

take place, or at least not for many years. But the march of civilization has far outstripped the expectations of the most sanguine enthusiast of thirty years ago. In 1853, it became evident that the time had arrived for a political organization to take place. Missouri which was admitted into the Union in 1820, had become a wealthy and populous State. It extended along the whole eastern boundary of what is now the Territory of Kansas. The commerce of the Missouri river had become very considerable, and the trade across the plains, immense. Towns of importance had been built along the river, close upon the borders of Kansas. The natural resources and advantages of the country were very great, and the whites were eager to possess it. The initiatory steps were taken in the fall of 1853, and an agent of the general government visited most of the tribes of Indians along the border, to ascertain if they were friendly to a political organization of the Territory. The emigrant tribes were found in favor of it, and the native tribes not averse to it. The repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and the erection of Kansas and Nebraska into separate territorial governments, was accomplished the ensuing session, and approved June 30th, 1854.

HISTORY OF SETTLEMENT.

While the bill erecting Kansas and Nebraska into a political organization was pending in Congress, treaties were being made by government agents, with the view to opening the country immediately to settlement. In May, 1854, treaties were made with the Delawares and Kickapoo Indians, and in September following,