

territory lying south of the line, between townships Nos. 22 and 23. But few of the lands in this district are opened for settlement. The land office is at Fort Scott. Judge Morin, Register; E. Ransom, Receiver. The New York Indian Lands, in the northern part, are a fine body of lands, rich in timber, minerals, and all the elements of agricultural wealth.

Very recently Congress passed a law, opening the New York Indian Lands to legal settlement. These lands have, many of them, been settled upon for a long time; but all settlers were, in the eyes of the law, trespassers. Now, however, their rights will be recognized, which will settle this section very rapidly. Settlers are squatting upon the Cherokee Neutral Lands and Osage Lands to some extent, but are trespassers in the eyes of the law. No legal settlements can be made south of the New York Indian Lands.

The Cherokee Neutral Lands occupy the eastern end of the district, and the Osage Indian Reserve joins them on the west. But little, comparatively, is known of this region; but it is undoubtedly one of the most desirable portions of Kansas.

The Western District embraces all that region of country bounded by the Nebraska line on the north; the guide meridian east of the 6th principal meridian on the east, the line between townships 22 and 23 on the south, and on the west by the western boundary of the Territory. It includes all of that vast region of country watered by the Smoky Hill, Saline, Solomon's and Republican Forks, with their many tributaries. As now organized, it includes the gold mines of Western Kansas.\* The immense emigration, in the

\* It nominally extends only to the principal meridian.

