, Maroon (two peaks), Sunlight, Redcloud, Sunshine, Pyramid, Capitol, and Snowmass. The Spanish names include the descriptive names, Blanca, Crestone (two peaks), El Diente, and La Plata; and also Culebra and San Luis. Those remaining are Uncompahgre, Quandary, Sneffels, Eolus, Wetterhorn, Grizzly, Tabeguache, Little Bear, and Democrat.

1. THE FRONT RANGE

All the mountains of Colorado are included in the vast chain of the Rockies which stretches into Canada. This range was named the "Stony Mountains"[2] or "Rocky Mountains"[3] before the time of Lewis and Clark.

[1]A. S. Southworth, Secretary of the American Geographical Society, in the Journal of the Society.
[2]Arrowsmith's map 1775.
[3]Arrowsmith's map 1802.

President Jefferson, in his instructions to them, used the term "Stony Mountains."[2,4] They, however, chose the name "Rocky Mountains." Other names which have been suggested are "Columbians" and "Chippewayan Mountains."[4] Pike called them the "Mexican Mountains," and Fremont in 1843 said they were the " 'Rocky,' 'Stone' or 'Shining' Mountains."

The main range of the Rockies was once called the Sierra Madre. A. E. Mathews in his "Gems of Rocky Mountain Scenery" 1869, wrote,—"This (the great Sierra Madre Range) is the main range of the Rocky Mountains, which runs through the center of Colorado in a serpentine course, sending out numerous spurs and enclosing four large and beautiful parks; the North, Middle, South, and San Luis Parks". The name Sierra Madre has been used as including the Sangre de Cristo[5], the Front Range[6], the Mosquito Range[7], and the Sawatch Range. F. V. Hayden said that the Sawatch Range was "usually called the Sierra Madre or Mother Range, from the fact that it is the backbone or watershed of the continent."[8] Even in 1880 he said it was "called the Sierra Madre or Wasatch."[9]

The part of this chain which is seen from Denver is called the Front Range. In 1874 a member of the Hayden Survey wrote: (This range) "being unnamed, we have called it the Front or Colorado Range."[10] Another name is the "Rampart Range," covering that part of the Front Range extending from the South Platte River to Fountain Creek. Previously this range had been called "Longs Range" (by Farnham 1839), "Snowy Range" (by Parry 1862 and A. E. Mathews 1867), and the part including Mt. Evans was called the Platte Range by the Colorado Senate, in 1895.

The six peaks of the Front Range have, of all our peaks, the best and most appropriate names. These include the two most famous explorers of Colorado, the two most famous American botanists, the greatest painter of Rocky Mountain scenes, and the Governor of Colorado during the Civil War. Two of the men, Pike and Long, discovered the peaks which bear their names. Two, Gray and Torrey, named many of our Rocky Mountain flora. One, Bierstadt, painted a famous picture near the peak named for him. The sixth, Evans, lived at the foot of Mount Evans.

PIKES PEAK

The peak in Colorado first discovered and still best known is Pikes Peak. Possibly the "Sierra de Almagre," shown on Alexander Humboldt's Map of New Spain (1811) designates it,—although that name probably marks the Sangre de Cristo Range. That "Sierra de Almagre" was ever used for Baldy (near Pikes Peak) is not indicated by the change of name from "Baldy" to "Sierra de Almagre" approved by The Colorado Geographic Board and the United States Geographic Board.

The Indian name for Pikes Peak was "Long Mountain", according to the "Report of Oliver W. Toll, on the visit of Arapahoe Indians to Estes Park, 1913."

Lieutenant Pike and his party caught their first glimpse of the mountain which now bears his name, on November 15, 1806, and "with one accord gave three cheers to the Mexican mountains." On his map he calls it "Grand Peak," and in his journal he records measuring it. "The perpendicular height of this mountain from the level of the prairie was 10,581 feet, and admitting that the prairie was 8,000 feet from the level of the sea, it would make the elevation of the peak, 18,581 feet, equal to some and surpassing the calculated height of others for the peak of Teneriffe, and falling short of that of Chimborazo" (which was then thought to be the highest mountain in the world) "only 1,701 feet. Indeed, it was so remarkable as to be known to all the savage nations for hundreds of miles around, to be spoken of with admiration by the

[4]J. D. Whitney, "Names and Places" Cambridge (1888), privately printed; and Washington Irving's "Bonneville," ch. V.
[5]Board of Trade of Southern Colorado, Geography, Description and Resources of Central and Southern Colorado 1869.
[6]Sniktau (E. H. N. Patterson), The Weekly News, October 30, 1867.
[7]In the account of Speaker Colfax's excursion to South Park, Daily News, August 24, 1868.
[8]F. V. Hayden, Journal of American Geographical Science, 1876.
[9]The American Naturalist, vol. 14, p. 858, 1880.
[10]James Gardner, Hayden Survey Bulletin, vol. 1, sec. 2, page 73.

Spaniards of New Mexico, and to be the bounds of their travels northwest."[11] Pike made his rough triangulation from a point on the Arkansas River between Canon City and Florence. Ellsworth Bethel has been unable to find any record of the instruments used by Pike or of the method of triangulation. Pike's assumed altitude of the plains was too high. Long's assumed altitude of the plains when he estimated the height of Longs Peak was too low.

Pike was followed in 1820 by Major Long, who called the mountain "James Peak" in honor of Edwin James, botanist of the expedition, who made the first ascent. Long wrote—"I have thought proper to call the peak after his name. Pike has indeed given us notice that there is such a peak, but he only saw it from a distance."[12] The only known maps between the times of Pike's and Long's expeditions, that of the 1814 edition of Lewis' and Clark's expedition and that of Rector and Robideau (1818), used the name "Highest Peak."

During the next twenty years the names became confused. The Spanish Peaks were often mistaken for Pikes Peak. Jacob Fowler in 1821 wrote "We Head a full view of the mountains this must be the place Whare Pike first discovered the mountains Heare I took the bareing of two that ware the Highest." There can be little doubt that he means the Spanish Peaks, because he was so far south of Pikes. These peaks are very conspicuous, having been seen and remarked by Mallet in 1739-40 according to his journal, translated by Berthoud.[13]

The next mistake made was on an anonymous map of the United States, 1825. This map had "J. Haines Peak" in place of "James Peak."

Luckily, these errors did not influence Colonel Henry Dodge, who came in 1835. He gives "Pikes Peak" and "Spanish Peaks" their correct places on his map, and mentions them in his text.[14] His map is the earliest so far found which uses the term "Pikes Peak." This account has been overlooked by Elliot Coues and the other commentators. Coues writes—"I suppose it will be difficult, if not impossible, to trace the proper appellation of Pikes Peak back of Fremont's expedition of 1843-44.[15]

Dodge's good example was followed by at least one cartographer. A "Map of the Northwest Coast and Adjacent Territories" by D. H. Bun (1838) gives Pikes Peak its correct position and name, but still keeps the name James, for a point now unindentified.

These two maps were unable to change the usage of the trappers and traders. Thomas J. Farnham, writing in his Travels[16] (1839) says "Sixty miles east of these mountains and fifty miles south of the Arkansas, stands (isolated on the plain), Pike's Peak."[17] Of course, this is the Spanish Peaks. Farnham, in the same book, records, on July 13, 1839, "Pike's Peak in the southwest, and James' Peak in the northwest . . . .," making the same mistake. The Spanish Peaks have been called "Pikes Peak," "Las Cumbres Espanoles," "Las Dos Hermanos," "The Two Sisters," "Les Tetons," "Les Mamelles," and "Wahatoyeh" (meaning Twin Breasts or Two Breasts).[18] Gunnison called them Wah-ha-ta-gas. The name is of Pueblo Indian origin, and the better spelling is Wahatoyah. The Spanish spelling is Huajatolla. A book of traditions of the Spanish Peaks, "Huajatolla," was published in 1916. On his map Farnham called the present Pikes Peak, "James Peak". George Frederick Ruxton, going from Taos north and over the Sangre de Cristo, in 1847 (Wild Life in The Rocky Mountains, Macmillan, 1922, p. 104) says—"Our next camp was on La Trinchera, or Bowl Creek. The country was barren and desolate . . . . The trail passed, to the westward, a lofty peak, resembling in outline that one known as James' or Pike's Peak, which is some two hundred and fifty miles to the north. The former is not laid down in any of the maps, although it is a well-known landmark to the Indians."

[11]Expeditions of Zebulon Montgomery Pike, edited by Elliot Coues, 1895, vol. II, page 461.
[12]"Account of Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains" by Edwin James.
[13]Frank Hall, "History of the State of Colorado," 1889.
[14]Dodge, Henry, "Journal of the march of a detachment of dragoons under the command of Colonel Dodge during the summer of 1835." 24th Congress, 1st Session, House Executive Document 181.
[15]Journal of Jacob Fowler, edited by Elliot Coues, 1898, in notes.
[16]New York, 1843.
[17]Page 42.
[18]Elliot Coues, notes to Journal of Jacob Fowler, 1898.

The custom evidently was as changeable as the maps of the region, for Fremont found the present name for Pikes Peak in use in 1843. He put it on his map, ending the diversity for all time. It was given on a map by S. A. Mitchel, 1846, and in the map for Captain Bonneville's expedition, 1849. The losing name, "James Peak", has now found a satisfactory resting place between Berthoud Pass and Corona. The name was probably given by Parry who in 1866 and previously climbed and measured the present James Peak. He climbed and then named Grays, Torreys, and Engelmann, a short distance to the south, all three names being those of botanists, and so it is likely that he did the same for the botanist James. The next place in which this peak is called James Peak is in an article by Sniktau in the Weekly News for October 30, 1867. The name was mistaken by A. E. Mathews, who called it St. James Peak, in his "Gems of Rocky Mountain Scenery" 1869.

LONGS PEAK

The French trappers designated Longs Peak as "Les deux Oreilles."[19] The Arapahoe Indians called Longs and Meeker, the "Two Guides," the translation of "Nesotaieux" (Report of Oliver W. Toll on the visit of Arapahoe Indians to Estes Park, 1913). The first American record of it which we have is by Edwin James, on Long's expedition (1819-1820). "We soon remarked a particular part of the range divided into three conic summits, each apparently of nearly equal altitude. This we concluded to be the point designated by Pike as the highest peak."[19] They soon found that it was a different, and higher peak, which they therefore called "Highest Peak" on their map. There was no confusion about this peak. William Ashley wrote in 1825 of "a conspicuous peak in the mountains, which I imagined to be that point described by Major Long as being the highest peak."[20] The name "Longs Peak" was given to it on practically all the maps I have mentioned under Pikes Peak, including that of 1825. The only error is on a map by Gallatin (1836) which gives "Larimer's Peak." Major Stephen D. Long outlived Pike fifty years, and at the age of seventy-seven (1861) he was made chief of topographical engineers. The name is spelled without an apostrophe, according to a ruling of the United States Board of Geographic Names.[21]

GRAYS AND TORREYS

Strange as it may seem now, during the seventies Grays and Torreys were nationally famous. The name Torreys, however, was not in common use, and the struggle between it and "Irwins Peak" is of interest.

Charles Christopher Parry, who climbed many of the highest peaks of the Front Range in order to record their altitudes by barometer, wrote the following[22] in 1861—"In my solitary wanderings over the rugged rocks and through these alpine meadows, resting at noon-day on some sunny nook, overlooking wastes of snow and crystal lakes girdled with midsummer ice, I naturally associated some of the more prominent mountain peaks with distant and valued friends. To two twin peaks always conspicuous whenever a sufficient elevation was attained, I applied the names of Torrey and Gray. To an associated peak a little less elevated, but in other respects quite as remarkable in its peculiar situation and alpine features, I applied the name of Mount Engelmann. Thus following the example of the early and intrepid botanical explorer Douglas,[23] I have endeavored to commemorate the joint scientific services of our triad of North American botanists, by giving their honored

[19]Edwin James "Account of an Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains 1819-1820."
Notes by R. G. Thwaites, editor.
[20]The Narrative of William Henry Ashley in the Ashley-Smith Explorations of a Central Route to the Pacific" edited by H. C. Dale, 1918.
[21]Report number 3, 1907. The Board is now called the United States Geographic Board.
[22]C. C. Parry—"Physiographical sketch of that portion of the Rocky Mountain Range, at the headwaters of South Clear Creek and East of Middle Park, 1861." American Journal of Science, Vol. XXXIII, page 231.
[23]Douglas named Mt. Brown and Mt. Hooker in the Canadian Rockies. The heights he assigned them caused them to be ranked as the highest mountains in North America. They long were a puzzle, until the heights were found to be about 10,000 feet.

names to three snow-capped peaks in the Rocky Mountains. With such innocent scientific pleasantry I felt at liberty to amuse the solitary hours of my mountain excursions, often wearied, but always enjoying with the keenest zest the magnificent scenery and rich botanical treasures that lay scattered along my varied path."

Before 1861 the peaks were known to the miners as "The Twin Peaks"[24] and to the Indians as "The Ant Hills," according to Oliver W. Toll's report.

"Dick Irwin, Jack Baker, and Fletch Kelso, three famous prospectors, passed over the McClelland mountain down into the depths of a canon and onto the giant peaks beyond. They named these and the streams near them after themselves. Before them was a smooth round mountain of immense size, and this has since been known as Baker, or Kelso. Further on, two snow-capped peaks (in reality, one mountain) seemed to pierce the very clouds. The sharp conical one, which appeared to be the highest, was called Irwin's. It still bears that name among Coloradoans, notwithstanding the recent attempt of a Harvard professor to appropriate the honor. Grays Peak, however, is a title often applied to both points of this grand old mountain."[25] The date was 1865,—"Richard Irwin, John Baker, and Fletch Kelso prospected here (Kelso Mt.) during the summer of '65 after having left the swarm of silver hunters that had congregated on Mt. McClellan."[26]

The last member of the triad, Engelmann, was supplanted by Kelso. "Dr. Engelmann made several journeys of considerable length in the interest of science, and for geographical observations. Two of them were to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado and New Mexico."[27] He made calculations of the altitudes of Colorado peaks, from observations taken on the ground by C. C. Parry.[28] "Dr. Parry, like other friends of Dr. Engelmann, delighted to do him honor. While engaged in his earlier explorations he gave Dr. Engelmann's name to a peak in the Rocky Mountains and also to a picturesque canon through which now passes the cog-wheel railroad from Manitou to the summit of Pikes Peak, in Colorado, although through faulty pronunciation and spelling the name of the canon mentioned above appears on certain maps and other publications as 'Inglemans' Canon'."[29] His name is now well known by the Engelmann Spruce. His name is now established on a lesser, different and neighboring peak. The name Kelso is shown on a picture drawn by Charles W. Morse of Morse and Hill, mining engineers, in 1867 (now owned by Mr. Criley of Georgetown).

Even Torrey's name did not become fixed for many years. Samuel Bowles wrote in 1868 of Grays Peaks. He stated "there are persistent rivals for the name of the other and higher peak. Dr. Parry himself, we believe, has suggested that of Professor Torrey for it. The local judgment insists that they shall go together under the name of Gray."

Here is a piece of "local judgment" which does not quite agree—"That thar mountain was ary one Irwin's peak and which ary wasn't Irwin's was Grays and nobody knowed. Gray, he was a great weed-sharp, down east somewhar, and he gin his name to the highest peak, though I don't see it myself. So these scientific fellers kept a-coming up here, and a-measurin, and they couldn't agree. Some on 'em biled water on the top, and some on 'em friz mercury but they couldn't agree, so, at last, a lot on 'em, fresh from college,[30] camped out all night right on the top of Grays, and took observations, you bet, every five minutes, and when they came down, there wasn't any doubt in their minds but what Gray's was the highest peak in the whole fandango. So Dick, he come down like a gentleman and took the next best himself."[31]

[24]"Rocky Mountain Letters, 1869" by W. H. Brewer, published 1930 by the Colorado Mountain Club, edited by Edmund B. Rogers.
[25]Frank Fossett,—"Colorado" 1876.
[26]Frank Fossett,—"Colorado" 1871, page 399, and also see History of Clear Creek and Boulder Valleys, page 308.
[27]Popular Science Monthly, vol. 29 (1886), page 264.
[28]Ovando J. Hollister, "The Mines of Colorado" 1867, page 28.
[29]"Memoir of George Engelmann" by C. A. White in "Biographical Memoirs of the National Academy of Science," vol. IV, page 19.
[30]The Harvard Survey under J. D. Whitney (1869).
[31]"Grays Peak, to it and up it," Overland Monthly, Vol. 5, page 512, 1870.

With Grays firmly fixed, the scientists still had to oust Irwins. The name Torrey was so obvious that it came into the minds of persons who did not know that Parry had already given the name.[32]

There were three ways of calling the summits: first, Grays Peaks[33]; second, Grays Peak and Irwins Peak[34]; and finally Grays Peak and Torreys Peak.[35] Torreys Peak was even once called "Evans' Peak."[36]

The controversy appears to have ended in the following manner. In 1872 Gray and Torrey ascended Grays Peak. Gray wrote concerning Torrey as follows,—"His ascent of Grays Peak (1872) was made a great occasion in the neighborhood. A large party gathered from Georgetown and Empire City, and started the afternoon before, after having been most hospitably dined by Judge McCurdy in Georgetown; the night was passed in a mining tavern cabin, and the ascent, some going on horseback, some on foot, was made the next morning. Speeches were made on the summit, and resolutions passed to confirm the names Gray's and Torrey's peaks given in 1862 by Dr. Parry, who was himself happily with the party."[37]

That the two scientists should stand together on Colorado peaks is fitting. Here are some facts about John Torrey from an article by Asa Gray.[38] James, the botanist of Major Long's expedition placed his collection in Torrey's hands. On this collection he made a treatise, "and with it begins the history of the botany of the Rocky Mountains, if we except a few plants collected early in the century by Lewis and Clark, where they crossed them many degrees farther north."

In 1872 Torrey visited Colorado and "stood on the flank of the lofty and beautiful snow-clad peak to which a grateful former pupil and ardent explorer, ten years before, gave his name, and gathered charming alpine plants which he himself had named forty years before, when the botany of the Colorado Rocky Mountains was first opened."

Gray was a lover of nature. In 1841 he ascended some of the high mountains of North Carolina, the highest in the East. He went three times over the Rockies to the Pacific coast.[39]

"In 1838, the first part of the 'Flora of North America' appeared under the joint authorship of John Torrey, M.D., and Asa Gray, M.D. . . . It is so frequently quoted as 'Torrey and Gray' that had these two eminent co-workers made no other contributions to science, they would still be accorded the title of our first botanists."[40]

MT. EVANS AND MT. BIERSTADT

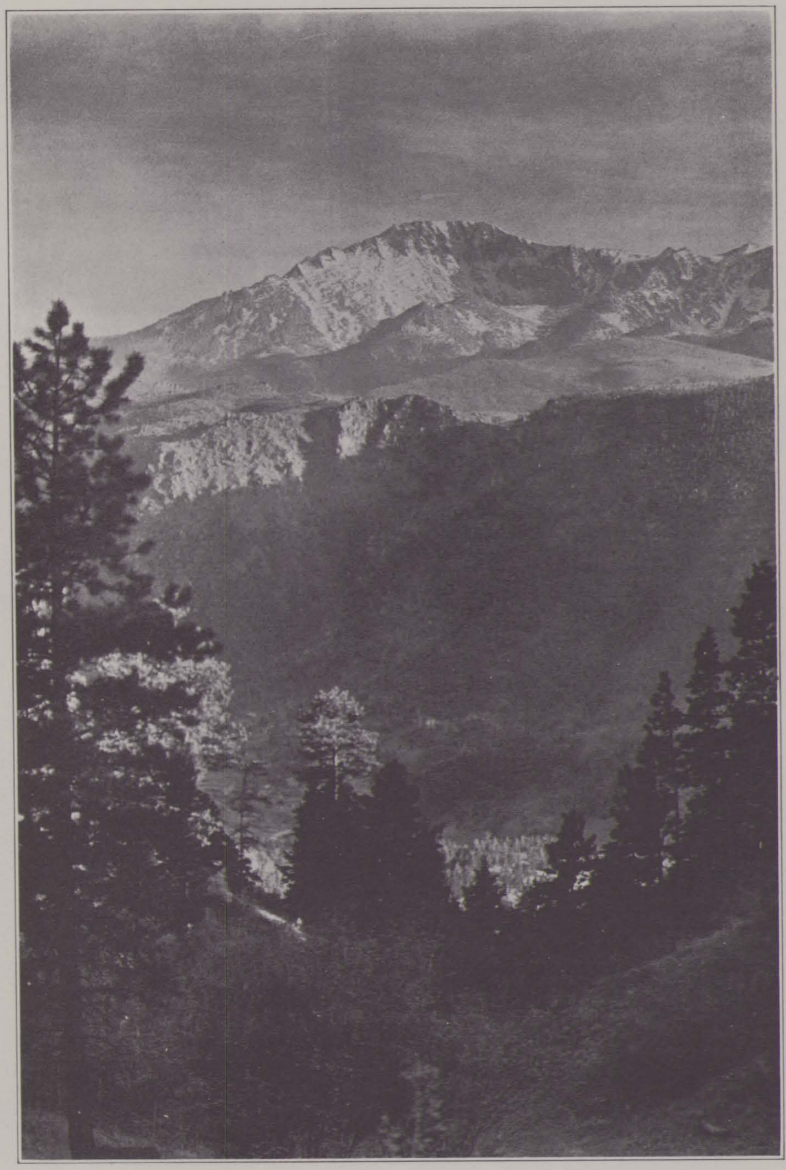
Mt. Evans is the highest peak of a group including Mt. Bierstadt (also 14,000 feet) and Mt. Rosalie, Mt. Epaulet, Mt. Warren, Mt. Rogers, and Mt. Goliath (all under 14,000 feet).

This group was originally called the Chicago Mountains. The highest peak was named Rosalie by Albert Bierstadt, the painter. This name became corrupted into Rosa and Rosalia. Finally the name was changed to Mt. Evans. The name Rosalie became used for the next most prominent peak as seen from Denver, and the name Bierstadt was given to the peak, over 14,000 feet, directly west of Mt. Evans.

The only available materials on the origin of the name Rosalie for the highest summit, and the use of the names Rosalie, Rosalia, and Rosa for the peak, are the following:

The name Rosalie seems to have been given in 1863 by Bierstadt or his travelling companion, the artist, Fitz-Hugh Ludlow. They made a trip, start-

[32] J. W. Foster, in the American Naturalist, vol. 6, page 65, 1872.
[33] Harpers Weekly, vol. 46, page 20, 1873.
Wheeler Survey, final report, vol. II; and "Rocky Mountain Letters 1869" by W. H. Brewer.
[34] Blake's Handbook of Colorado, 1876.
State of Colorado, General Land Office Map, 1887; and the Morse picture (supra).
[35] Wheeler Survey, Geological Report, Part IV, Professor Stevenson, 1873. Hayden Survey, Marvine, in report for 1873, and the Hayden Atlas.
[36] Scribners, vol. 4, page 576 (1872).
[37] "The Letters of Asa Gray," edited by Jane Loring Gray, 1893.
[38] American Journal of Sciences and Art, June, 1873.
[39] James D. Dana, American Journal of Science, March, 1888.
[40] Popular Science Monthly, August, 1872.



Pikes Peak from Ute Pass

Standley.

Blickensderfer.

Longs Peak after a Spring Storm

ing in 1863, from the east through New Jerusalem (Salt Lake City), Virginia City, San Francisco, the Yosemite, the Shasta Peak, Portland, up the Columbia, Vancouver, and Mount Hood.[41] This was Bierstadt's second trip,[41] his first having been made in 1858, to South Pass with General Lander.[41] On this trip he started his "Morning in the Rocky Mountains" dated 1861,[41] and his "Rocky Mountains—Landers Peak" dated 1863, six by ten feet.[41] In 1884 this was in the possession of James McHenry, who had paid $25,000 for it.[42] It is now in the Metropolitan Museum, New York. A fine engraving of this painting, donated by Mrs. Frank A. Dudley, of Niagara Falls, is now hanging in the Colorado Mountain Club clubroom. This same engraving, together with the trial impression, is exhibited in the Department of Graphic Arts in the Smithsonian Building at Washington, dated 1866.

On his second trip Bierstadt started his "Sunset in California," 1864, "Mount Hood," 1865, and "Storm in the Rocky Mountains," dated 1866, twelve by seven feet, owned by T. W. Kennard, and chromolithographed by Kell Brothers, London.[41] This is the Rosalie painting. Other paintings were "Laramie Peak," "The Last of the Buffalo" (now in the Corcoran Gallery, Washington), "Lake Tahoe," "Yosemite Dome," "Looking Down the Yosemite," and "Sierra Nevada" (1868).[41]

McHenry and Kennard, at one time owners of two of Bierstadt's finest paintings, were responsible for the first continuous broad-gauge line from New York to St. Louis, the Atlantic and Great Western Railway. McHenry was Financial Director and Contractor, while Kennard was Engineer in Chief, Vice-President, and General Manager.[43]

Bierstadt made four other trips to the West and painted, among others, "The Rocky Mountains," 1870,[46] "Emerald Pool, Mt. Whitney,"[44] "Valley of Kings River," 1874,[45] "Mountain Lake," 1875,[45] "Mt. Whitney," 1877,[44] "Mt. Corcoran, Sierra Nevada," 1878 (now in the Corcoran Gallery in Washington),[44] "Park in Colorado," 1878 (this was painted for the Earl of Dunraven for $15,000 and exhibited at the Royal Academy, 1878),[42] "Storm on the Matterhorn," 1884,[44] and "View of Kern River," 1884.[44]

Bierstadt also painted three pictures for the Capitol at Washington, where they still hang,—"The Golden Gate," "The Discovery of the Hudson," and "The Lauding of Vizcoino." According to the Congressional Record five paintings were originally placed in the White House at a cost of $50,000. The other two paintings, which are perhaps still in the Capitol, are "Storm on the Matterhorn" and "Settlement of California."[46]

The earliest use of the name Rosalie is by Fitz-Hugh Ludlow,[45]—"At Denver we reach the edge of the Rocky-Mountain foothills; the grand snow-peak of Mount Rosalie, rivalling Mont Blanc in height and majesty, though forty miles away, seems to rise just behind the town." There can be little doubt who gave the name, for Fitz-Hugh also wrote,[47]—"Here we pitched our first Yo-Semite camp calling it 'Camp Rosalie', after a dear absent friend of mine and Bierstadt's." The name Rosalie is that of Bierstadt's wife, Rosalie Osborne, of Waterville, New York. Her mother was Rosanna Sweatland, whose mother was Rosanna Hancock, a third cousin of Governor John Hancock.[48]

The name was used by Parry, and others, and was sometimes corrupted into Rosalia.[49] The name Monte Rosa was also used, possibly starting with Bayard Taylor, who wrote, in 1866, the following concerning the view of the present Mt. Evans from Denver—

"In variety and harmony of form, in effect against the dark blue sky, in breadth and grandeur, I know of no external picture of the Alps that can be placed beside it. If you take the valley of the Rhone, and unite the Alps of Savoy and the Bernese Oberland, you might obtain a tolerable idea of this

[41] Zeitschift fuer bildende Kunste, 1870, band 5, pp. 65-74.
[42] Clement and Hutton, "Artists of the Nineteenth Century," 1884.
[43] Fitz-Hugh Ludlow, Atlantic Monthly, vol. 14, p. 604, Nov., 1864.
[44] Cyclopedia of Painters and Paintings, edited by J. H. Champlin, 1892.
[45] Atlantic Monthly, vol. 14, p. 614, Nov., 1864.
[46] "Current Literature," April, 1902.
[47] "Seven Weeks in the Great Yo-Semite," Atlantic Monthly.
[48] Partial Genealogy of the Sweatland Family, B. S. Sweatland, 1908, Brockton, New York.
[49] Denver Pacific Railroad, Map, 1868; and Wheeler Survey Report for 1873.

view of the Rocky Mountains. Pikes Peak would then represent the Jungfrau; a nameless snowy giant in front of you, Monte Rosa; and Longs Peak, Mont Blanc. The altitudes very nearly correspond, and there is a certain similarity in the forms."[50]

Bierstadt's first impression of the Rockies was that they resembled the Alps,—"Rocky Mts., July 10, 1858————The mountains are very fine; as seen from the plains they resemble very much the Bernese Alps."[51]

"In the summer of 1863 the artist" (Bierstadt), "accompanied by Wm. N. Byers, visited Chicago Lakes and ascended the Chicago Mountains as they had been called.[52] The artist named the peak ascended Mount Rosa. A few years later when the people of Colorado gathered at Greeley to celebrate the second great event in the history of the territory—the completion of the Denver Pacific Railroad—it was proposed to call this mountain, prominently visible from Greeley, for the man who had done so much in the grand enterprise of connecting Denver and Colorado with the Pacific Railroad."[53]

Bierstadt called Mount Evans, "Rosalie," according to Frank Byers, a resident of Denver, who was with Bierstadt in 1868 when he made his painting at Chicago Lakes. "The Storm in the Rockies, Mt. Rosalie" has been reproduced in an art journal, according to Mr. Norman L. Patterson, of Chicago. Mr. Patterson also wrote that a large photographic reproduction was made by a resident of Idaho Springs, Colorado, and is still in that resident's possession. Dr. Willard C. Greene, of Boston, has a chromolithographic reproduction 22 inches by 28 inches, and also a small print, 5 inches by 7 inches. When the painting was on exhibition in London, a leading review of that city was enthusiastic in the recital of its merits. "We are somewhere," it said, "in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, at a height of a few hundred feet from the level of a lake below us. This lake, which is small and very beautiful, receives a stream from another lake, on a considerably higher level and at a distance of several miles. Over the distant lake broods an immense mass of dark storm-cloud, which attracts our attention because it is so terrible; and, toward its toppling summits, so elaborate. In the middle distance the rocky barrier rises to a great elevation at the right and a still nearer mass, also to the right, fills the field of vision in that direction."[54]

Speaking of Bierstadt's paintings, a critic has said,—"Of these we prefer, as least sensational and more artistically correct, the painting of a storm on Mt. Rosalie."[55]

Mr. Patterson is also authority for the following,—"A. F. Bunney, an artist, was in this canon about 1868, and the Aldine, in one of the volumes I own, has large reproductions of his 'Clear Creek Canon,' 'In the Rocky Mountains' and 'Snowy Range,' really fine things; yet I have never been able to find any record of him in any of the Colorado publications. The editor of the Aldine, in commenting on the painting (1873) says—"These were painted near the section where Bierstadt produced his 'Storm in the Rocky Mountains' which elicited so much praise when exhibited in the Paris Exhibition of 1869. Seated in the shadow of a great boulder Bierstadt would for days study," etc. Thomas Moran went to Chicago Lakes from Georgetown in the seventies.

The present Mt. Evans appears to have been called Mt. Rosalie by Parry in 1866 (his list of peaks ascended included Rosalie, Longs, Audubon, Parrys, James, Grays, and Torreys), by Brewer in 1869 (his list of peaks seen from the top of Grays Peak,—Longs, Sopris, Holy Cross, Lincoln, Pikes, and Rosalie), and by Hayden in 1876 (he speaks of "The lake that lies at the foot of Mt. Rosalie and forms the source of Chicago Creek."[56] This lake is upper Chicago Lake.)

In 1870 Mt. Rosalie was renamed Mt. Evans and has retained that name ever since:

[50]"Colorado, a Summer Trip," 1866.
[51]H. T. Tuckerman, Galaxy, August 15, 1866.
[52]Named after Chicago Creek, in which Jackson made, in January, 1859, the first discovery in Colorado of gold in paying quantities, and to which he returned in April with a party of Chicago men who gave the name to the Creek.
[53]Colorado Hand Book, W.G.M. Stone, 1892.
[54]"American Art," edited by W. Montgomery, Boston, 1889, pp. 579-80.
[55]"Fifty Years of American Art."
[56]Journal of the American Geographical Society, vol. 76.

"In 1870 the people of the state, at a celebration held in Greeley, named one of the highest peaks of the Rocky Mountains, within the boundaries of the state, Mt. Evans, and in 1895 the state legislature, upon Governor Evans' eighty-first birthday, renamed the mountain in his honor, in recognition of his long and eminent service to the state."[57]

"Senate Joint Resolution No. 15, naming a mountain 'Mount Evans'—Be It Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Colorado, in view of the long and eminent services to the State of Ex-Governor John Evans and a fitting recognition thereof, that the mountain situate in what is known as the 'Platte Range' in section seventy-seven (77), township five (5) south of range seventy-four (74), be, and the same hereby is, named in honor of the said Ex-Governor and shall be hereafter known and designated as Mount Evans. March 5, 1895."[58]

John Evans was second territorial governor of Colorado, from 1862 to 1865, —critical years. It is fitting that his name should be on the mountain overlooking the capitol of the State.

The name Rosalie was then used for the present Mt. Epaulet,[59] the present Mt. Bierstadt,[60] and reached a final resting place on a fine peak to the south of Mt. Evans,[61] which had formerly been called Mt. Rosa.[62]

The present Mt. Bierstadt was so named by the Colorado Geographic Board and the United States Geographic Board in 1914, at the suggestion of Mr. Ellsworth Bethel.

2. THE MOSQUITO RANGE

Beyond the Front Range lies the Mosquito Range, between South Park and Leadville. Any one who has approached it will know why the appellation was bestowed. Even the horses are given blanket coverings to protect them. In Hall's History of Colorado we find,—"Mosquito Gulch, christened from clouds of mosquitoes." There is a Mosquito Gulch; and the road from Alma to Leadville goes over Mosquito Pass, past Mosquito Mountain. All three, as well as the "Musquito Range," are shown on the Hayden Atlas, except that the spelling is "Musquito." The town of Sterling, two miles south of Buckskin, became known as "Musquito" before 1867.[63] The origin of the name is given by Mr. Ellsworth Bethel as follows: "The Mosquito Mining Company was organized by Judge Wilbur F. Stone and others. Judge Stone, who prepared the incorporation papers, left the name of the company blank. One evening they met to sign the papers and when the question of a name came up, a mosquito alighted on the blank space left for the name, whereupon Judge Stone said, 'Let's call it the Mosquito Mining Co.' This name was adopted by the company as its corporate name. Possibly the mountain and the range took their names from the name of the mine—a custom not infrequent in early days of naming peaks for the mines on them. It was thus that Pewabic at Idaho Springs obtained its name." A similar story is found in Father Dyer's "A Snow Shoe Itinerant" at page 323.

This range is the southernmost culmination of the Park Range "so called because it is the western wall of the great 'Parks' stretching along them for 240 miles."[64] "The Park Range is, or was, a few years ago,—frequently called the 'Snowy Range'."[65] The Mosquito Range itself was once called the "Montgomery Spur,"—"From Mt. Lincoln a spur called after the little town at its head the 'Montgomery Spur' shoots off directly south about twenty-five miles, where it ends in the Buffalo Peaks."[66]

The Mosquito peaks were named by miners during the sixties, and as the mountain forms are not at all unusual, one would expect the names to be commonplace.

[57]National Cyclopedia of American Biography.
[58]E. C. McMechen's Life of Governor Evans, 1924, privately printed.
[59]Hayden Atlas.
[60]Hayden preliminary map for 1873.
[61]Wheeler final map.
[62]Journal of the American Geographical Society, vol. 76; and Wheeler Survey, report for 1873.
[63]"The Mines of Colorado" by Ovando J. Hollister, 1867 (Samuel Bowles and Co.), page 82.
[64]James T. Gardiner, "Notes on the Rocky Mountain Range in Colorado Territory," 1874.
[65]J. D. Whitney, "Names and Places," Cambridge, 1888.
[66]"The Mines of Colorado," by Ovando J. Hollister, 1867, page 36.

MT. LINCOLN

Of the baptism of Mt. Lincoln, the highest summit, we have this account—"Hon. Wilbur F. Stone was at the time noted a placer miner in Montgomery. In June, 1861, he ascended to the highest point of the mountain and by thermometer tests estimated its height to be about 17,000 feet above the sea. (Some years later Prof. Albert du Bois made it 17,300 feet.) Its actual height is 14,297 feet. Profoundly impressed by the grandeur of the scenic spectacle witnessed from the summit, on his return to Montgomery he called a meeting of citizens for the purpose of selecting an appropriate name for it.... After explaining the tour, Mr. Stone advised the selection of a comprehensive title that would indicate its position as one of the great landmarks of the county. One or two Spanish and Latin names were suggested: one mentioned Washington, another Adams, another Jefferson, when, as by a common inspiration, all shouted the name of Abraham Lincoln, which signified unanimous adoption. It was then resolved that this magnificent promontory should forever thereafter be known as Mount Lincoln."[67] This name must have become fixed before the survey, for Bayard Taylor mentions it in 1866, and states that it was between fifteen and eighteen thousand feet high. Professor Albert Du Bois, a mining engineer, ascended Mt. Lincoln with a barometer and stated that the summit was seven thousand feet above the town of Buckskin (10,488 feet), making it 17,500 feet above sea level.

In 1864 the miners of this region sent to President Lincoln a gold "retort" worth about eight hundred dollars.[68]

MT. BROSS

Mt. Bross was named for William Bross (1813-1889), Lieutenant Governor of Illinois (1865-1869), who owned mining property near Alma. A visit of Bross to Alma and to Grand County is described by Samuel Bowles,[69] who praises him to the skies. He was a politician, journalist, traveller, and author. Samuel Bowles and Governor Bross climbed Grays Peak and probably Mt. Lincoln in 1868.[70] Father Dyer in "A Snow Shoe Itinerant" (p. 323), wrote of his own ascent of Mt. Lincoln in 1876—"One large company of climbers had put their names in a box which they had elevated on a tall 'liberty pole.' Governor Bross was so enthused that he sang the doxology. Thenceforth the boys called one peak of Lincoln, Mt. Bross."

MT. SHERMAN

Two mountains near Mt. Sherman are much more conspicuous and were named first. They are Gemini Peaks (called Goats Peak by Wheeler, and made a station by him in 1877) and Horseshoe Mountain.[71] Both were listed as 14,000 feet. Mt. Sherman is not found on the Hayden map; its first appearance appears to be on Nell's map of Colorado for 1881.

MT. DEMOCRAT

This is named Buckskin on the Hayden map. The name was transferred from the village which was named for Joseph Higginbottom ("Buckskin Joe").[72] "Eight miles northwest of Fairplay a discovery was made by a mountaineer whose characteristic dress gave him the descriptive appellation of Buckskin Joe."[73] It does not appear to have been called Democrat until the Land Office Survey of 1883.

MT. QUANDARY

"It is believed by those best acquainted with the region that the silver belt of Argentine and the Snakes, after having disappeared for a season, again crops out on the extreme head of the Blue. As early as 1861 the silver outcroppings at the head of the Blue attracted attention and companies were formed and commenced developing some of them, the Brooks Silver Lode at the head of McNulty Gulch for one. Quandary Mountain covered with bits of silver ore was staked off and claimed in patches and what was called 'The Quandary Lode' was hunted for with enthusiasm."[74]

"In the Sixties a party of miners discovered some metal on what is now known as Mt. Quandary and they were unable to determine the character of the ore. It was a quandary and the mountain received its name in this manner. The property is now owned by the Monte Cristo M. and M. Co., and no process has as yet been found to separate this ore."[75] Also,—"a few discoveries of quartz lodes occurred in 1860 near Hoosier Pass. The somewhat famous Quandary mine was located that year."[76]

This name was not fixed until the surveys, for Professor Brewer of the Harvard Survey, 1869, wrote,—"Near Mount Lincoln is a peak sometimes called Quandary Peak, sometimes McCullough's Peak, sometimes Ute Peak, and one man called it Hoosier Peak."[77] In "Rocky Mountain Letters 1869," Brewer calls it "Quandary Mountain." The nearby pass, although called Ute Pass in 1869, was called Hoosier Pass on the Hayden Atlas, which also used the name "Quandary Peak."

3. THE SAWATCH RANGE

The third range, which forms the Continental Divide is now called the Sawatch Range. Humboldt's map of New Spain (1811) gives it as Sierra Verde. Pike called it and the Sangre de Cristo, both of which he regarded as one range, the "White Mountains" or "Snow Mountains." Farnham, in 1839, and Fremont, in 1843, called the whole range south of South Pass "Anahuac Ridge." The first mention of the present name is on the maps of Captain Gunnison's expedition in 1853-1854.[78] On these maps Gunnison calls the mountains around Cochetopa Pass, which he discovered, the "Sahwatch Mountains or San Juan." Captain Beckwith, who wrote the report said—"The Indian name of the range on the West of the San Luis valley is Sahwatch, but it is more generally known by the Spanish name of San Juan."[79] The latter name has remained, but Sahwatch, by Gunnison's use of it, became applied to the northern part of the chain.

In a map of the San Luis valley, before 1869, by Governor Gilpin, a large lake is shown in the middle of the San Luis valley, and is designated as Sahwatch Lake. "Over the South or St. Louis Park, on which the post (Fort Garland) is built, roll, at long intervals of space, nineteen distinct streams, resulting in the formation of the Sah-watch or Lake of Many Waters."[80] This lake is shown on several early maps. "The San Luis Lake, extending south from the point of the foothills, occupies the centre of the park for sixty miles, forming a bowl without any outlet to its waters," etc. Governor Gilpin explains how the lake expands and contracts. "Into it goes the Saguache River."[81] A map of Colorado, 1866, shows a lake in the San Luis Valley into which run Sahawayeh Creek, rising at Cochetopa Pass, north of which are the Sawatch Mountains, also Riviere des Trois Teics (Crestone Creek), and Chatillon Creek (Dead Man's Creek).[82] The tendency in primitive nomenclature is to name streams and lakes first, then transfer the names to ranges, and finally to peaks. This lake may be the original home of the name, for Gannett[83] says "Saguache means 'water of the blue earth'," and Hall's History of Colorado says "Saguache means blue earth or water of blue earth, referred to springs

[67] Frank Hall, History of the State of Colorado, 1889.
[68] Central City Register, March, 1864.
[69] "The Crest of the Continent."
[70] Daily News, 1868.
[71] L. P. Brockett, "Our Western Empire," 1881, page 627.
[72] Gannett, United States Geological Survey Bulletin, 258.
[73] Bancroft's "History of Colorado."

[74] Ovando J. Hollister, "The Mines of Colorado," 1867, page 297.
[75] George F. Farman, County Clerk, Summit County, Colorado, in a letter, 1923.
[76] Frank Hall, History of the State of Colorado, 1889.
[77] Prof. W. H. Brewer, Journal of the American Geographical Society of New York, vol. III, 1873, pp. 193 seq., "Explorations in the Rocky Mountains and the High Peaks of Colorado."
[78] Thirty-third Congress, 2nd Session, Senate Executive Document 78, vol. XI.
[79] Ibid, Vol. II, Exploration and survey for a railroad route to the Pacific, near the 38th and 39th parallels, under Captain J. W. Gunnison.
[80] Overland 5-520, 1870.
[81] Governor Gilpin, quoted by Silversparre in his appendix to new map of Colorado, 1882.
[82] Ovando J. Hollister's "The Mines of Colorado," 1867.
[83] United States Geological Survey Bulletin 258.

where blue earth was found twenty miles from the town of Saguache." The forms Saguache and Sawatch are probably the same word, for the Wheeler reports use the Saguache range for the Sawatch range. Sawatch, however, has the earlier usage. It is given by Beckwith in 1853, by W. N. Byers in the Daily News, October 25, 1864, on Ebert's map of 1865, by Bayard Taylor in 1866, and by the Hayden survey in 1874. There was also,—"Saguache Pass, which is the great natural opening in the mountains that bound on the west the valley of the San Luis.[84] At present we have a town and county of Saguache.

Although there is doubt about the name of the range, there is none about the names of the separate mountains. They can be considered in three groups. First,—Holy Cross (which is perhaps not 14,000 feet), Massive, Elbert, La Plata, and Grizzly. Second,—the collegiate peaks, whose names we owe to the Harvard survey. Third,—the Indian names, Antero, Shavano, Tabeguache, and Ouray (which is not 14,000).

HOLY CROSS

The Mount of the Holy Cross, shown as 13,978 feet high on the United States Geological Survey Leadville Quadrangle Map is quite possibly 14,000 feet high, if the corrections which the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey made on the United States Geological Survey altitudes nearby are correct. The date of the origin of this name "Holy Cross" is not known. It does not appear to be well enough known in 1869 to be mentioned and perhaps it was not named until the seventies. About 1874 Longfellow wrote a poem about it. Farnham (page 48 of the first edition) described a different Holy Cross, at the head of the Grand River. His mountain was eight hundred feet about the brook and had a quartz cross twenty by sixty feet. "The trappers reverently named the peak the Mountain of the Holy Cross." There are several traditions of Spaniards discovering a cross on the mountains. The area surrounding this peak was proclaimed a National Monument by President Hoover on May 11, 1929.

MT. ELBERT

Elbert, the highest mountain in the state, was named for Governor Samuel Elbert (1873-1874). He married a daughter of Governor Evans. The name is found before 1873.

MT. MASSIVE

Massive is named from its shape. Henry Gannett wrote—"Massive Mt. 14,424 feet, its broad heavy outlines suggesting its name."[85] This peak was named before 1873 and is called Massive Mountain by Hayden and Wheeler. An attempt to call the highest point Gannett Peak has recently been defeated.

GRIZZLY MOUNTAIN

Grizzly and Little Bear are the only animal names among the fourteen thousand foot peaks, although that class is extremely common for hills and streams. The reason is evident,—animals are not usually found on peaks above timberline. The grizzly, however, is an exception and high mountain climbing is one of his greatest hobbies. No story is necessary to account for the name, but this note by Gannett may refer to this Grizzly peak,—"Grizzly, Peak in Colorado, named by a party of scientists from an adventure with a grizzly bear."[86] There are several peaks in Colorado named Grizzly.

LA PLATA PEAK

The mining district in which this peak is located was called "La Plata."[87] Hayden in his 1874 report says, "We have given the name La Plata to this mountain." The name is good, for much of the mining in Colorado was done above timberline. There is a prospector's maxim,—

"A good silver-mine
Is above timberline
Ten times out of nine."

[84]Kit Carson's Life and Adventures, by D. C. Peters, 1875.
[85]Everybody's Magazine, May, 1902.
[86]United States Geological Survey Bulletin 258.
[87]Ovando J. Hollister's "The Mines of Colorado," 1867, page 31.

COLLEGIATE PEAKS

The second group in the Sawatch Range, called the Collegiate Group, is composed of Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Columbia, and Oxford. This group was first named and measured by Prof. J. D. Whitney, accompanied by W. H. Brewer and C. F. Hoffman of the California Survey,[88] and A. R. Marvine, Henry Gannett, J. H. Bridges, and Wm. M. Davis,[89] who were the first class to graduate from the Harvard Mining School, of which Whitney was the head. They made this survey, in 1869, for two reasons,—in order to give the students practical work, and to investigate the rumor that there were peaks in central Colorado higher than those in California. An account of this Survey will be found in "Rocky Mountain Letters, 1869," by Professor W. H. Brewer, published by the Colorado Mountain Club in 1930, edited by Edmund B. Rogers.

The naming of Harvard is mentioned in Whitney's report,—"One summit, which we climbed and measured, seemed to surpass in height all those so far measured in the Rockies. We gave to it the name of Mt. Harvard in honor of the university to which most of the members belonged as teachers or students."[90]

" . . . the next higher summit, immediately to the south in the range (14,172), was named Mount Yale, after the university from which he" (Whitney) "graduated 30 years before."[91]

"The name Mount Princeton was given a few years later to the fine mass next south of Mount Yale."[91] This Mount Princeton was called Chalk Mountain, from Chalk Creek at its foot, by the Wheeler Survey, but the name was ruled out by the U.S.G.B.[92] The name Princeton was, it is believed, given by Henry Gannett, later Director of the United States Geological Survey. The name was in use in 1873.

Mt. Columbia was so named by Mr. Roger W. Toll about 1916, when he was placing Colorado Mountain Club registers on the Sawatch peaks. His account is kept in the Colorado Mountain Club's books of reports on climbs in Colorado at the Club Room. The name was adopted by the Colorado Mountain Club in 1922. A note on the altitude of this peak will be found in "Trail and Timberline," June, 1926, by Mr. Albert R. Ellingwood—

"Columbia. This calculation is not worth much, and I only give it because I do not think we have a better one so far. When Mr. Toll named this peak, in 1916, he assigned to it an elevation of 14,070, which was based, I believe, on clinometer and aneroid observations. The present result is based on transit readings taken from Harvard upon Princeton and Columbia, and from Columbia upon Princeton and Harvard. As I could not obtain a measured baseline from which these peaks are visible, I took the distance between Harvard and Princeton which is given by the Hayden Survey (Report, 1876, 287), which is 12.8056 miles, and, with the above 'shots,' solved the triangle formed by these two peaks and Columbia. Then, assuming the elevations given to Harvard and Princeton by the U. S. C. and G. S. (Spec. Publ. No. 19), viz., 14,399 feet and 14,177 feet respectively, I computed the difference in elevation between these two peaks and Columbia. The altitude found for Columbia by this method is 14,057 feet."

The Atlas of the Hayden Survey shows an unnamed mountain with three summits of 14,000 feet altitude north and east of Mt. Harvard. It is a distinct mountain from Mt. Harvard, both in respect of the distance separating the two and the depth of the gap between them. The mountain has never been named and does not seem to be well known. Albert R. Ellingwood and Stephen H. Hart took sights on it with a transit from the summits of Mt. Harvard and Mt. Columbia in 1925, and to them it appeared to exceed 14,000 feet in elevation. As the peak should have a name, preferably one similar to the other peaks of this group, I designate it herein as Mount Oxford in honor of the University attended by the above climbers who first directed attention to this peak.

[88]E. L. Brewster, in "J. D. Whitney," page 268-9.
[89]Wm. M. Davis in United States Geological Survey Bulletin 707.
[90]J. D. Whitney, "Die hoechste partie des Felsengebirge, 1869." Petermanns Mitteilungen, 1871, page 55.
[91]United States Geological Survey Bulletin 707, 1914.
[92]U.S.B. of G.N. report 3, 1907.

THE INDIAN GROUP

The last group owe their names to some Ute Indians, according to Gannett.[93]

Shavano's first exploit is sufficient to make him deserve the honor. A Ute named Kaneache went on the war path in 1867. "He was met by a small force of Tabeguaches under Shavano, whom Carson[94] sent to bring in Kaneache, dead or alive. The order was obeyed, Kaneache . . . captured. . . . But for the exertions of Ouray, many more lives would have been lost."[95] The State Historical Society Museum has three pictures of Shavano hung on the walls of the room nearest the entrance. From these pictures one learns that Shavano went to Washington, D. C., in 1878, and was deported to Utah in 1881.

Shavano appeared in print as a signer of a convention between the Utes and the U. S. Commissioner in 1873. Fourth of the list of one hundred thirty-three signers is Chavanaux, his X mark, Chief of Tabeguaches. There were only three other chiefs in this tribe.

In a later seven-day negotiation between Commissioner Brunot and thirty-three chiefs, Ouray (head chief) and Brunot did most of the talking, but Chavanaux also made speeches, in one of which he said—"When I was in Washington the treaty put the line on top the mountains and not where the line is now." Of course this line was the boundary on the Ute Reservation in the San Juan. The miners starting with Baker's party in 1860 had overrun the reservation and angered the Indians, whose rights the Indian service did not protect. This bad feeling led eventually to the War of 1879.

More discussions followed. In 1878 Ouray said—"Governor Elbert informed me that a nephew of his run the eastern line of the reservation and all the Utes believe that he made a false location for the purposes of throwing outside of the reservation good lands, so that they might make farms and townsites. I think Hunt, Evans, and Elbert were in the speculation."[96]

The trespassing miners won, as was inevitable and the agreement signed by the Indians was as follows:[97] "Los Pinos Indian Agency, 1878. We the undersigned chiefs and headsmen of the Tabeguaches band of Ute Indians do hereby consent to whatever disposition the Sapates, Muaches, and Weeminuches, and their representative bands may make of that part of the Ute Reservation immediately south and west of the San Juan mining district." This was signed by twenty-three Indians of whom the third was Shavano, who used no "his X mark;" probably he had learned to write during the years of negotiations. Number nine was "Mountain," and number eleven was "Mountain Sheep."

In the War of 1879 Shavano remained loyal. He was one of three Indians who accompanied General Adams in his attempt to recover the captives. In Adams' account of the council, the Indians refused, and "finally Shavano became angry and discouraged and rising from the council told me it was useless to parley further and left the tent."[98] Sapavanaco then told the Indians that Ouray commanded them to surrender the captives; so they did. On the return journey, Shavano showed plainly that he feared treachery on the part of the whites. He was for his services promoted to chieftainship by Ouray, probably to be head of all the Tabeguaches. Jocknick in "Early Days on the Western Slope of Colorado," wrote the following description of Shavano (page 130)—"Old Shavano (war chief of the Utes) was kneeling in prayer for the dying man. (It was the custom of the Ute Indians, like most other wild tribes, to adopt a standing attitude in prayer, but Shavano's custom was to kneel, having been thus taught by Catholic priests at Santa Fe, who once exercised a guardianship over him in his youthful days.) Shavano's prayer, which was spoken in Spanish, translated was as follows—'May the Great Spirit that lives in the Sun have mercy on his soul that he may go to where our forefathers live in the Happy Hunting Ground and be forever at home and forever with his friends. In a little while he will go to the Sun and see the father of

[93]United States Geological Survey Bulletin 258.
[94]Col. Kit Carson, in command of Fort Massachusetts.
[96]Bancroft, History of Colorado, page 471.
[95]46th Congress, 2nd Session, Senate Executive Document 29, pp. 10-11. Mining camps on Ute Indian Reservations.
[97]Ibid, pp. 83+.
[98]Dawson and Skiff, "The Ute War," Denver, 1879.

Wm. F. Ervin.

Pyramid Peak, Elk Mountains, Colorado

Standley.

Capitol Peak and the Big Basin, seen from the Ridge North of Snowmass Lake

Crisp.

Hagerman (left) and Snowmass (right) from Ridge above Snowmass Lake

all the Utes.'" On Shavano Peak is a perpetual snow bank almost a mile long, which resembles an angel kneeling in prayer and is called "The Angel of Shavano."

Neither Shavano's nor Antero's name appears in the Hayden reports or maps until the atlas came out after the Ute War of 1879. There is, however, a Mt. Shavano on Thayer's map of 1875, before the war. Wheeler gives Usher Peak in place of Shavano, probably after Judge J. P. Usher, Chief Counsel for the D. & R. G. R. R.[99] This was rejected by the U. S. G. B. who decided "Shavano Peak, Sawatch Mountains, Chaffee County, Colorado, not Mount Shavano, nor Mount Usher."[1]

Tabeguache Peak is shown as 14,000 feet (but not named) on the map of the Monarch Mining District prepared by the Colorado Geological Survey. The peak is a little over a mile west and south of Shavano Peak. The name was first used in Trail and Timberline No. 149, page 35, and is the name of the tribe of Utes of which Shavano was chief. The spelling is that given in Hodge's "Handbook of American Indians."

Antero was a Ute chief in Utah. He signed, in 1878, the same document as Shavano, with the substitutions "Uintah Valley Agency" and "Uintah Band," as third of fifteen, by means of an "his X mark." In the War of 1879 Antero's tribe behaved itself. This may be one reason why his name was chosen. There is more to the story, because a famous reservoir in Colorado is called the Antero Reservoir. Either Antero did much more, or there was a different Antero. Possibly he helped Shavano in 1867. Gannett in United States Geological Survey Bulletin 258 calls Shavano "a Ute Indian" and Antero "a prominent Ute Indian." Wheeler has a Mt. Antoro, but that is south of Cochetopa Pass, and is probably a Spanish name. This mountain is probably the one called Antero, 13,425, by the U. S. C. and G. S.

4. THE ELK MOUNTAINS

The fourth range of high peaks, the Elk Mountains, lies between Aspen and Crested Butte. The name is, of course, due to the former prevalence of the animal. Beckwith, in 1853, mentions that while descending from Cochetopa Pass he saw "numerous elk horns and buffalo skulls scattered whitening on the hills."[2] His map gives the Elk Mountains in their proper position. He probably named them, for Mitchell's map of 1845, and a map in 1850 (the United States between the Mississippi and the Pacific, Bureau of Corps of Topographic Engineers) giving the Elk Head River in Northwest Colorado, are not indicating by "Elk Head River" anything near to the Elk Mountains.

These Elk Mountains are among the most startling both in form and color in the United States. This is due to their sedimentary composition. It is but natural that they should be given the descriptive names, Castle, Pyramid, Maroon, Snowmass, and Capitol, especially as they were first explored by surveyors appreciative of mountain beauty. This region was one of the last in Colorado to be occupied by miners. Gannett, in 1874, wrote—"This country was as little known as any part of the western territories. No map was in existence." Brewer, in 1873, spoke of "that terra incognito (the Elk Mountains); nameless, untrodden, unknown peaks."

CASTLE PEAK

The highest of the group, Castle Peak, which is purple in color, was named from the striking towers along its ridges,[3] by the Hayden Survey.

MAROON PEAK AND PYRAMID PEAK

Maroon Peak (locally known as Maroon Bells, from the resemblance to two bells, the tops of which form its two 14,000-foot summits) was named for its color by the Hayden Survey.[4] Originally it was called Maroon Mt. The distinction is clear. A peak cannot ordinarily have two peaks, but a mountain

[99]Frank Hall, History of the State of Colorado.
[1]U.S.B. of G.N., Report 3, 1907.
[2]Report of Gunnison's Expedition.
[3]United States Geological Survey Bulletin 258.
[4]Peele, in the Hayden report for 1873.

can easily have two peaks. The United States Land Office Survey calls them Maroon Mts. These peaks are usually described as North Maroon Peak and South Maroon Peak. Pyramid Peak was named Black Pyramid or Pyramid by the Hayden Survey.

These mountains were not carefully surveyed by Wheeler's men, and the map which was to be issued was not printed with the others. A member of the Survey, Professor John J. Stevenson, visited the Elk Mountains in the same year as the Hayden Survey. His description[5] is of primary interest,—"The crest of this exceedingly narrow ridge resembles a line of ancient castles. Indeed, standing in any of the enormous cavities under this ridge, from which issue the many streams which form the Roaring Fork, one needs little power of imagination to conceive himself within the ruins of some majestic cathedral, whose towers, surmounting the massive walls, still remain to attest its pristine splendor. Two of the peaks rise almost to fourteen thousand feet. One of these I had the honor to dedicate, with the consent of my associates, to Mr. P. P. Whitfield, the distinguished palaeontologist of Albany, New York. This remarkable peak, of which the eastern aspect is represented in the following figure by Mr. Young, rises to a height of 13,985 feet, as determined by triangulation. It is pyramidal in outline, composed of sedimentary rocks, varying in color from dark gray to dull red and maroon, and almost horizontal along the face, so that, taken in connection with its surroundings, it is probably the weirdest object in this portion of the chain. On its southern side rises a similar pyramid, reaching to an equal height, while adjoining it on the north, a long arched comb gradually rises, stretching to within a hundred feet of the level of its summit. Its northeasterly face is hollowed out so as to resemble a huge pointed scoop rising two thousand feet above the glacial cup below. On its western side the mountain shows itself a noble pyramid, whose face rises sharply and unbroken at an angle of forty degrees for four thousand feet above the wondrous crateriform excavation beneath." This is the first description of possibly our finest two mountains. Although the compass directions are confused, these are beyond doubt Pyramid and Maroon.

CAPITOL PEAK AND SNOWMASS PEAK

The last two peaks, Capitol and Snowmass, have not yet been given fourteen thousand foot figures officially, because they have not been surveyed by the United States Geological Survey. Hayden gave them within three and thirty feet, respectively, of fourteen thousand feet. His heights on the neighboring Elk Mountains were all over a hundred feet too low. These two peaks are, as far as can be judged, fourteen thousand feet, and have therefore been put on the list with the heights of 14,000 feet each.

Snowmass was named by the Hayden Survey from the mass of snow in the amphitheatre on the eastern face.[6] Gannett wrote—"This snowfield, in August, which is the month there is the least snow in the mountains, has an area of fully five square miles. Probably this is the nearest approach to a glacier in the Rocky Mountains."[7]

Capitol Peak also was named by the Hayden Survey, a member of which, W. H. Rideing, wrote[8]—"A little to the northward of Snowmass, the range rises into another greater mountain. The two are known to miners as "The Twins," although they are not at all alike, as the provisional names we bestowed upon them indicate. After mature deliberation the expedition rechristened them the Whitehouse and the Capitol, under which names we suppose they will be familiar to future generations. . . ." It seems that "Whitehouse" was meant by them as a new name for Snowmass. Probably the miners used "The Twins" for the twin summits of Snowmass mountain and not for Snowmass and Capitol as Rideing thought. At any rate the name Capitol was retained. Gannett wrote—"Capitol, named for its form."[9]

[5]John J. Stevenson, Report on the Geology of a portion of Colorado examined in 1873, Final Wheeler Report, Part IV, Geology, page 475.
[6]Peele, Hayden Report for 1873.
[7]Henry Gannett in the Hayden Report for 1874.
[8]"Picturesque America," Vol. II, page 502.
[9]United States Geological Survey Bulletin 258.

5. THE SANGRE DE CRISTO RANGE

The Sangre de Cristo Range is that seen from the plains of Southern Colorado. It is probably the first range in Colorado known by white men, because the Spanish explorers approached it from New Mexico. We know little of its history, or that of the San Juan Mountains in Southwestern Colorado, from Spanish sources, because most of the records in Santa Fe have been lost, misplaced, or sold in Spain. The San Luis valley, at its foot, is today largely populated with Mexicans. Spanish exploration and population account for the predominance of Spanish names. Of the high peaks, Sierra Blanca, Crestone, and Culebra, the most prominent, the names are of Spanish origin; and of the others, Baldy, Kit Carson, Little Bear, and Humboldt, the less prominent, the names are of American origin.

Sangre de Cristo is a name not only Spanish but used by the early Spaniards. It, as we all know, means "Blood of Christ," a strange title to us, but common enough to the Spaniards, who even expressed their pleasure and annoyance by saints. Mr. Spencer, in his "History of the San Luis Valley," tells of an explorer who gave the name Sangre de Cristo to this range because of the deep red sunset. Ernest Peixote describes one "ruddy-red, flamboyant, so deep, so crimson, that I realized at once why the pious Spaniards had given them their strange name 'Sangre de Cristo.'"[10] The "Sierra de Almagre" of Humboldt's Map of New Spain (1811) may possibly designate this range. Sierra de Almagre means "Red Range." Sangre de Cristo and San Juan are by far the earliest of all our names for ranges. That classic narrative, Gregg's "Commerce of the Prairies, or, The Journal of a Santa Fe Trader" (1831-39) said—"At a point called Sangre de Cristo, considerably north of Taos, and which from its location among the snowy mountains of that region is icebound over half the year, a very rich placer has been discovered, yet owing to the peculiarly exposed situation in which it lies has been very little worked." The name did not become popular with Americans until the time of the surveys. The range was called "White" or "Snowy" by Pike, and even Governor Gilpin calls it merely the "Cordillera."

CULEBRA PEAK

"Sangre de Cristo Mountains; the range extends from Poncha Pass, Colorado, to the neighborhood of Santa Fe, New Mexico, thus including the portion locally known as the Culebra Range."[11] Culebra is an early name—it appears on Pike's map, undated, published in 1810, as Rio de la Culebra, and on Humboldt's map of New Spain 1811 (Paris). Ruxton mentions Culebra, Trinchera, and Sangre de Cristo (as streams) in 1847 without naming any of the mountains. Culebra Creek is shown on Beckwith's map of 1853. Perhaps the presence of snakes gave the name to the creek, and this name was transferred to the peak at an early date, for it is given for the peak in 1869.[12]

SIERRA BLANCA

The name Sierra Blanca applies to the whole group of Blanca, Baldy, Little Bear, Middle Creek Peak, and Twin Peaks. Gunnison writes of the peaks of the Sierra Blanca; Stevenson says that Old Baldy is part of the Sierra Blanca, and Hayden (1876) calls the Sierra Blanca a range. Gannett[13] wrote—"Blanca, so named from the white rocks on its summit." This is not the fact, as there are no prominent white rocks on the summit. The name is a very common one, often given to peaks having snow on them for a large part of the year. This particular group received the name as early as 1853-4.[14] Blanca Peak is the name given to designate the highest summit of this group.

[10]"Our Hispanic Southwest," 1916.
[11]U.S.B. of G.N., Report 3, 1907.
[12]William Blackmore, "An account of the Trenchara and Costilla Estates in San Luis Park," 1869.
[13]United States Geological Survey Bulletin 258, 1905.
[14]Beckwith's "General Profile through the Rockies" published with the reports of Gunnison's expedition.

"Sierra Blanca means simply 'White Mountain,' as common a name for mountains as Smith is for man. Why not call it Custer Mt. in honor of the gallant general for whom the county was named—will not the next legislature name this everlasting monument in honor of the glorious Custer?"[15]

Little Bear Peak is one and a half miles southwest of Blanca Peak. The name is incorrectly placed on the Forest Service Map of 1924, but is shown more correctly on the Forest Service Map of 1916. The name probably comes from the stream at its foot, and there is probably a Bear Creek nearby as well as a Little Bear Creek. An old name for the peak was West Peak.[16]

Old Baldy Peak was found to be so designated by Hayden in 1874. Early travellers comment on its bare, conical summit. That the name Baldy is more common on peaks below timberline than on those above seems strange until one notes that a mountain would not strike an observer as bald except in the absence of trees, made conspicuous by the presence of trees nearby. This condition is possibly the cause for naming Baldy, because the mountain rises from such a low altitude that about half of it is below timberline. This condition is not common for fourteen-thousand-foot peaks in the Rockies.

THE CRESTONE GROUP

The Colorado Mountain Club now recognizes four peaks—Crestone, the highest, hereinafter called A; Kit Carson, about two miles to the northwest, hereinafter called B; Humboldt, east of Crestone, hereinafter called C; and finally Crestone Needle, which is a lower but separate summit of Crestone Peak, to the southeast, hereinafter called D.

Sometime before 1853 the trappers or traders entered the San Luis Valley and saw some resemblance between the Crestone Group and the Three Tetons of Wyoming, which were the best known mountains in the west. The resemblance was probably in height, steepness, or individuality, as Mr. Albert R. Ellingwood, who climbed Grand Teton, Middle Teton and North Teton in 1923, and Grand Teton and Mount Moran in 1924, states that there is no direct resemblance; and the name is undoubtedly transferred, for it is a peculiar one and there is no part of the group which literally resembles the three Tetons, although there are at least three imperfect groups of three. All three of these groups have been called Three Tetons or Trois Tetons at different times.

(1) The present Crestone (A) and Crestone Needle (D) (also known as Crestone Needles, the Needles, and the Spannish Craggs), which consist of the two summits of Crestone Peak (A) and the thimble-like summit of Crestone Needle (D), (all 14,000 feet in altitude), are called Trois Tetons on the maps (1877 and 1879) of the Wheeler Survey. There can be no doubt concerning the peak designated, as it is shown as the dividing point between Spanish Creek, Cottonwood Creek, and South Colony Creek, and as it is given a higher altitude than the neighboring peaks. This is the use of the name "Three Tetons" that was ruled against in favor of the name "Crestone" by the United States Geographic Board.

(2) The present Kit Carson (B) consists of a long summit, a pointed summit, and a round summit (each about 14,000 feet in altitude), and was called Three Tetons and Trois Tetons on the maps of the Surveys made by the Land Office, 1863 and 1892, maps accurate enough to show clearly which peaks are named.

(3) Finally, there are three rounded mountains north of Willow Creek and near the head of Crestone Creek (formerly La Riviere des Trois Tetons) which are locally known as the Three Tetons, according to three inhabitants of long residence in the town of Crestone—Mr. B. A. Roloson, Mr. F. J. Tooker, and Mr. Roberts. (The only map on which they are named is Silversparre's map for 1882, where they are called Mt. Celeste and Mt. Julia.) This explains Gunnison's reference to the Riviere des Trois Tetons "deriving its name from the peaks whence it descends."[17] The creek takes its name either from this group or, which is more probable, the name Trois Tetons, which

[15]"Southern Colorado," 1879, Canon City.
[16]"Appalachia," December, 1890.
[17]Beckwith's report, 33rd Congress, 2nd Session, Executive Document 78, Vol. II.

was the name of the most prominent mountains, was given to the stream on which people lived, even though the stream did not actually descend from the mountain called Three Tetons. On this creek was the old mining camp of Tetons.

We now must consider the name "Crestone." According to Spanish lexicons, the name has many meanings, such as a large crest, cock's comb, crest of helmet, or outcropping of ore (the suffix—on means large). A glossary of Spanish words in Crofutt's guide to Colorado, 1881, says that Crestone means "crests—three prominent peaks." The mining glossary says "creston—outcroppings of a lode." "Cock's comb" is probably the best of these meanings, for several reasons—(1) The conformation on the Italian side of the Matterhorn which the French and English call the crete du coq is called by the Italians—"crestone," (the word is common to both Italian and Spanish); (2) the inhabitants of the town of Crestone translate the word as "'a large cock's comb" (Mr. B. A. Roloson); (3) as seen from the south, the present Crestone Peak (A) is remarkably like a cock's comb; most people are sure of the resemblance. The Spaniards or Mexicans must have given the name Crestone to the present Crestone Peak (A). Crestone Creek, named for the nearby mountain, of course, then supplanted the name Riviere des Trois Tetons, as it is a simpler name, and the town took its name from the Creek or the mountain, thus reversing the usual procedure.

Finally, the present Kit Carson (B), which overshadows the town, was called Crestone by the inhabitants, in place of the present Crestone (A), of which only the summit can be seen from the town. The present Kit Carson (B) is called Crestone in an official source, instead of Three Tetons, only in one place—by the Land Office Survey of 1892, in the field notes, probably a mistake based upon local usage as the map of this survey used the name "Three Tetons." On Land Office maps of 1899, based on the survey of 1863, the present Kit Carson (B) is called Trois Tetons (map in the possession of Mr. B. A. Roloson), and the present Crestone (A) is called Crestone (map in the possession of Mr. Tooker).

The present Crestone (A) has been called Crestone fairly consistently,[18] with the exception of the name Three Tetons (Wheeler, 1877-1879), Spannish Craggs and N. W. Spannish Craggs (Land Office, 1892, and local use), and Crestone Needles and the Needles (used locally on both sides of the range).

Another possible origin of the name has been supplied by Mrs. W. W. Tudor of Moffat, Colorado—

"With regard to the name 'Crestone' I think you will be interested in the testimony of my uncle, Edwin Wales, and my mother, Abigail Wales Shellabarger, who settled, in 1868 and 1871 respectively, on Rito Alto Creek, about nine miles north of the present town of Crestone. They were among the earliest English-speaking residents of this region. They say that when they first arrived the creek now called 'Crestone' was always known as 'Cristonia.' It was a settler by the name of Frank Allen, who lived near the present town of Crestone, and who was a southern backwoodsman, with the flat accent and drawling speech of his kind, who first called the stream 'Crestone.' He was imitated by others until the original name was entirely lost."

Cristonia seems to be a derivative from Sangre de Cristo. The use of the word Crestone is so common, that Cristonia was probably a temporary error for Crestone, and not Crestone an error for Cristonia.

The present Kit Carson (B), although showing the use of the name Three Tetons or Trois Tetons and being incorrectly called Crestone, has also had the appropriate descriptive names "Haystack Baldy" (Mr. Roberts) and "Frustum" (Wheeler Survey, 1877 and 1879). There can be no doubt as to the peak (B) designated Frustum on the Wheeler maps, as it is shown just south of Willow Creek. This name of Frustum was ruled against by the United States Geographic Board in favor of Kit Carson. This name must have been taken from the Hayden Atlas, where "Kit Carson's Peak" is shown between

[18]Hayden Survey 1874-5; United States Land Office, 1889; United States Geological Survey Bulletin 291, 1906; U.S.G.B. 1907; U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1914; U.S. Forest Service 1919; Colorado Mountain Club, 1923. See "Fourteen Thousand Feet," first edition, pages 17 to 20.

the present Humboldt (C) and Kit Carson (B). As there is no doubt that the present Humboldt (C) has been called Humboldt everywhere,[19] the U. S. G. B. evidently decided the name must belong to the present Kit Carson (B), called Frustum by Wheeler. Where Hayden got the name is not known. Probably he chose it because Kit Carson was so well known in the region.[20] Mr. B. A. Roloson tells of a tradition that Kit Carson had a cabin on South Crestone Creek and lived there two years; but Mr. Roberts says that was "Butcher-knife Bill." Mr. Perkins has heard of a cabin of Kit Carson's on Sand Creek, near Music Pass, over which Kit Carson led Fremont. Kit Carson was at one time Commander of Fort Massachusetts, at the foot of Blanca Peak.[21] Another name for the peak is Mt. Lena (Silversparre's Map, 1882). The name Frustum is now used for a peak further north.

The fourth peak of the region (D), which was shown but not named by Hayden, was noted by the Land Office Survey as the South East Spannish Crag, and was locally called one of the Needles. The Colorado Mountain Club climbed it in 1921 and named it Crestone Needle. This name was accepted for the Colorado Mountain Club list of 1923.

Humboldt Peak was named for Alexander von Humboldt, famous geographer, traveller, explorer, and mountaineer. In Ecuador he is supposed to have climbed on Chimborazo (which was then thought to be the highest mountain in the world) to a height of 18,000 feet, a world's record at the time. He also climbed in Mexico, ascended the Peak of Teneriffe and Vesuvius, and made an Asiatic journey. Above all, he was the greatest of all geographers. Louis Agassiz, in an address in 1869, said—"He first recognized the essential relations which unite the physical features of the globe, the laws of climate on which the whole system of isothermal lines is based, the relative height of the mountain chains and table land, the distribution of vegetation over the whole earth. . . . The first geological sections, the first sections across an entire continent, the first average of climate illustrated by lines were his. He was the most famous man of his age, with the exception of Napoleon."

The name was given by the miners of Custer County. "In the Spring of 1874, the Humboldt mine was discovered by Leonard Frederick and sold to Paul Georhe, of the valley, a prominent member of the old German colony."[22] The Humboldt mine was one of the best in Custer County.[23] A history of the German colony is given[24] by Professor Carl Walsten, for whom Walsten Peak, directly north of Humboldt Peak on the Wheeler map, but now known as Baldy, is named. "In 1869, the writer, propelled by a desire to ameliorate the physical condition of the poorer class of Germans, who were condemned by a cruel fate to work in the greasy, ill-ventilated, and nerve-destroying factories of Chicago, formed a band of about a hundred into a colony—and brought them to "El Mojoda" (Wet Mountain Valley).—This was in the Spring of 1870. The organization of this colony stood until fall, when it collapsed—collectively a failure, it has individually become a distinct success." The name Humboldt is one of the most common for mines. Silversparre[25] gives thirteen, of which this Humboldt is the first.

Probably the most accurate calculation of the altitudes of these peaks is that of Professor Albert R. Ellingwood of Northwestern University, who made readings here in 1925, assisted by Stephen H. Hart. His results are published in "Trail and Timberline" for June, 1926, page 4, as follows—

The Crestone Group. There are, in this group, four peaks that are generally believed to be over 14,000 feet in elevation above sea level. I will use the names attached to them by J. L. J. Hart in his "Fourteen Thousand Feet,"

[19]Wheeler, 1877, 1879; U.S. Land Office 1883; United States Geological Survey Bulletin 291, 1906; United States Forest Service, 1919; Colorado Mountain Club, 1923. See "Fourteen Thousand Feet," first edition, pages 17 to 20.

[20]Kit Carson was the most famous guide of the Southern Rocky Mountains and in contemporary estimates second only to Bridger, if any. He is Colorado's scout. (Note by James Grafton Rogers.)

[21]Overland 5-520 (1870).

[22]Baskin's "History of the Arkansas Valley," 1881.

[23]S. E. Emmons "Mines of Custer County." Annual Report of United States Geological Survey, 1896. (It was near Rosita.)

[24]"Southern Colorado," 1879, Canon City.

[25]Silversparre's appendix to "New Map of Colorado," page 119.

published by the Club in June, 1925: Kit Carson is the one farthest north, lying just south of Willow Creek; Crestone Peak is the one in the middle of the group; Crestone Needle is the southernmost one; Humboldt lies to the east of the others, between the two branches of Colony Creek. In Bulletin No. 291 of the U. S. G. S. (1906), all of these are assigned an altitude, except the Needle, which had not then been recognized as a separate peak. The figures are: Crestone Peak, 14,233; Kit Carson, 14,100; Humboldt, 14,044. The U. S. C. and G. S., the work of which is credited with great accuracy, gave to Crestone Peak, in 1914, an altitude of 14,291 (Spec. Publ. No. 19). The C. M. C., in its 1923 list, gives to the Needle a height of 14,130 and to Humboldt a height of 14,100, on the basis, if I am correctly informed, of observations made with a pocket clinometer.

Our own observations consist of readings (azimuths and angles of elevation) taken from the cairn at the east end of the Humboldt summit ridge, upon the cairns on the other three peaks in the group; and of readings taken from mileposts No. 264 and No. 273 along the line of the Rio Grande Railroad in the San Luis Valley, south of Moffat. These mileposts have elevations of 7,559.75 feet and 7,541.51 feet, as determined by primary leveling done in 1914 (U. S. G. S. Bulletin, No. 565). For purposes of this computation, I have assumed that the track between them is a straight line and that the distance between the two points is nine miles exactly, both assumptions being quite safe, according to information given by a surveyor of long experience in the valley. Back "shots" from Kit Carson and the Crestones could not be obtained because of the presistent clouds, though we actually set up the transit on Crestone Peak on one occasion. Consequently, the results depend on forward readings alone, and are given only for what they are worth under those conditions. Humboldt is not visible from the San Luis Valley base line, and so its altitude is computed from the forward readings taken from Humboldt on the other peaks and the altitudes and positions of the latter as calculated from the base line data. My results are: Crestone Needle, 14,191; Kit Carson, 14,179; and Humboldt, 14,071.

THE CREEKS OF THE CRESTONE GROUP ON THE SAN LUIS SIDE
(From North to South)

Crestone Creek (north and south)—formerly La Riviere des Trois Tetons (discussed under the name of the peaks on this is the town of Crestone).

Willow Creek (willows are plentiful)—this skirts Kit Carson on the north.

Spanish Creek (from the Spannish Craggs)—this heads between Kit Carson and Crestone.

Cottonwood Creek—this drains the west side of Crestone and Crestone Needle.

Dead Man's Creek, for which there are many traditions, was formerly Chatillon Creek (Hollister, 1866—Sheldon, 1863).

Pole Creek, was Pole Cat Creek (Mr. Perkins).

6. THE SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS

The San Juan Mountains which cover most of southwestern Colorado, were explored by the Spanish even before 1800. Humboldt's map of 1811 uses "Sierra de las Guillas" for the San Juan. Fremont in his 1848-9 expedition into the San Juan wrote "we found ourselves to the north of the Del Norte Canon where the river issues from the St. John's Mountains, one of the highest, most rugged, and impracticable of all the Rocky Mountain Ranges, inaccessible to the trappers and hunters even in summer time." Fremont lost eleven men inside the range. Beckwith in 1853 wrote—"The Indian name of the range on the west of the San Luis valley is Sahwatch, but it is more generally known by the Spanish name of San Juan." Governor Gilpin's map of San Luis Park in 1865 puts Sierra San Juan in the southwestern corner of the range, but in an article he said, "the San Juan, the local name given to the stupendous culmination of the Sierra Mimbres." Thomas Farnham wrote of this group in 1839—"Among these heights live the East and West bands of

Utahs. The valleys in which they reside are said to be overlooked by mountains of shining glaciers, and in every way to resemble the valleys of Switzerland."

The lack of boundary between the Sawatch and San Juan, and also the presence of some local names, such as the La Garita Range, forced the U. S. G. B. to make the following definition—"The San Juan Mountains; include all the mountains of southwest Colorado south of the Gunnison River, west of the San Luis valley, and east of the Rio Grande Southern Railroad." This includes the La Garita and Needle Mountains, but not the San Miguel Mountains.

The high peaks of the San Juan are scattered and must be dealt with piecemeal. They were named by the three main surveys, and the designations which they chose do not seem as striking as they could be, when one remembers that the scenery of the region is famous. This range is the only one, except the Elk Mountains, in which the U. S. surveyors named peaks. Their designations in the Elk Mountains were fitting, but of those in the San Juan the best we can say is that they show diversity and are therefore not monotonous. It is curious that none of the miners' and early settlers' names have survived, except possibly Handies. Two others, Uncompahgre and San Luis, date from Spanish times.

SAN LUIS PEAK

San Luis, which is first shown on the Hayden Atlas, is probably a transfer from the name of the valley at its foot. The naming of the San Luis Valley is described in Mr. Spencer's "History of the San Luis Valley," as being the work of a Spanish explorer the patron saint of whose village was San Luis.

STEWART PEAK

Stewart Peak, on the same ridge as San Luis, was probably named by the Wheeler Survey and probably for William M. Stewart, a senator from Nevada. The name first appeared on Wheeler maps for 1875 and 1878. The Hayden Atlas does not show it, and Hayden Survey only mentioned it as "Stuart's Peak, Wheeler, 14,032."[26] The reasons for thinking that the name was given by Wheeler's men are that Stewart was a prominent advocate of free silver, which made him well known in Colorado, and that the Wheeler Survey had on the same maps used the name "Mt. Blaine" for what Hayden called Sneffels. Blaine was also an advocate of free silver. Stewart went to California in 1850 and was a commanding figure in the Comstock lode controversy. The peak may be named for Sir William Drummond Stuart (found also Stewart), who was an early game hunter popular with the "mountain men." He went with the Ashley Expedition (St. Louis to the Pacific) in 1832 and came back through the Wind River Country, where he lived with the Indians. He published in 1846 "Altowan; or, Incidents of Life and Adventure in the Rocky Mountains." Ruxton and Washington Irving mention him as if he were well known.[27]

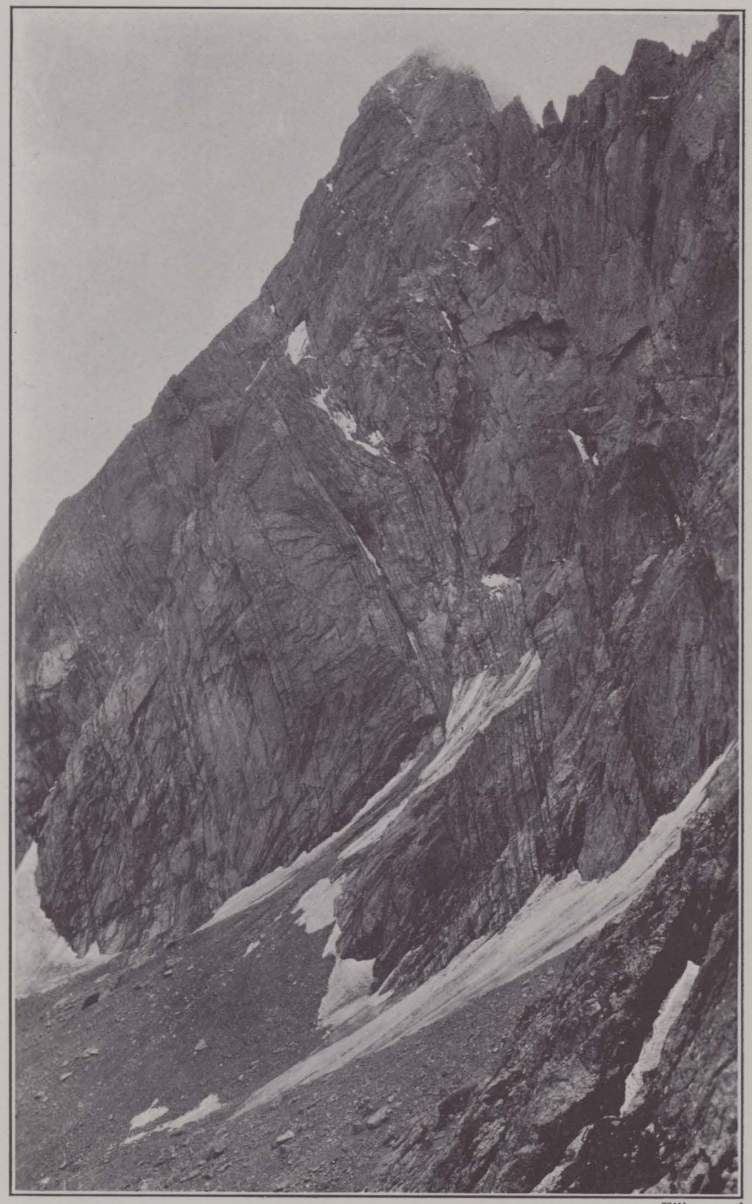
UNCOMPAHGRE PEAK

Uncompahgre Peak has a name of great antiquity, without doubt transferred from the Uncompahgre River. Mr. Douglas, Secretary of the Geographic Board of Canada writes:[28] "The majority of the Indian names were not applied to the peaks but were given originally to the other features, such as rivers, that had more influence on their daily life. The transference of the name of the river to that of a peak is in consonance with natural principles. Martonne, in his investigation of names in the Southern Carpathians, found that while we are accustomed to base nomenclature on the summits, the peasants bestow names first on the valleys. A mountain crest had, as a rule, different names in the valleys which it separates. It is entirely good practice, then, to extend the use of a name to an entirely different feature related to it. . . . It also obviates the multiplication of names."

[26]Hayden, bulletin vol. V, 3, p. 468.
[27]See also "Early Western Travels" by Thwaites, Vol. 22, pp. 231, 233; Elliot Coues "Forty Years a Fur Trader on the Upper Missouri," 1898; and "Kit Carson Days."
[28]R. Douglas, "Notes on Mountain Nomenclature," Canadian Alpine Journal, 1919, p. 23.

Blaurock.

Crestone Needle and Crestone Peak



Ellingwood.

Crestone Needle from the North—The left-hand skyline is the east Arete

The river was crossed by Escalante and Dominguez in 1776, who mentioned it as the Ancapagari and named it the Rio San Francisco.[29] The former name was too much in use to be changed, it seems, for Beckwith in 1853 puts it on his map as the Un-com-pah-gre. The mountains at the head of the river were called the Uncompahgre Mountains, and before the Surveys the name found its resting place on the highest peak. The word (in Ute) means hot (unca) water (pah) spring (gre).[30]

Here is a description[31] of the view from Engineer Mt. in 1873, which deals with Uncompahgre: "From the summit, a first view of Mount Chauvenet was obtained, so called in honor of the late eminent professor of astronomy at Washington University, St. Louis. It is probably the highest mountain in this region and the grandest I had seen. The miners sometimes called it the 'Leaning Tower' and sometimes 'Capitol Mountain,' from its appearance seen from different points of view. We nowhere saw it as the Leaning Tower of the miners, but our guide assured us that, seen from the west, its appearance is that of an immense tower toppling over."

WETTERHORN PEAK

Of the Wetterhorn nothing is known except that its name appeared on all the Wheeler maps and none of the early Hayden maps, from which it appears to be a Wheeler name. Without doubt it was suggested by the Swiss mountain.

REDCLOUD PEAK

For Redcloud, we have a full story in two descriptions, the first by Rhoda of the Hayden Survey, in 1874, and the second by Lieutenant Marshall of the Wheeler Survey, in the same year.

The first—"We had a splendid view of the red mass to the north and east, station 12[32] being the nearest of all the peaks. The last, 2,000 feet in height, was composed wholly of dull-red debris, with a very few bluffs. Here appeared some of the finest mountain forms any of us had ever seen. From our distance, which was several miles, the individual stones were all lost to the eye, and the slopes appeared as if they were made of red sand, from the coarse debris. The tops of the ridges were nowhere jagged, but were invariably formed of graceful flowing curves, while mountain lines could scarcely be more beautiful than the magnificent sweeps of the curves formed by the long debris slides."

The second—"A mountain range perfect in its details, magnificent in contour, sublime in height, beautiful and gorgeous in color, nearly covered in bass-relief, its base thousands of feet below the general level of the country, sunk out of sight in narrow and seemingly bottomless canons! The culminating point of this range forms an appropriate central figure for this masterpiece of artistic nature, this magnificent basso-relievo, and in its symmetry, in its coloring, in its freedom from anything not massive or appropriate, in its silvery setting of mighty snow-banks and rushing torrents, is unapproachable. . . . Mr. Spiller made a triangular station upon this beautiful peak and gave it the name of Red Cloud."

The peak is now spelled Redcloud. It was called Red Mountain on Prout's map for Ruffner's expedition in 1873; on the Hayden maps, and on the Land Office map of 1887. Mr. George J. Bancroft states that this peak was called Jones Peak in the 1890's.

HANDIES PEAK

Mr. George J. Bancroft states that this peak was named for a San Juan man of considerable repute, perhaps a surveyor. The name on the Forest Service Map is Tabasco or Tobasco. Rhoda of the Hayden Survey, in his first trip to the region, 1874, wrote "This mountain bears on the map the name of Handies Peak."

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[29]Bancroft's History of Colorado.
[30]Henry Gannett, United States Geological Survey, Bulletin 258.
[31]E. H. Ruffner, "Reconaissance in the Ute Country," 43rd Congress, 1st Session, House of Representatives, Executive Document 193, p. 24.
[32]The present Sunshine.

MOUNT SNEFFELS

Mt. Sneffels, unlike Handies, has its story preserved. Frederick Chapin, author of "Mountaineering in Colorado," wrote in "Appalachia," December, 1890, an account derived from Rhoda.

"Dr. Endlich was standing in the abyss (to the north of Sneffels) with one companion, who compared it to the great hole described by Jules Verne in 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth.' Endlich agreed with him, and pointing to the great peak above, exclaimed, 'There's Snaefell!' Thus the peak got its name, though it is pronounced by the people as Sneffels and is so written on the maps, and in the tables of the Coast Survey. So it will be the effort of this paper to put on record the true designation, named after the Icelandic mountain, 'Snaefell,' lest erelong the grand summit be called Sniffles."

Of this Mr. Roger W. Toll writes—"As far as I can see, there is every reason to use the spelling 'Sneffels.' Not only is this spelling used by Jules Verne, but it is also used by the United States Geological Survey, on the Montrose Quadrangle. The name is occasionally written 'Sneffles,' but there seems to be no reason for adopting that spelling. The fears of Chapin were not groundless, however, for in the Century Encyclopedia, we find: 'Sniffels, or Sneffels, Mount. A peak of the San Juan Range, southern Colorado. Height, 14,158 feet.'" A short account of Jules Verne's story of Sneffels will be found in the first edition of this work, as will also a discussion of the various spellings of the name Sneffels.

SUNSHINE PEAK

On the origin of Sunshine nothing is known. The name was probably given by the United States Geological Survey, probably without any special reason, in 1904-5. This peak was called "Station 12" by Hayden; Niagara Peak by the natives, (according to Mr. George J. Bancroft); and Sherman on the Forest Service Map.

MT. EOLUS

Rhoda in 1874 described[33] the group in which this peak lies, as seen from Uncompahgre—"To the south the peaks appeared in great numbers, and in the distance appeared a group of very scraggy mountains, about which the clouds were continuously circling, as if it was their home. Subsequently we found that they were most of the time thus enveloped." Later he wrote of the view from Sneffels—"The group of quartzite peaks stood up as boldly as ever about thirty miles to the southeast. In fact I may state here that we have never yet seen the group from any station (and we have viewed it from all sides) without feeling both deep respect and awe for their terrible ruggedness. The fact already stated, that the storm clouds seemed to hover about them before starting their meandering way, only served to add to our other feelings one of uneasiness." And finally "Early in the day we noticed the clouds hovering about the quartzite peaks as we had seen them so often before. They never completely veiled all the peaks of the group, but early each day began to circle about them in a restless sort of way, like so many mighty lions about their lair. To us this apparent restlessness suggested a consciousness of their terrific destructive power, which only awaited a mandate from the 'God of Storms' to be set in motion. We even now held those peaks in awe, as there seemed to be somewhere in their midst a regular 'manufactory of storms.'"

With this evidence there should be little doubt that this survey named Eolus for the God of the Winds. In the same report (1874) Rhoda says—"The group of quartzite peaks ranging in height from 13,600 to 14,054 feet, where the line culminates in Mount Aeolus and Pidgeon's Peak." The present spelling, Eolus, was used by the Wheeler Survey in 1878.

SUNLIGHT PEAK AND WINDOM MOUNTAIN

The two remaining peaks were named by Mr. Cross of the United States Geological Survey when he mapped the region about 1902. His letter states that he had no special reason for giving the names Sunlight and Windom. They were merely two summits out of thirty which he had to designate. Wm. Windom (1827-1891) was congressman, senator, and Secretary of the Treasury, under Garfield.

[33]U.S.G. and G.S. of T. (Hayden Survey), vol. 1, section 2, number 3, 1875.

These two peaks and Mt. Eolus are in a group called the Needle Mountains. Obsolete names for this group were "The Needles," "Florida's Comb," "Sierra Los Pinos," "Quartzite Crags," "Florida Crags," and "Quartzite Mountains," according to the Hayden and Wheeler maps and reports (The Florida and the Los Pinos were nearby rivers named by Escalante).

7. THE SAN MIGUEL RANGE

The term "San Miguel Range" was given early; it is found on Governor Gilpin's map of San Luis Park, 1869.

MOUNT WILSON

Marshall's report for 1875 (Wheeler's for 1876) says "This group reaches its height in a massive peak, with extensive fields of snow on its northeastern flank. This peak was ascended in 1874 by Mr. Spiller, and in our notes was called Glacier Point. Mr. Wilson, of the Geological Survey of the Territories, also ascended it, and called it Mount Wilson. It is the most massive and imposing mountain in Southern Colorado, with the single exception of Sierra Blanca near Ft. Garland, and is 14,243 feet in height."

Another Wheeler report, that of Lieutenant Whipple in 1874 (Wheeler, 1875) mentions "Glacier Peak, since named Meigs Peak of the San Miguel Range, which the topographer of the party, Mr. Spiller, occupied with partial success." The U. S. G. B. ruled that the name should be Mount Wilson, not Glacier. Wilson was chief topographer of the Hayden Survey. He was also a mountaineer, for he climbed Mt. Rainier in 1870, two months after the first ascent.

WILSON PEAK

Next to Mt. Wilson rises a summit which the United States Geological Survey has designated as Wilson Peak. To avoid confusion it might be well to change the name Wilson Peak to Glacier Peak (there are supposed to be one or more glaciers in this region) or to Mt. Rhoda in honor of Wilson's companion and brother-in-law, who made many first ascents in the San Juan, and wrote the best accounts of climbing in that region.[34]

EL DIENTE

The third peak in this group is El Diente, meaning "the tooth," and named from its appearance. An account of the naming will be found in "Trail and Timberline," May, 1931.

8. MOUNTAINS INCORRECTLY LISTED AS 14,000 FEET

The following peaks have at various times been incorrectly included on lists of 14,000-foot peaks in Colorado but have now been withdrawn from the list—Edwards, Epaulet, Gemini, Holy Cross, Lizards Head, McLellan, Needle Mountain, Nelson, Ouray, Rio Grande Pyramid (once known as Simpson's Pyramid or Simpson's Peak), Rosalie, Silverheels, and Sopris.

The name Ouray is either a corruption of "Willie" or perhaps of the Ute word for "arrow." The peak was called Mt. Bowles, 14,106, by Peale, in the Hayden Report of 1873 (for Samuel Bowles of the Springfield Republican); and was called Hunt's Peak on the Wheeler map of 1876 (for Governor Hunt). In 1873 Stevenson of the Wheeler Survey wrote of "Mt. Morton, locally known as 'Silverheels.'" The name Silverheels was used by Hayden in 1874. Wheeler used the name "Silver Hill" on the map of his Final Report, part two. According to tradition, there was in Fairplay a dance-hall girl called "Silver-heels," because she wore slippers with silver heels. During an epidemic, while most of the population fled, she nursed the sick, and afterward had the mountain named for her by the grateful miners. The name Mt. McLellan was used by Sniktau in 1867. Sometimes it was incorrectly spelled McLelland. The name Mt. Sopris is shown on Ebert's map of 1865. A recent attempt to change the name to Roosevelt was unsuccessful.

Names incorrectly spelled on previous lists of 14,000 feet peaks include the following—Pridgeon, Brizzly, Christone, Goates, Graham, Greys, Harward, Habard, Lillies, Mt. of Holly Cross, Mahan, Schavano, and Smeels.

[34]U.S.G. and G.S. of T. Bulletin 1, section 2, number 3, 1875.

II. ASCENTS OF THE FOURTEEN THOUSAND FOOT PEAKS

Intimately connected with these summits we find grizzlies, Indians, explorers, miners, surveyors, and mountaineers. These different classes are commemorated by the names of different peaks, Grizzly, Little Bear, Antero, Shavano, Tabeguache, Pikes, Longs, Wilson, and many other names.

The number of fourteen-thousand-foot peaks in Colorado has always attracted climbers, who have tried to see how many summits they could attain. A member of the American Alpine Club, William Libbey, a professor at Princeton, climbed, as assistant to Professor Guyot in his hypsometric work, "over forty peaks in the Rocky Mountains, all over 14,000 feet."[35] All the peaks of this altitude have been climbed by Carl Blaurock and William Ervin, of Denver, and by Professor Albert R. Ellingwood, of Northwestern University.

1. FOUR DISTINCTIVE PEAKS

A. LONGS PEAK[36]

When the first white men reached the base of this peak, the idea of climbing it, of course, arose, but the nearest settlement being distant about two days' ride, attempts were very few. It was not until the year after the Weisshorn and Lyskamm were first climbed that the eastern summit of Longs Peak, less than a thousand feet lower than these Swiss peaks, was first ascended by white men. The direct traverse from this eastern summit (now named Meeker after the Indian agent murdered in the Ute War of 1879), to the highest summit is extremely difficult and has probably been made only once in each direction. At that time, of course, the traverse seemed impossible.

The following was written by Sniktau (Mr. E. H. N. Patterson) to his paper, the Western Mountaineer, Golden City, Jefferson Territory, and was published September 6, 1860,—

"Mr. Cromer of this place (Gold Hill) visited Longs Peak last week and scaled the summit, the view from which he describes as grand in the extreme. Four days were required for the journey, there and back; and no traces were discovered of any person having previously visited the summit since the government party, many years ago. Sniktau—true to his name—has an ambition to stand upon that lofty top."

The "summit" is probably the "east summit," now called Mt. Meeker.

Extract from "The Western Mountaineer," Golden City, Jefferson Territory, Thursday, September 13, 1860,—

"Longs Peak—a party embracing our Senior and Intermediate, the Junior of the News, and several other gentlemen, is being made up to ascend Longs Peak. Contributions in the way of supplies, etc., will positively only be received during business hours. Parties bringing them will please enter at the front and pass out at the back door of our office to avoid confusion."

The "Senior" was probably A. D. Richardson, the "Intermediate," George West, and the "Junior of the News," William N. Byers.

A letter from A. D. Richardson, Denver City, Pikes Peak, to E. H. N. Patterson, October 30, 1860, reads:—

"My dear 'Sniktau':—As you have perhaps learned from the last 'Mountaineer' your letter in regard to the ascent of Long's Peak was so long delayed that it reaches me only a few days since. The cause of your tardiness was a

[35]American Alpine Club, list of members.

[36]For additional information see,
"Mountaineering in Rocky Mountain National Park," by Roger W. Toll.
"Story of Estes Park," by Enos Mills.
"A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains," by Isabella Bird.
"Mountaineering in Colorado," by Frederick H. Chapin.
"Geological Story of Rocky Mountain National Park," by Willis Lee.
"Memories of the Past and Thoughts of the Future," by E. J. Lamb.
"Fourteen Thousand Feet," 1st edition, 1925.

profound mystery until it came to hand. It had become so late in the season that we were reluctantly compelled to give up the trip. Should you make it at some future time, will you not let the unfortunate 'cuss' who is deprived of the pleasure of joining in the ascent be in your flowing cups freshly remembered?"

The Daily News, Denver, Colorado, September 22, 1864, states that Byers and Velie, on August 19, (1864), camped near the present "timberline cabin," and reads:

"Before us stretched a rocky plain, made up of huge masses of granite and lava. Its ascent was gradual almost to the foot of the main peak, where it becomes quite steep. We pushed onwards and as the sun was gilding the hundreds of snowy peaks in the distant west, we stood in a notch in the crest of the range directly at the foot of the main summit. But it still towered above us more than a thousand feet, and though we had reached the exact spot which we expected to find accessable, it was only to be disappointed—."

"Aug. 20. Having failed to find a route of ascent from the northwest, we had agreed this morning to strike for the southeastern foot and ascend the eastern peak, hoping thereby to reach the main peak, though all had failed who went that way before us. When seemingly almost to the immediate point of ascent, Mr. Nichols and the writer, who were in advance, came suddenly upon the brink of a stupendous chasm, half a mile in width and fully as much in depth, which ran plump up against the vertical face of the main Peak,—its source or head abuting square up against or into the very heart of the loftiest mountain in the United States; in its stupendous proportions and sublime grandeur it can hardly be equalled and certainly not excelled—. But by half past 9 o'clock we were on the summit of the east peak as high as anyone has ever gone. We added our names to the five registered before, and upon a careful survey concluded that we were as far as man can go. Another point three or four hundred feet distant was even inaccessable, whilst the main or west peak still towered hundreds of feet above our heads presenting sheer precipitous sides, and a smooth rounded summit upon which it looked as though a man must be tied to remain, if ever by any miracle he could reach it —our companions had turned back from the gorge and ascended to the same point that we had visited the evening before. Upon the summit of a peak nearby they made their measurements, and in due time Dr. Parry will doubtless give to our readers the result of the same."

This peak, now called Storm Peak, was called Velie's Peak, 13,456 feet, by Parry, according to Orvando J. Hollister in his "The Mines of Colorado," 1867, p. 28. See also The News, September 23, 1864 et seq. Dr. Velie was an "ornithological sportsman."

Bayard Taylor in "A Summer Trip," 1866, wrote—

"Longs Peak has never yet been ascended. Mr. Byers, two years ago, reached a point about five hundred feet below the summit and was compelled to return. He is quite confident, however, that it can be scaled from another side, and if the summer were three weeks further advanced I should be willing to join him in making the ascent."

The News, September 1, 1868, continues the account—

"Aug. 22. We were off at seven o'clock, each man with biscuit and bacon in his pockets for two days' ration. One or two carried blankets, but most preferred doing without to carrying them (they were on foot).—We followed for a mile along a very low ridge, which is the real dividing range—then turned eastward along a similar range, which connects Long's Peak with the range.—Following up this ridge, it soon culminated in a very lofty mountain (Chiefs Head) only a few hundred feet lower than Long's, but with a crest so narrow that some of the party became dizzy in traveling along it. This we supposed would lead us to the great mountain, but found the route cut off by impossible chasms when yet more than a mile distant.—Turning to the right, we clambered down with infinite labor to the valley of a branch of St. Vrain, where we went into camp at the extreme timber line."

The peak was a puzzle; three sides were explored and they all seemed impossible. As a matter of fact the summit is today attained by a route which circles the peak, gaining altitude on each side and avoiding the precipitous stretches. The fourth face, the southeast face, although precipitous, is possible

to able-bodied men, and was the route by which the first ascent was made. This has always been the least accessible side. In fact the party first ascending it attained its base only after carrying their equipment over several peaks almost as high as Longs Peak. And thus on August 23, 1868, three years after the first ascent of the Swiss Matterhorn, Longs Peak was conquered[37] by Major Powell, who also made by boat the first descent of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado.

Within five years, the ascent by this southeast ("Homestretch") route became a regular occurrence. Climbers of this period were F. H. Chapin of the Appalachian Mountain Club; Albert Bierstadt, the painter; Anna Dickinson,[38] the author; F. V. Hayden, the geologist, and Isabella Bird, the travel writer. Among the early guides to the peak were the Reverend E. J. Lamb; his son Carlyle Lamb; and Rocky Mountain Jim of Muggins Gulch. The Reverend Lamb, clad in a long overcoat, even descended the upper half of the northeast face, which is the most precipitous, following a ledge, now named "Broadway," until he was off the mountain. Then being unable to reascend the peak, he was forced to adopt the only obvious route, an ice couloir some two thousand feet in height, sloping at about forty-five degrees. While attempting to descend along the edge of this, he slipped on some ice and only escaped death by catching on a projecting rock. He finally got to the base of the mountain by cutting steps in the ice with a pocket knife.[39] The couloir became known as the Lamb's Slide by people doubting his story. In September this couloir has some resemblance to the main couloir on the Aiguille Verte, although it is much easier earlier in the year.

In the beginning his son, Carlyle Lamb, was the chief guide. In his first three years (1874-1877) he made fifty-five ascents of the peak, starting from his home five thousand feet below the summit. This was before climbing was done on a wholesale scale in the Alps, the three years occurring in the interval between the first ascent of the Blaitiere, and that of the Meije. Almost a hundred people went on the peak annually at this time. Enos Mills started guiding twenty years after the first ascent. In the next seventeen years he made 257 ascents of Longs Peak, as well as ascents in Europe and British Columbia.

The number of persons reaching the top annually has constantly increased. Twenty-five years ago it was between seventy-five and eighty. Fifteen years ago the number had become 280, the next year 623; nine years ago 1,285; six years ago about 1,500, from forty-two states of United States and foreign countries; and in 1929 there were 1,664 persons from fifty-four states and foreign countries.

The guides appear always to have charged five dollars a head. The Reverend Lamb said, "If they would not pay for spiritual guidance, I compelled them to divide for material elevation." The guides have preferred taking large parties up the regular trail rather than attempting real climbing elsewhere. Although this trail is extremely varied, both in terrain traversed and in view, it is not difficult. It has been ascended by a boy of eight, a girl of twelve, a woman of seventy, and a man of seventy-four. On the other hand, it has had its accidents—on this peak a woman has died of exhaustion, a man has accidentally killed himself with a revolver, another has been killed by lightning.

Longs Peak offers extremely good rock-climbing, but until very recently no advantage seems to have been taken of this fact. The Rocky Mountain Climbers' Club had a brief existence in Colorado some twenty years before the present Colorado Mountain Club was organized. About the year in which the Requin was conquered, a party of this club made the first ascent of the southwest face of Longs. The route is quick, interesting, impressive and safe, presenting no more difficulties than the north route on the Aiguille de l'M, and yet no guide appears ever to have made this ascent except Enos Mills, in 1896, three years later. Mills seems to have been the only guide to display any initiative during the period of fifty years between the first descent of the

[37]See L. W. Keplinger in Kansas Historical Collections, Vol. XIV; The Trail (Society of Sons of Colorado) October, 1914, and January, 1915; The News (Denver), Sept. 1, 1868.

[38]The first woman to make the ascent. ("Colorado Handbook," by W. G. N. Stone, p. 92.)

[39]The accounts of Lamb's and Mills' descents of the Northeast face will be found in the first edition of this work on pages 34 to 36.

northeast face and the first ascent thereof. He repeated Lamb's descent of the northeast face thirty-two years later, and made the first ascent of the north face, both by himself.

The search for new routes began with the first ascent of the northeast face by Professor J. W. Alexander of Princeton, alone, on September 7, 1922, and his second two days later.[40] This ascent was made entirely on the exposed face of Longs Peak, without using Lamb's Slide, now called Mills Glacier, to avoid the lower half of the face. Professor Alexander subsequently (1924) made the first descent of the south ridge (not yet ascended), a new route on the southwest face, and (with Dudley T. Smith) the first ascent of the northwest ridge.

Two other climbers with European experience, Colonel Bruns and William F. Ervin, found in 1925 the two most difficult routes on the peak used to date. One leads up the northeast face, directly under the summit and as straight up as is possible. It lies far to the right of Alexander's line, as one views the great precipice. The other route is up the northwest face.

Even before Professor Alexander's ascent one route had been added to the "Homestretch" or regular route. This new way is situated on the north, where the northeast and northwest faces join. About three lone ascents were made here prior to Alexander's arrival, one by Roger W. Toll. He later became Superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Park, in which the peak lies, and had placed here in 1925 an iron cable to aid climbers. Since then Longs Peak has been frequently traversed, using this north route for either the ascent or descent.

The northeast face has become a well known climb, at least twenty-three people having accomplished it to date. A guide named Caldwell has led a party using this route for ascent and descent on the same day, and has also guided a woman on the descent of this route using the rappel. Another guide, Moomaw, has made two ascents. This route has resulted in four fatal accidents,[41] which shows that it must not be used by inexperienced climbers. It is hard to compare with any Alpine courses, but is perhaps about equal to the Grand Dru by the usual route, which, incidentally, was not climbed until seven years after Lamb's descent of the northeast face.

For winter ascents see the Appendix hereto.

The rock of Longs Peak is a fine, firm granite, with good holds. It is an ideal mountain for trying new ways. The last one thousand feet, precipitous on all sides, has eight routes at present and more can be worked out by expert climbers. On the adjoining mountains also many fine new routes of Alpine difficulty are to be found. This is true of Meeker and Pagoda, and along the whole Continental Divide from Chief's Head to Flat Top Pass, between Estes Park and Grand Lake, a group which has several steep, long ice couloirs. The accommodations for climbers on Longs Peak are splendid. There are three hotels at about 9,000 feet, and a cabin at the Boulderfield at about 12,000 feet, so alpinists finding themselves near Colorado may combine Alpine comfort with the pleasure of exploring routes of Alpine difficulty.

B. PIKES PEAK

Pike's Journal is a book all Coloradoans should read. His first glimpse of the peak was on November 15, 1806.

"Nov. 17. Marched at our usual hour: pushed on with the idea of arriving at the mountains, but found at night no visible difference in their appearance from what we did yesterday." Nov. 23 (near Pueblo)—"I concluded to put the party in a defensible situation and ascend the north fork to the high point of the blue mountain which we conceived would be one day's march, in order to be enabled from its pinical to lay down the various branches and positions of the country. . . ." Nov. 24—"We found ourselves obliged to take up our night's lodging under a single cedar which we found in the prairie, without water and extremely cold. Our party consisted of Dr. Robinson, and Privates Miller and Brown. . . ." Nov. 25—"Marched early with an expectation of ascending the mountain, but was only able to encamp at its base." Nov. 26—

[40]For a description of this route and of the early ascents see the first edition of this work, pages 36 and 37.

[41]See American Alpine Journal, 1930, p. 241.

"Expecting to return to our camp the same evening, we left all our blankets and provisions at the foot of the mountain. . . . We commenced ascending; found it very difficult, being obliged to climb up rocks sometimes almost perpendicular; and after marching all day we encamped in a cave, without blankets, victuals, or water." Nov. 27—"Arose hungry, dry, and extremely sore, from the unequality of the rocks on which we had lain all night, but were amply compensated by the sublimity of the view below. The unbounded prairie was overhung with clouds, which appeared like the ocean in a storm, wave piled on wave and foaming, while the sky was perfectly clear where we were. Commenced our march up the mountain, and in about one hour arrived at the summit of this chain. Here we found the snow middle-deep, no sign of beast or bird inhabiting this region. The thermometer which stood at 9 degrees above zero at the foot of the mountain here fell to 4 degrees below zero. The summit of the Grand Peak . . . now appeared at the distance of 15 or 16 miles from us. It was as high again as what we had ascended, and it would have taken us a whole day's march to arrive at its base, when I believe no human being could have ascended to its pinical. This with the condition of my soldiers, who had only light overalls and no stockings,—determined us to return.——Found all our baggage safe, but the provisions all destroyed. It began to snow and we found shelter under the side of a projecting rock, where we all four made a meal on one partridge and a piece of deer's ribs the ravens had left us, being the first we had eaten in that 48 hours." Nov. 28—"At half past one shot two buffalo, when we made the first full meal we had made in three days." Nov. 29—"Arrived at camp before night." This story needs no comment, except that the temperature is given Reaumur, and that 4 degrees below zero equals 23 degrees above zero Fahrenheit.

The next record of the peak is that of two trappers who in 1809 saw the peak, which, they said, seemed so high "that a cloud could not pass between its top and the sky."[42]

The first ascent was made July 13 and 14, 1820, by Edwin James, of Long's expedition, with three others. The story is given in James' Report and has been reprinted in Trail and Timberline for 1922. He wrote—"Though many attempts had been made by Indians and hunters to ascend it, none had ever proved successful." After the ascent the climbers had to sleep without their blankets, which had been burned up during their absence. In 1860 a party found on the summit "two mounds of rocks, one by the Lawrence party and the other probably by Pike."[43]

The first ascent by a woman was that of Mrs. Holmes, in 1858, according to Bancroft's History of Colorado. "Mrs. Holmes, who made the ascent with a party from Lawrence in August, 1858, was formerly Miss Anna Archibald, of Lawrence. She wore the Bloomer custome, and what is more, she carried a larger pack than her husband."[43] "The first white woman was Miss Clara Archibald—or Mrs. Homes, for 'Homes' was the name of her 'affinity'—they being religiously or conscientiously free-lovers and were married after the style of their own belief."[44]

For many years afterward, every woman that climbed the peak was supposed to be the first woman up the peak. One made the claim in 1871.[45]

The Western Mountaineer, Golden City, 1860, contains several accounts of ascents of Pikes Peak. One man made the entire ascent in one day, and was called a liar by another, who said it was impossible. In 1873 many parties camped half-way up and then arose at three o'clock to climb to the top for the sunrise.[46]

An article by Mr. Lawrence Lewis[47] gives the following dates—"Sometime in the 50s an apology for a trail was constructed to the summit of the peak." Three shorter paths were made in 1871, 1873 and 1877; the meteorological observatory was erected in 1876; the carriage road was built in 1888; the Manitou and Pikes Peak Railroad (Cog Road) was finished in 1890; and the automobile road was built in 1915.

[42]David Coyner, "The Lost Trappers," 1847
[43]Letter from Norman L. Patterson quoting a letter in a publication he found in Chicago.
[44]"Southern Colorado," 1879, Canon City, p. 7.
[45]"Beyond the West," G. W. Pine.
[46]"Summer Etching in Colorado," Eliza Greatstone.
[47]World's Work 12:78-87, 1906.

C. GRAYS PEAK

Grays Peak used to be one of the most famous mountains of the country, which tourists climbed as religiously as they now climb Pikes Peak. It is now completely obscured by Pikes, Evans, and Longs. The first ascent was probably that of Parry in 1862 mentioned above under the head of the naming of Grays Peak. Before there was a real trail up Pikes, and when Longs was considered impossible, there were horse trails to the top of Grays and Torreys.[48] This trail was built by Irwin according to Brewer who traversed the peak on horseback.[49] A guide book even said—"The adventurous may climb Gray's Peak . . . for a morning walk."[50] Brewer wrote in 1869—"If any of you visit the Rocky Mountains, the best peak for the ladies to visit and the most magnificent peak, with the least labor, is Grays Peak.[51] A member of the Hayden Survey wrote—"We made the ascent of Grays Peak, the mountain that, of all others in the land, we have heard the most."[52] Not only was the mountain famous, but "at timberline is Kelso Cabin, a hostelry of but little less celebrity than the mountain whose climbers it was built to entertain."[53] "Up Grizzly Gulch six miles is Kelso Cabin. This 'cabin' we know to be the best in the whole country to spend a few weeks at while climbing about and enjoying the incomparable scenery and views from the mountain tops near here."[54] "One can ride to the summit of Grays Peak in a carriage but we prefer to go on horseback."[55] This, of course, is Mt. McClellan and not Grays Peak. "On the following morning a party of between twenty and thirty of us made an ascent of McClellan Mt. Nearly all of us were on horseback as carriages cannot go all the way to the top."[56] The peak was called the highest in the Rockies (14,300 feet).[57] For startling illustrations see "The Dome of the Continent" in Harpers Vol. 46, p. 20.

Grays Peak has been associated with many famous botanists, Asa Gray, John Torrey, George Engelmann, Sir Joseph Hooker, and C. C. Parry.

"Charles Christopher Parry, M.D., 1823-1890. Born in England, came to America in 1832. Explored and collected on the Mexican boundary, in the Rocky Mountains, and in California. Died in Davenport, Iowa."[58] He was botanist for the United States Explorations for a Pacific Railroad. Brewer writes—"Dr. Parry, the botanist, alone with his own resources, with his barometer on his back, traversed a portion of the Rocky Mts."[59] He estimated Longs, and measured Audubon, Parry, Grays, James, Guyot, and Rosalie; probably first ascents, especially Grays. Parry himself wrote—"Here among the pine-wooded slopes on both sides of the Snowy Range, coursing along its alpine brooks, clambering over its precipitous rocks, floundering through snow-drifts, and mounting to its irregular crests and high alpine peaks, was spent most of the summer months of 1861."[60]

The best material on Grays Peak and the botanists is found in the Letters of Asa Gray, edited by Jane Loring Gray, 1893. Here are selections concerning Gray's ascents of 1872 and 1877, one with Parry and the other with Hooker; and a reference to Torrey's visit.

In a letter to Charles Darwin, October 6, 1872, Gray writes (page 631)—"I ventured, when we made our detour into the Colorado Rocky Mountains, to take her (Mrs. Gray) up to the summit of Gray's Peak, 14,300, or thereabouts, where she acquitted herself nobly. The day was perfect, the success complete, and the memory of it one of the most delightful of the many pleasant memories of the whole journey."

[48]Samuel Bowles, "The Crest of the Continent."
[49]"Rocky Mountain Letters, 1869," by W. H. Brewer, published by the Colorado Mountain Club, 1930, and edited by Edmund B. Rogers.
[50]Ned Farrell, "Colorado, the Rocky Mt. Gem," 1868.
[51]Journal of the American Geographical Society of N.Y., vol. III, 193-221.
[52]Wm. H. Rideing, "Picturesque America," vol. II, p. 492.
[53]"History of Clear Creek and Boulder Valleys," 1880.
[54]"Crofutt's Guide to Colorado," 1881, p. 103.
[55]Alice Polk Hill, "Tales of the Colorado Pioneers," 1884.
[56]T. H. Robinson, "America's Alpine Region," 1875, Newville, Pa., p. 33.
[57]Dr. J. W. Gregory in "The Alpine Journal," May 1894.
[58]Jane Loring Gray, "Letters of Asa Gray," 1893, vol. II, p. 468, note.
[59]Prof. W. H. Brewer, "Journal of the American Geographical Society of New York," vol. III, 1875, pp. 193, "Explorations in the Rocky Mountains and High Peaks of Colorado."
[60]C. C. Parry, "American Journal of Science," vol. XXXIII, p. 233, "Physiographical sketch of that portion of the Rocky Mountain Range, at the headwaters of South Clear Creek and East of Middle Park, 1861."

In a letter to A. de Candalle, January 14, 1873, Gray writes (page 635)—"Dr. Parry passed last summer in the Colorado Rocky Mountains, where Madame and I visited him, in his cabin; and we ascended Grays Peak together (14,400). Torrey, old as he is, was there later, but did not get up the Twin Torrey's Peak, though his daughter did surmount Gray's Peak."

In a letter to George Engelmann, July 21, 1877, Gray writes (page 671)—"Today Hooker and the Stracheys drive across and down Wet Mountain Valley to La Veta (two long days) while we, Mrs. Gray, Dr. Hayden, and I, return by railroad to Pueblo and thence to La Veta, by sunset today. Tomorrow up to a camp on La Veta Pass of Sangre de Christo Mountains, which Captain Stevenson is preparing." August 8—"We had a two days' trip up the Sierra Blanca. Alpine plants the same as on Grays Peak." August 4—"—— Grays Peak, and I crossed over to the top of Torrey's."

Sir Joseph Hooker was the greatest of contemporary English botanists. He accompanied Gray up Blanca (sleeping at 13,000 feet) and up Grays Peak.[61] Also a member of this party was Miss Alice Eastwood, later a teacher in East Denver High School (1887-90) and Curator of Botany for the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.[62] In 1877 Sir Joseph Hooker called Parry "the king of Colorado botany."[63]

Another famous scientist (although not a botanist) to ascend Grays Peak was Arnold Guyot, in 1871.

"Gray's Peak, in Colorado, was one of the heights ascended and measured,—an easy work for *him,* said the young men of the party."[64]

"Il prit——La hauteur du Gray's Peak, une des sommites les plus eleveés des montagnes Rocheuses. Il avait une telle habitude des ascensions de montagnes que, quoique agé de 64 ans, il faisait ces longues montées avec la plus grande facilité."[65]

"In 1862 Dr. Parry made a second trip to the region and in that year succeeded in reaching the summit of Grays Peak and determining its altitude by barometric observations. Dr. Parry also named Mt. Guyot in honor of Professor Arnold Guyot of Princeton. His own name was bestowed to a peak northwest of Empire by Surveyor General F. M. Case."[66] Parry Peak (13,344) is the highest of the group including James Peak, Mt. Flora, and Mt. Bancroft. Mt. Guyot is often called Georgia Peak.

D. BLANCA PEAK

The first ascent of Blanca Peak was made by the Wheeler Survey in 1874. "So far as known, it had never been ascended by white men prior to August 14, 1874, when Gilbert Thompson and Frank De Y. Carpenter, topographer of the expedition, occupied it, as a main triangulation station, remaining overnight on the summit."[67]

The second ascent[68] was by Rhoda and Wilson in 1875. Rhoda climbed the peak again in 1876 and in 1878. A good description of the 1878 ascent is given in the tenth annual report of the Hayden Survey.

This peak was considered the highest in the country and was therefore the goal of several members of the newly organized Appalachian Mountain Club of Boston. A description of the Sierra Blanca was written by Charles G. Van Brunt in 1889.[69] "From Garland four peaks appear in a row—West Peak" (the present Little Bear), "climbed in 1888 by Professor Fay and Edmunds, next Blanca Peak, then East Peak, and Blanca 4; long and formidable aretes connect the East and West Peaks with Blanca." The regular route from Fort Garland was and is via Blanca 4, on the South Ridge. In 1877, Samuel H. Scudder, who had climbed Mt. Lincoln, ascended this ridge but did not have time to reach Blanca Peak. He wrote[70]—"To the north between Baldy and

[61] L. Huxley, "Life and Letters of J. D. Hooker," Vol. II, p. 209.
[62] Letter from Ellsworth Bethel, 1925.
[63] National Cyclopedia of American Biography.
[64] James D. Dana, "Memoir of Arnold Guyot" (1807-1884), read before the National Academy, April, 1886.
[65] Charles Faure, "Notice sur Arnold Guyot," Geneve, 1884, p. 61.
[66] Norman L. Patterson, "Georgetown Courier," April 22, 1924.
[67] U.S.G.S.W. of 100th M., Final Report, vol. I, Geographical Report, 1889.
[68] Hayden Report for 1875, pp. 304-7.
[69] "Appalachia," December, 1890.
[70] "Appalachia," February, 1878.

the summit of Blanca rise the craggy tops of the Greenhorn Mountains, which from this point reminded me more of the aiguilles of the Alps than any mountain crests I have seen in this country." He did not see the Greenhorn Mountains, but saw Kit Carson, Crestone and Crestone Needle, which are very impressive from this point. (The Greenhorn Mountains were named for Cuerno Verde, the leader of some Comanche Indians who had been killing Spanish settlers, and who was defeated in 1779 by an expedition under Juan Bautista de Anza, near the headwaters of the Arkansas.[71]) F. H. Chapin, in July, 1888, ascended the South Ridge and Blanca 4. Charles E. Fay and Edmunds, in September, 1888, hiked sixty miles from Villa Grove to Blanca, and climbed the present Little Bear.[72] They saw that Blanca Peak was two miles away, across a most formidable arete and so they descended into the gorge east of Little Bear. Fay fancied that the descent was as hard as the Matterhorn. A successful ascent of Blanca Peak was made in September, 1889,[73] by Charles G. Van Brunt and Mr. R. F. Penrose. Dr. William Bell, a companion, left them to explore the amphitheatre east of Blanca Peak. They ascended the "great arete" (south ridge), which is two miles long and very narrow and sharp, reaching the top at 2:30. The ridge to Little Bear was "terrific to look upon." "As far as we know the only person who has crossed west arete is Kellogg (a surveyor who knew the mountain well). He considers it very dangerous. Twenty-five miles distant there rose from this range two mighty peaks—side by side—Humboldt and Crestone. Humboldt was shaped precisely like a thimble and appeared as inaccessible as the outside of Bunker Hill Monument." This was Crestone Needle, not Humboldt Peak. In Mr. Brunt's account he says that he found full records of the "Harper's Weekly party" in a bottle, and that this party had taken the records of prior ascents from the cairn on the summit, for publication.

Little Bear Peak was climbed by Albert R. Ellingwood and Stephen H. Hart in 1925, who carried a transit to the summit. Mr. Ellingwood's calculation of the height was 14,040 feet (see Trail and Timberline, June, 1926).

2. THE GRIZZLY AS OUR PIONEER ALPINIST

Uncompahgre Peak was a favorite ascent for the Grizzlies. On the first ascent recorded,[74] made in 1874 by Rhoda, the latter wrote,—"We started out early the next morning expecting to have a very difficult climb. We were terribly taken back, however, when, at an elevation of over 13,000 feet, a she grizzly, with her two cubs, came rushing past us from the top of the peak. Contrary to all expectations we found the ascent very easy, and arrived on the summit at 7:30 A. M., having been two hours and a half in climbing up 2,400 feet. We found the bears aforesaid had been all over the summit of the peak, though how they got up over one or two passages of the ascent puzzled us not a little."

Later when Rhoda climbed Sneffels he wrote,—"The claw marks on the rocks, on either side of the summit, showed that the grizzly had been before us. We gave up all hope of ever beating the bear climbing mountains. Several times before, when, after terribly difficult and dangerous climbs, we had secretly chuckled over our having outwitted Bruin at last, some of the tribe had suddenly jumped up not far from us and taken to their heels over the loose rocks. Mountain sheep we had beaten in fair competition, but the bear was 'one too many for us.'"

Here is the whole subject in one paragraph, again by Rhoda: "This peak was very steep and difficult to climb, in fact more so than any we had yet ascended. When we had nearly reached the summit, and at an elevation of 13,600 feet, a small grizzly bear suddenly jumped up a few yards in front of us and rushed down the steep slide of the south face of the peak. Of course, in a climb as long and difficult as this, our instrument and books were all we cared about bringing up with us, and for this reason our guns were left behind. We were much surprised to see an animal in this place. It is ever thus; when

[71] Alfred Barnaby Thomas in "The Colorado Magazine," November, 1924.
[72] "Appalachia," May, 1889.
[73] "Appalachia," December, 1890.
[74] U.S.G. and G.S. of T., Bulletin, vol. 1, section 2, number 3.

you feel you are treading a path never before trod by a living being, and your imagination begins to build for itself a romantic picture, if some such vile, worldly thing, as a paper collar or a whiskey-bottle does not intrude itself on the sight, some beastly quadruped needs must break the precious solitude and scatter your airy castle to the winds. To show our utter disgust for all animal things that could not live below this altitude, we yelled and threw stones after the bear until he finally was lost to sight far down the mountain side. In our hate we even wished he might have been in a position whence we could have rolled rocks on him. As we passed on we saw several other places where he or others of his breed had scraped out beds among the finer debris. They seemed to have come up here for fresh air, or to sun themselves, or both. After the experience, we named the peak Mount Oso, from the Spanish word for bear." This is perhaps the present "Hunchback Peak."

When Rhoda climbed Trinchera Peak, he had difficulty in finding a route, until he started following the traces made by bears. From the top he saw four different grizzlies.

The Wheeler Survey had an adventure on Uncompahgre which was similar to that of the Hayden Survey. Lieutenant Marshall wrote[75]—"In 1874 a large cinnamon bear and her cub were found sportively tumbling and rolling from the summit of Uncompahgre at this point (the hardest of the ascent) and came near occasioning the loss of our theodolite and one of the packers who carried it. Just as he raised his head above the ledge, the bear happened to be about to look down over the same place, and both animals, each rather disconcerted at the proximity of the other, tumbled off the cliff together. Both bear and packer, however, happily escaped further injury than a good fright and a few bruises."

3. THE INDIAN AS AN ALPINIST

The Report of Oliver W. Toll, on the visit of Arapahoe Indians to Estes Park, 1913, contains the following passage,—

"At Hondius' Ranch, Griswold told us the story of his father's eagle trap. 'Right up on the top' (of Longs Peak) said Griswold, 'there is a hole dug in an oval shape. The top of it is big enough for a man to get down through, but below it widens out and is big enough for him to sit in. This was up there when he captured all of those eagles, for it was an eagle trap. He had a stuffed coyote up there, and some tallow. Gun used to sit in this hole, so that he couldn't be seen, and put the coyote on the ground above him, and the tallow by it. The eagles would see the coyote from a great distance, and would come to get it. When the eagles lit by the coyote, Old Man Gun would grab the eagles by the feet, reaching up by the back of the coyote. Now, this man who used to trap these eagles had some kind of an herb that he used, so that just as soon as he grabbed that eagle, the eagle had a fit and was helpless, and he would pull it in. This herb was on his hands, and if he touched you with it, you would have a fit. This herb is something that no one else knows what it is. He would catch the wildest horses in the country with it.

'When a party of us young fellows went up to see this trap, it was then pretty well filled in. It was about three feet deep originally, and about one foot wide at the top. We climbed up to see it, because we had heard about it so much, just like you people go to see things.

'The trap has to be quite a few miles away from a camp, because otherwise the eagles would be scared away. Gun used to go up by night, so that the eagles would not see him. The dirt that he dug out of the hole was scattered all over the mountain, as if a gopher had scattered it. When we climbed the peak, we climbed it from the south side, and had to put on new moccasins every three hours, because they wore out so fast. Six of us went up; the rest stayed at the foot. This was fifty-five years ago.

'The reason that he had the trap up on top of the peak was because he had to have it some place where there weren't any trees around, for if there were trees, the eagles would have lit on the trees, instead of going straight to the tallow, and then the other eagles would have seen the first one caught,

[75]Wheeler Report for 1876, Sub-report of Marshall for 1875.

and so would have been scared away. This way, he caught them one by one, as they came along. He had a cord in his hand, that he used to twist around the eagle's feet, and he had to be sure to get both their feet.'

"When our Gun and his party of young men climbed the peak to hunt for the trap, they went straight up from the south, following a gulch which had trees in it towards the bottom. In a couple of places, the party pushed the smallest man up, who then pulled the others after him. They started in the morning, and about sunset reached the summit. The night before, they had camped at some lake, probably at the same one that the Byers party camped at. The evening of their climb, they descended part way down the peak, and camped on a level shelf, perhaps half way down. The next morning, they saw smoke to the west of them, perhaps ten miles away, and thinking it might be Utes, they went over in that direction, 'looking for their Ute friends,' but found it to be a party of prospectors.

"The eagles which old man Gun captured were bald headed eagles. The Indians used their feathers for their head dresses. They used to shoot eagles too, but they had to shoot them through the wings, so that they could not fly away.

"Old Man Gun used this poison herb on his arrows too. Shep said that it was probably something like loco weed.

"Mr. W. N. Byers, the first white man to climb Longs Peak, had made several previous attempts, and after several failures, had prophesied that no living being would ever reach the summit, unless they had wings to fly with. It is interesting to know that the Indians had climbed Longs Peak before the white man had ever seen it. The Byers party said that when they climbed the peak, they found no traces of any previous human visitation. It would seem likely that there would be signs of this old eagle trap there, but probably the Byers party would not have recognized it as of human construction, and it would be natural also that they should not have looked very hard."

A similar story is told by Thoreau in "Cape Cod," p. 65,—"A remarkable method of catching gulls, derived from the Indians, was practiced in Wellfleet in 1794. 'The Gull House,' it is said, 'is built with crotchets, fixed in the ground on the beach,' poles being stretched across for the top, and the sides made close with stakes and sea-weed. 'The poles on top are covered with lean whale. The man ,being placed within, is not discovered by the fowls, and while they are contending for and eating the flesh, he draws them in, one by one, between the poles, until he has collected forty or fifty.'"

Stone shelters have been found on the top of Blanca Peak, and on a lower summit of Grand Teton, by the first climbers.

Blanca Peak was first climbed by the Wheeler Survey, in 1874, whose account states,[76]—

"The top is but a few yards in extent and occupied almost entirely by a circular depression, possibly used by Indians as a shelter for their sentinels, who probably occupied this at once commanding and strategic point as a watch-tower from whence to signal the approach of an invading force especially from any direction in the broad expanse of the San Luis valley."

Rhoda's account, upon his first ascent in 1875, is as follows,—"The only relics of former visitants consisted of a curious excavation 6 to 8 feet across, surrounded by a rock wall of loose rock, two feet high, which must have been the work of an Indian; but how an Indian could have climbed up there I cannot imagine. But why he did it is still less explicable. It would be useless as a lookout since it is 7,000 feet above the base and nearly 10 miles distant from the nearest point of the valley. It could not have been used in hunting game, since, with the exception of a rock-dog, we saw no evidence to show that either sheep or bear had ever visited the place. The latter animal often scratches a bed in the rocks on the high peaks, but the excavation here was too large and regular to have been his work. In the center of the circle was a well-built monument of loose stones about five feet high, in which we found a printed form, on the back of which a short note was written in pencil and signed by J. T.[77] In this Mr. Thompson says that excepting the Indian relic he had found no evidence of the peak having been previously visited."

[76]Final U.S.G.S.W. of 100th M. Report, vol. 1, Geographical report, 1889.
[77]Gilbert Thompson, of the Wheeler Survey.

This was probably a lookout station, for the Indian raids in the time of Kit Carson were numerous. That the Indians had signal stations is shown by the following account in Samuel Bowles' "Crest of the Continent," concerning a peak near Canon City.

"It (Signal Mountain) could be seen, not only from the plains, but also from South Park and the mountains surrounding, and that in consequence the Utes chose it for one of their telegraph stations, and early pioneers for Pikes Peak saw the smoke by day and the fire by night upon its summit, through which the Indians informed their companions of the invaders' movements. Thus it became known as 'Signal Peak.' "

A similar shelter was found on a lower summit of Grand Teton, by N. P. Langford, later Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, and Captain James Stevenson of Hayden's Survey in 1872. In Hayden's 1872 report, the former wrote,—"We found on one of the buttresses, a little lower than the extreme top of the mountain, evidence that at some former period it had been visited by human beings. There was a circular inclosure about seven feet in diameter, formed by vertical slabs of rough granite and about three feet in height, the interior of which was half filled with the detritus that long exposure to the elements had worn from these walls. It could not have been constructed less than a half a century ago, when Indians only inhabited this region." For a more minute account see the famous "The Ascent of Mount Hayden," in Scribners, 1873, p. 145, which also illustrates Langford's fondness for exaggeration, by his having raised the height of the slabs to five feet and saying that the shelter must be a century, or even centuries, old.

Of the Indians of this region Washington Irving writes in his "Adventures of Captain Bonneville," as follows,—

"Notwithstanding the savage and almost inaccessible nature of these mountains, they have their inhabitants. As one of the party was out hunting, he came upon the solitary track of a man, in a lonely valley. Following it up, he reached the brow of a cliff, whence he beheld three savages running across the valley below him. He fired his gun to call their attention, hoping to induce them to turn back. They only fled the faster, and disappeared among the rocks. The hunter returned and reported what he had seen. Captain Bonneville at once concluded that these belonged to a kind of hermit race, scanty in number, that inhabit the highest and most inaccessible fastnesses. They speak the Shoshonie language, and probably are offsets from that tribe, though they have peculiarities of their own, which distinguish them from all other Indians. They are miserably poor; own no horses, and are destitute of every convenience to be derived from an intercourse with the whites. Their weapons are bows and stone-pointed arrows, with which they hunt the deer, the elk, and the mountain sheep. They are to be found scattered about the countries of the Shoshonie, Flathead, Crow, and Blackfeet tribes; but their residences are always in lonely places, and the clefts of the rocks.

"Their footsteps are often seen by the trappers in the high and solitary valleys among the mountains, and the smokes of their fires descried among the precipices, but they themselves are rarely met with and still more rarely brought to a parley, so great is their shyness, and their dread of strangers."

4. THE MINERS AND EARLY SETTLERS

Miners, as a rule, have all they want of the mountains without adding to their work; in fact there are miners who have lived all their lives at the foot of peaks without climbing them. On the other hand, miners will go to any place where they think they may find ore; a fact which is shown by the finding of prospect holes on almost every mountain in the state; and among miners, as among city dwellers, there is a proportion of adventurous souls who climb for sport. This makes it almost impossible to list completely the first ascents in Colorado. The miners probably climbed the rounded mountains in mining districts, such as the Mosquito, Sawatch, and eastern half of the San Juan. The sharper mountains they probably did not climb—the Elk Mountains, the Crestone Group, and the western half of the San Juan, which is famous for its spectacular peaks, Uncompahgre, Wetterhorn, Sneffels, the Wilsons, and the Needles. These, which were climbed by surveyors and alpinists will be dealt with further on.

Several of the first group mountains, such as Bierstadt and Handies, have prospect holes near the top and Lincoln, Bross, and Democrat have buildings within a few hundred feet of their summits. The Sawatch and San Juan peaks are in the midst of famous mining regions, in which most of the work was above timberline. In the early days the ascent of Mt. Lincoln could be made chiefly on horseback from Buckskin.[78] "On top stones have been piled up by prospectors climbing up at different times, until a monument-like pile has been formed, ten or twelve feet in diameter, and about fifteen feet high."[79]

Of course, the miners were not the first men to live in our mountains. The trappers and traders, especially those of John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company, preceded them, but unfortunately we have no records in detail of their occupation of the country. This region, however, was not as frequented as the headwaters of the Green, Missouri, and Columbia Rivers.[80] Yet several famous traders, such as Kit Carson[81] trapped in the Colorado Rockies.

5. THE SURVEYORS

The chief surveys of the high peaks of Colorado were the Harvard, Princeton, Hayden, Wheeler, Land Office, United States Geological Survey, Colorado Geological Survey, and United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. Before these surveys, in the 60's, C. C. Parry measured the heights of Grays, Rosalie, and others, making some first ascents.

The first of these organized surveys, working at its own expense, explored the Collegiate Range in 1869. A member of the party, Mr. Brewer, wrote,—"We ascended two peaks here in a region not before explored, which we named for our universities, the northern Mount Harvard and the southern Mount Yale."[82] The account of this survey will be found in "Rocky Mountain Letters, 1869," by W. H. Brewer, published by the Colorado Mountain Club, 1930, edited by Edmund B. Rogers.

The ascent of Mt. Yale was made on August 18, 1869, by J. D. Whitney, W. H. Brewer, S. F. Sharpless, W. M. Davis, and Robert Moore. The ascent of Mt. Harvard was made on the next day, by W. M. Davis, and S. F. Sharpless.

A group of Princeton students made surveys in the Colorado and Utah mountains in 1877. A long and interesting report was published by the Princeton Museum. The part concerning the Colorado mountains was written by William Libbey. Their ascents included Mt. Princeton, Lincoln, Grays, and several others.

The two surveys which covered almost all our fourteen thousand foot peaks are (1) the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, under F. V. Hayden (1867-1883), which I shall call the Hayden Survey, and (2) the United States Geographical Survey west of the hundredth meridian, under Captain Wheeler of the topographical engineers (1870-1880), which I shall call the Wheeler Survey. Neither began working in Colorado until 1873. Hayden made his surveys under the Department of the Interior and Wheeler made his under the Department of War. They were rivals, because they were both surveying the same regions of the West and knew that one of them would eventually be given the monopoly. Hayden won, and with two other early surveyors (Major Powell and Clarence King, who did little work in Colorado) formed the United States Geological Survey in 1879, with Clarence King as the head.

Hayden's Survey did better work than Wheeler's because Hayden's Survey used the methods of Whitney's California Survey (1860-1874), and used many of Whitney's men, of whom A. D. Wilson was one. Anyone who is interested in the first surveying in the Western mountains should read "Josiah Dwight Whitney, Life and Letters," by E. T. Brewster, 1909.

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[78] Daily News, August 24, 1868.
[79] Hollister,—"The Mines of Colorado," 1867, p. 34.
[80] H. M. Chittenden, "American Fur Traders of the Far West," 1902.
[81] Thwaite's Notes to Farnham.
[82] W. H. Brewer, Journal of the American Geographical Society of N.Y., vol. VIII, 1873, pp. 193-221.

We are all familiar with Hayden's work through his Atlas, now a rare book. Wheeler's work is little heard of nowadays. To mountain climbers, however, the reports of Marshall, the head of Wheeler's Colorado section, are just as good reading as the reports of Franklin Rhoda of the Hayden Survey. Wheeler's maps are invaluable in any study of nomenclature.

The names given by the two Surveys are often different. As the United States Geological Survey, which remapped the region, is under the Department of the Interior, it chose the Hayden names, and the United States Geographic Board on that account has decreed against the Wheeler names. Among the latter were Blaine, Glacier, Chalk, Cerro Blanco, Three Tetons (and others) for fourteen thousand foot peaks.

These two Surveys made stations on most of the high peaks of the state, with the exception of the Needles, Crestones, and three of the Elks. In the Sawatch Range, the summits of which were probably familiar to the miners, Mt. Massive was climbed by Henry Gannett, in 1874, and Mt. Elbert was climbed by H. W. Stuckle, his assistant, in the same year.[83] In August, 1873, the first ascent of the Mt. of the Holy Cross (which is perhaps 14,000 feet), was made by the Hayden party consisting of F. V. Hayden, J. T. Gardiner, J. D. Whitney, W. H. Holmes (a former artist), and Jackson, the best known photographer of the Colorado Rockies. They believed themselves the first to locate the mountain, except the trappers and miners, from whom they had heard rumors. The location was not definitely known and the peak was difficult to reach. The first sight of the mountain by one of this party was by Holmes from the top of Mt. Powell. An account of the first ascent is found in Gardiner's letters to his mother,[84]—

"We have just made a tremendous climb to the top of one of the grandest peaks in the Rocky Mts., about 13,000 ft. high and 6,000 above the surrounding country. We could not get our animals within many miles on account of fallen timber and the trip had to be made on foot, packing the great 50-pound theodolite while three men carried the photographic apparatus weighing 100 lbs. Expecting to reach the peak and return in one day we only carried a little lunch, two slices of bread apiece. This was all we had to eat for two days of tremendous climbing, while at night we lay on the mountain side without shelter or covering. We succeeded in getting splendid observations and photographs. One large photograph 12 x 14 inches shows the peak culminating in a dark precipice 3,000 ft. high on which rests the great White Cross, 1,500 ft. long, as perfect in form as you can imagine. Dr. Hayden worked like a hero. At the end of the second day a relief party met us at the foot of the mountain. A U. S. Engineer party has been exploring here but they failed to reach this great culminating peak on account of the difficulties. We are undoubtedly the first who ever reached this peak."

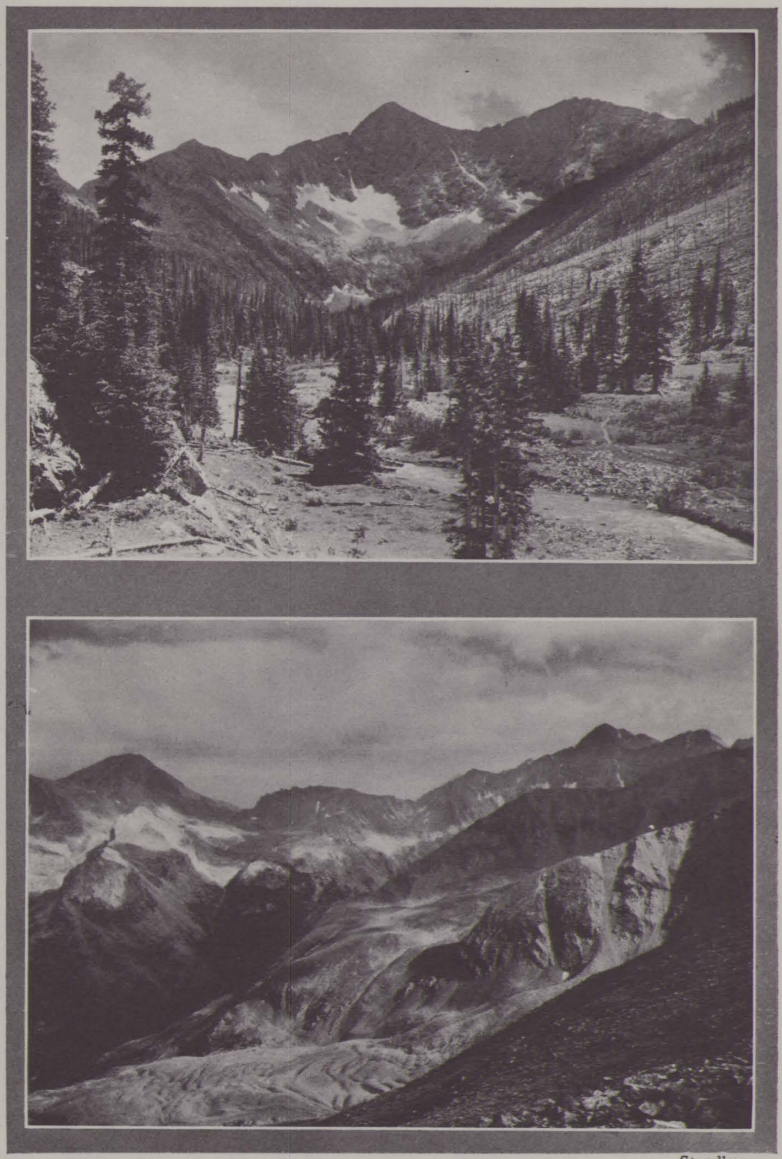
The first painting of the Mt. of the Holy Cross was probably by Thomas Moran.[85]

The southernmost of the Sawatch peaks, Mt. Ouray, was climbed by Gardiner and other members of the Hayden Survey on August 23, 1874.[86]

In the Elk Mountains the Hayden Survey climbed Castle Peak and Snowmass, but not Pyramid, Maroon, or Capitol. In the Hayden report of triangulation for 1873, Castle Peak is given a barometric height, but those of Maroon and Capitol are trigonometric. Of Maroon, Gannett wrote in 1874,—"It is nearly, if not quite, inaccessible."

The first ascent of Castle Peak is described by Henry Gannett[87] as follows,—"Castle Peak, of purple sandstone, offered more of a climb than any other Colorado mountain with which I have any acquaintance. For this ascent we camped at timberline, 11,500 feet, at the southwest base of the peak, and starting up the ridge, which was composed of horizontal beds of rock, presenting an alternation of cliffs and slopes. Our only way of surmounting the lower

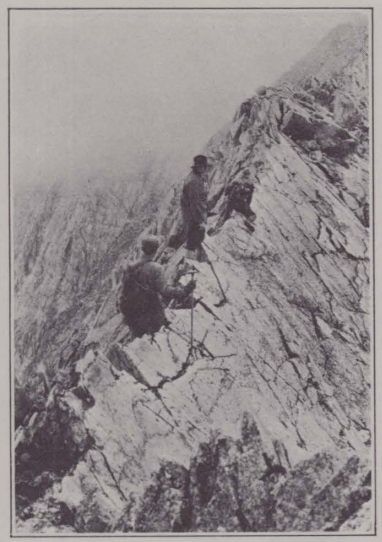
[83]Allen H. Bent, "Appalachia," XIII, p. 103.
[84]Unpublished, and in the possession of Mrs. C. S. Fayerweather, New Lebanon, N.Y., who kindly sent a typewritten copy to Mr. Roger W. Toll.
[85]Aldine, April, 1875.
[86]Gardiner's letter of August 23, 1874.
[87]Everybody's Magazine, May, 1902, "Famous American Mountains."



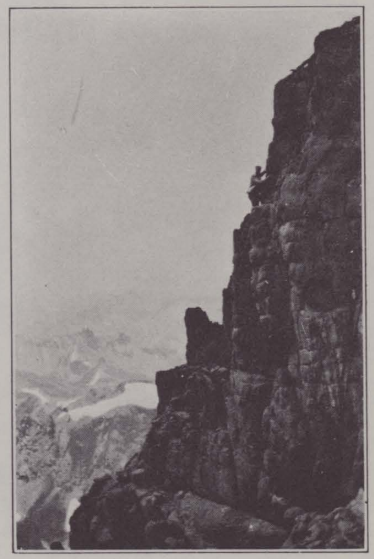
Standley.

Upper—Blanca from the Huerfano Valley

Lower—Blanca (right) and Baldy (left)



A Sharp Ridge About 1,000 Feet Below the Summit of Capitol Peak



Near Summit of Wetterhorn

cliff was in finding a crevice, up which we climbed, putting the back against one wall and the feet against the other and alternately raising the points of support and thus slowly and painfully making progress upward. Above the cliff was a steep slope, at the top of which was a second cliff, which we climbed in a similar manner, and so on to the top of the ridge. The ridge was very narrow in some places, with a cliff on either side, and while it was possible to walk on it, the prospect was not alluring. So we straddled it, using our hands for propellers. Occassionally the ridge widened to support a pinnacle of rock, which we got around by close hugging when it was not too large."

The Hayden party's ascent of Snowmass is told as follows,[88]—"In the distance we have seen two mountains which are temporarily called Snowmass and Black Pyramid. The first of these we are now ascending. It is a terribly hard road to travel. The slopes consist of masses of immense granitic fragments, the rock bed from which they come appearing only occasionally. When we reach the crest we find it also broken and cleft in masses and pillars. Professor Whitney ingeniously reckons that an industrious man, with a crow-bar, could by a week's industrious exertion, reduce the height of the mountain one or two hundred feet. Some of the members of the expedition amused themselves by the experiment, toppling over great fragments, which thunder down the slopes and furrow the wide snow fields below."

An attempt by the Wheeler Survey in 1873 to reach the top of Pyramid was unsuccessful. "Mr. Young climbed to within 200 feet of the summit, but was compelled to return, as any attempt to move farther along the narrow crest was evidently mere recklessness. This magnificent peak is the most conspicuous object in the whole region, and served as a distinct triangulation point, even so far south as the summit of the Rio Grande divide, eighty miles away."[89]

The Sangre de Cristo Range was not well surveyed, because the valleys on both sides were already populated and exploration seemed more necessary elsewhere. Marshall used Culebra and Baldy as stations in 1875, possibly the first ascents. Culebra Peak was climbed by Wilson in 1876, but Baldy and the Crestones were considered unnecessary for the survey.

The San Juan Range takes up a large part of the climbing narratives of the Wheeler and Hayden surveyors.

Uncompahgre was first climbed by Rhoda, with Wilson, or Endlich, or both, in 1874. "From this plateau was got the grandest view of Uncompahgre obtained from any station during the summer. The full height of the great precipice stood out in clear profile. Its striking resemblance to the Matterhorn gave us a wholesome dread of it, for as yet it had never been ascended by anyone, and we felt that to reach the summit might be beyond the range of the possible."[90] The ascent has been described under the subject of the Grizzly.

Sunshine, called Station 12, was ascended in 1875 by Rhoda and Wilson, who rode to an altitude of 13,000. In revenge the mountain furnished them with an exciting electrical adventure.[91] They climbed Sunshine instead of Red Cloud, which is nearby, for this reason,—"Seeing that it would be impossible to reach the main peak before the storm burst upon us, we made our station on the first point. The main peak is 41 feet higher and a mile and a half distant, being connected with it by a long unbroken ridge."

Handies was then climbed by Rhoda, and either Wilson, Endlich, or both, —again by riding to 13,000 feet.

Sneffels was the big climb for Rhoda. Before climbing it he looked it over carefully from all sides; first from the east,—"From here we got a fine view of Mount Sneffels and its surroundings. We could see no possibility of ascending the peak from the east side as it was cut up by rugged canons and innumerable bluffs and pinnacles, these latter ornamenting all the ridges leading down from the great peak and its neighbors." Second, from the south,—"From here we could see no feasible route by which to climb the great Mount Sneffels, so we laid the question aside till a view from some peak further to

[88]W. H. Rideing, "Picturesque America," vol. II, p. 502.
[89]John J. Stevenson, Wheeler Final Report, part IV, Geology.
[90]U.S.G. and G.S. of T., Bulletin, vol. 1, section 2, number 3.
[91]Ibid, pp. 170-172.

the west should solve it satisfactorily." Finally, from the west,—"The mountain had to be climbed and the only easier ascent was from the north. . . . We all knew that the winter storms would soon commence, and we could ill afford to lose the time necessary to go around to the north side of the mountain." His ascent with Wilson, Endlich, and Ford, was made on September 10, 1874, by way of the large amphitheatre on the west. "We had to follow the sharp ridge of the mountain, which for a considerable distance was notched out much like a comb. The crystallization was nearly vertical, and we could not follow along the highest line of the ridge, but had to go down the spaces between the teeth of the comb then climb hand over hand up the steep bluff beyond, and so on till within a few hundred feet of the top, the rock suddenly changed, and was worn into more or less rounded slopes, all considerably polished, but beveled out in a curious manner, by the weather. The slight bevels were our only footholds, and, as the slope was quite steep in some places, we had to climb with care; but all our labor was soon rewarded by the glorious view which presented itself to us when we reached the top."

Mt. Wilson was ascended on September 13, 1874,—"It was by far the most dangerous of all our climbs of the summer, including Uncompahgre and Sneffels." The climbers were Rhoda, Wilson, and probably Endlich.

The Wheeler Survey was equally active. Marshall wrote that on August 29, 1874,—"Mr. Nell and myself proceeded to the Uncompahgre Peaks which we occupied, as a primary point, spending upon its summit two entire days."[92] He also wrote,—"The Wetterhorn, to the southwest, a few miles from Uncompahgre Peak, is a shark's nose in form, and its ascent being unnecessary for topographical purposes was not attempted. It exceeds 14,000 feet in altitude and appears inaccessible."

Redcloud and Handies were made stations by Marshall is 1875. The ascents of Mt. Wilson have already been described in the section dealing with the naming of this mountain.

Sneffels Peak, called Blaine's Peak, was not climbed. "In the midst of these strange forms Blaine's Peak, a sharp decided cone on the extreme northern edge of the range is situated. . . . Blaine's Peak was not ascended, since it was not necessary as a station, the topography having been obtained from more easily attained points. The northern side of this peak is inaccessible on account of the nearly vertical ledges and buttresses of this face. From the south it is necessary to cross the high rim of the amphitheatre before beginning the ascent."

Since 1879 the United States Geological Surveys have mapped a large part of our mountains, including all the fourteen thousand foot peaks, except the Collegiate Peaks, Antero, Shavano, the Crestone Group, Culebra, Stewart, Capitol and Snowmass. For those we must use the Hayden Atlas. Wheeler's map of the Collegiate Range (in hachures) can be bought from the Superintendent of Documents. The Crestone Group is shown least inaccurately on the Wheeler maps.

The maps of the United States Forest Service show most of the high peaks. The Colorado Geological Survey has mapped the Lincoln Group and also Mount Shavano.

The Land Office surveys of 1881-1883 ran lines on all the high peaks except the Crestones which Hayden and Wheeler had also left alone, and Blanca, Baldy, and Handies. They ran lines on Eolus, "Maroon Mts.," and Pyramid. The United States Coast and Geodetic Survey in the Primary Triangulation of the 39th parallel in Colorado (for this see special publication 19) built stations on Pikes, Bison, Ouray, Elbert, Treasury, and Uncompahgre. The stations are platforms of masonry or wood, or ring walls of rocks, where the men worked for many days. The U. S. C. and G. S. also made a special measurement of Elbert, Massive, and Harvard, to settle the question of their comparative height, and decided that they rank second, fourth, and fifth highest in the United States. Accurate measuring of heights has also been done by Professor L. G. Carpenter, of Colorado Agricultural College, with his students. They obtained the altitude of Longs by checked spirit leveling. The United States Geological Survey ascertained the height of Pikes by spirit leveling.

[92]U.S.G. and G.S. West of the 100th M., Appendix L of the report of the Chief of Engineers for 1875.

6. THE MOUNTAINEER

Three accounts in mountaineering journals of climbs in Colorado deal with Shavano, Sneffels, and El Diente. The first records an ascent made by Charles E. Fay[93] in 1888, which is remarkable for the fact that he started at 2:30 o'clock, A. M.; the second records an ascent by Chapin;[94] and the third records the first ascent of El Diente in 1890 by Mr. Perry Thomas,[95] a member of the Alpine Club. Mr. Thomas climbed the mountain (which he thought was Mt. Wilson) from Dunton, with Mr. W. G. Douglas, and wrote,—"I had always fancied that climbing in the Rockies would be mere child's play by comparison with the Alps, but here I found something more nearly akin to one or two well known rock climbs than I expected." And also,—"The impression gained by my brief experiences was that the San Juan district of Colorado is quite worth a visit by an organized mountain party—there are many untrodden peaks, and, I will venture to say, many an interesting rock scramble, while if any member of the club wishes to cover himself with glory, let him climb, if he can, the Lizard's Head." The summit was finally reached by Albert R. Ellingwood, formerly of Colorado Springs, now of Northwestern University, and Barton Hoag in 1920. His account is in "Outing," November, (1921).

The only climbs of important fourteen thousand foot peaks which had not been made by the early surveys were those of the Elk, Needle, and Crestone peaks. Although the Land Office surveyors may have climbed Maroon during their surveys of 1881-3, it is possible that the first ascent was by Mr. C. P. Wilsson of Pueblo, sometime in the nineties. All climbers interested in the Elk Mountains should read Hagerman's typewritten account of the climbs made by Clark and himself in this region. This book was never printed, but a copy with fine illustrations is kept in the Colorado Mountain Club library at Denver. In 1908 Hagerman climbed Maroon; and with Clark of Aspen climbed North Maroon. In 1909 they ascended Pyramid. In that year and the year following they made the first two ascents of Capitol. Hagerman wrote—"There was no evidence on the summit of any previous ascent, and the peak was reputed to be unclimbable and unclimbed, by the ranchmen living in the neighborhood." The third ascent was made in 1925 by Carl Blaurock, William Ervin, and Colonel Bruns; and the fourth ascent also in 1925 by Eleanor Davis Ehrman, Albert R. Ellingwood, M. E. Warner, and Stephen H. Hart. The first ascents of the Needle Peaks are not recorded. The last group, the Crestones, has been climbed by no one but members of the Colorado Mountain Club, although the accounts of surveyors on these peaks make interesting reading.

The only survey, that of the Land Office, which attempted to run a line on the Crestone peaks, failed. Two attempts were made,—the first, in 1863, was the first Land Office survey of any part of the high peaks of Colorado. Both were attempts to locate the boundary of the Baca Grant.

Kit Carson Peak lies in the northeast corner of the Baca Grant. In 1863 A. L. Sheldon,[96] who was surveying eastward on the north boundary, got to timberline upon it. In his notes he said (p. 189),—"The mountain in front of us is utterly impracticable. In our immediate presence is a precipitous wall of granite and from this point to its crest there is a succession of such, only higher and more difficult. I see no way of surmounting the difficulty by offsets or otherwise and therefore am compelled to abandon the survey at this point."

On the east boundary, surveying northward, he was forced to stop nine miles south of Kit Carson. He records this decision as follows (p. 209),—"From this point to the North East corner of the Grant the mountains are very rugged, precipitous, and deeply covered with snow. The line, if at all, could be carried through only with great difficulty and with a result, with respect to accuracy, which could serve but little to any practical purpose. I therefore deem it advisable, as, indeed, it seems compulsory, to abandon the line at this point."

[93]"Appalachia," December, 1889.
[94]Ibid, December, 1890.
[95]"Alpine Journal," vol. XV, pp. 480-491.
[96]His field notes are in volume F, at the U. S. Surveyor General's Office, Denver.

This unsurveyed northeast corner caused the Baca Grant people to have another attempt made. D. L. Darby[97] surveyed northward on the east boundary to within eight miles of Kit Carson, and then gave up (p. 47)—"It is impossible to measure any further north on this line as it is over a succession of rock bluffs, which at the Trois Tetons or Crestone Mountains[98] culminate in an almost vertical wall fully 500 ft. high. . . . The men refused positively to attempt to go any farther on this line. . . . There are no trails up these creeks and the country is filled with dead and down timber with young aspens grown up through it. . . . Spent the night at timberline without blankets."

On the north boundary he had to leave his line and run his survey to the north of Kit Carson (p. 77)—"It was not possible to get the witness corners to the 3rd, 3½, and 4th mile points any nearer than they were set. The line from the 3rd mile monument passes generally along the base of an almost precipitous mountain of bare rock, one of the very roughest mountains I have ever seen."

On the Land Office map of 1900[99] which combined these two surveys, the boundary line just north of Kit Carson is marked "Unsurveyable" and the territory to the southeast of Kit Carson is marked "Inaccessible Mountains." It is, of course, Crestone Peak.

Humboldt Peak was surveyed by the Land Office in 1883.[100] The field notes (p. 150) have—"Thence along N. side of Humboldt Peak near top." Probably the surveyor, T. P. Momson, climbed the peak.

The three unclimbed fourteen thousand foot peaks were climbed by Albert R. Ellingwood and Eleanor Davis (now Eleanor Davis Ehrman) of the Colorado Mountain Club in July, 1916. These two, with Frances Rogers and Joe Deutschbein, made the first ascents of Kit Carson and Crestone Peak (by the northern face), and then the two climbers traversed the main ridge to Crestone Needle, of which they made the first ascent. They then descended the eastern face of Crestone Needle, and returned to camp by way of the pass between Humboldt and Crestone. An account of these ascents will be found in "Trail and Timberline," June, 1925. The later ascents of Kit Carson Peak are described in "The American Alpine Journal" (page 290), 1930. The succeeding ascents of Crestone Peak have been as follows:

2. Colorado Mountain Club trip, 1922.
3. Walter Kiener.
4. Colorado Mountain Club trip, September, 1924.
5. Colorado Mountain Club Annual Outing, 1925. This was a traverse from Crestone Needle to Crestone Peak.
6. Albert R. Ellingwood, Stephen H. Hart, and John L. J. Hart, August, 1925. The first and only ascent of the southern peak of Kit Carson was probably made by a Colorado Mountain Club party in 1925, including Elwyn Arps, Henry Buchtel, and Stephen H. Hart. The second ascent of El Diente was made by Dwight Lavender, Forrest Greenfield, and Chester Price in 1930. Their account will be found in "Trail and Timberline," September, 1930.

Recent climbs in Colorado are recorded in the collections of trip reports of the Colorado Mountain Club, if they are club climbs, and if they are private climbs by members, they should be written and placed in the two volumes of "Data on Colorado Peaks" at the club library. These books of data, with maps, were made by Mr. Roger W. Toll; and contain his accounts of climbs made while placing Colorado Mountain Club registers on the high peaks, and the reports of climbs made by persons applying for admission to the Colorado Mountain Club as qualified members.

The first mountaineering club in Colorado was the Rocky Mountain Climbing Club, founded about 1892. Mr. George J. Bancroft, one of the charter members, states that the other members included Frank Spalding, William Spalding, Frank N. Bancroft, William B. Berger, J. Frank Raynolds, Leonard Eicholz and others. Members of this club climbed the west face of Longs Peak, Blanca Peak, and Pikes Peak in winter. Their ascent of the Grand Teton was financed by the club and led by Frank Spalding.

[97]His field notes are in volume 320 at the U.S. Surveyor General's Office, Denver.
[98]This is the local name; the official name is Kit Carson.
[99]Vol. 48, plat 1, U.S. Surveyor General's Office, Denver; the two other maps are vol. 3, plat 24, and vol. 45, plat 2.
[100]U.S.S.G.'s Office, Field Notes 230, and map, vol. 32, plat 38.

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