

spring, to that region, will undoubtedly cause the erection of a new land district, with an office on the South Platte, for the benefit of the settlers and miners.

But little is known of this district beyond the western line of the government surveys. The valleys of the Big Blue and Kansas rivers, and a portion of the Republican valley, are well settled. Settlements on the Smoky Hill Fork are frequent, so far west as Salina, at the mouth of the Saline Fork, and occasionally a few miles beyond, but from thence to the gold region is uninhabited, except by roving tribes of Indians. The valleys of the above mentioned streams are very fine, as far as the government surveys have progressed, and soon will teem with a thrifty and wealthy population. Gypsum is found in great abundance along the Smoky Hill Fork, and the "smoky hills," from which the Fork takes its name, are said to be almost a solid mass of iron ore. Tin and copper are also said to have been discovered in this region. The land office for this district is located at Ogden. Ira Norris, Register; Findley Patterson, Receiver.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.

This office, which was located first at Wyandott and afterward at Lecompton, was, for political reasons, moved to Nebraska City, N. T., in June, 1858, where it is at present located. The Surveyor General has jurisdiction of all the surveys of lands in Kansas and Nebraska. The present distinguished and efficient incumbent, Gen. Ward B. Burnett, from New York, was appointed to the office in July, 1858, and assumed control of the office immediately thereafter. Appro-