

Fe route bearing southward to about latitude  $38^{\circ}$ , or 115 miles south of Auraria, and the Fort Kearny route deflecting about the same distance northward, into Nebraska.

There are substantially but two routes open to the mines at the present time, from the Missouri river—the Southern and the Northern. The Southern, or Santa Fe route, so far as the Santa Fe trade is concerned, terminates at Kansas City, Missouri,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles below the mouth of the Kansas river. Wyandott and Quindaro are connected with the Santa Fe road by an excellent road and splendid bridge across the Kansas river, built during the past year by the enterprise of Wyandott. This road places Quindaro about the same distance from its junction with the Santa Fe road, as Kansas City, and Wyandott two miles nearer than either. The Santa Fe road also forks at Wilmington, via Topeka and Osawkee, for Leavenworth. Sumner, Atchison and other river towns, connect with it also. The Kansas river towns connect with it at different points, as shown upon the map.

The Northern, or Fort Kearny route, as far as the crossing of the Platte, passes over the military road from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Kearny, Fort Laramie, Utah and California. This route connects with all the river points in Kansas. Beyond the forks of the Platte, the route to the mines leaves the military road, taking up the south bank of the South Platte, via Fort St. Vrain to Cherry Creek. Connections with Lawrence, Topeka and other Kansas river towns, are made with this route, up the Kansas and Big Blue

