

SAVAGE AND SUCCESSFUL

Rio Grande River

A Brief Description of the Little Known Land of Desert Stretches, High Mountains, Savage Rivers, and Dry Washes That Become Rivers

Let us imagine the Rio Grande as a sentient being—imagine him as a strong man of the hills and desert country and travel with him from the place of his birth to his successful termination. The birth of this lusty youth takes place in that great amphitheatre of the San Juan Mountains in southern Colorado. What splendid parents this child river has. They thrust their mighty heads twelve to fourteen thousands feet into the blue skies and catch the rain and snow, which gives life to their son, who is to become a national and international figure.

Approaching the birth place of this famous child river, one's imagination is fired with noble thoughts and the soul is filled with ecstasy that comes from intimate association with living waters at their sources. Majestically, the aristocratic parents carry on the tradition of the mighty Rockies, proud of their lineage, the Continental Divide. And, too, they feel their son of perfect birth will be a famous character in the western United States.

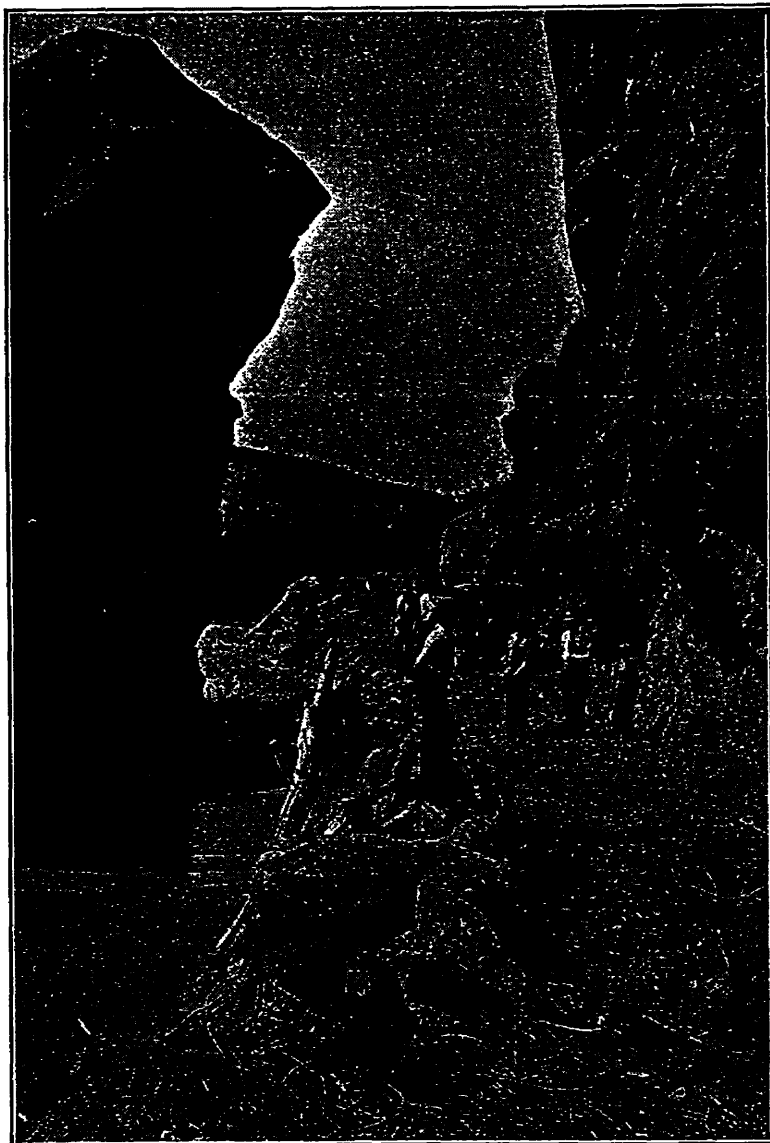
Lustily the youth capers and cascades from his parent's laps, running with snow white purity past fantastically weird rock formations, which are called the Rio Grande Pyramids. Entering a lake, he pauses a while in order to be a bigger and stronger boy. Like all restless youth, he soon leaps over all bounds and is on his way.

He espies an opening over there in the family chain, Wagon Wheel Gap. Away he races from the arms of his parents to seek adventure out in the big world. Perils await him, as is true of all youth.

The parents look after him longingly and weep, but they, like all wise parents, know they cannot live his life for him. They cannot follow along with him, and know that he must experience good and bad. Their prayer is that he will some way make

his way through the problems that are the part of every rivers life.

As he passes through "Wagon Wheel Gap," Rio Grande sees, stretching before him, a very large valley entirely surrounded by mountains, two million acres of rich alluvial land known as the San Louis Valley. Playing happily along this beautiful valley the youth is happy and carefree and with out serious



CANDELARIA PASS
Near the Kilpatrick Farm
Rio Grande