

4th the Author finds a suitable & beautiful location when our Party arrived on the rich & fertile tract of County now called Osawatomie there was scarcely a cabin in all that best fertile & fruitful region 2. or 3. Missourians was there a month before us had cut down some logs & was preparing their cabins for erection the walnuts of large size was lying about in vast quantities in all directions in the woods Hickory nuts in any quantity likewise Acorns in great abundance the grass was yet & for some months later good for cattle on which they fed well the weather here in October is very pleasant—it is a difficult thing sometimes to select a location even were they are plentiful & those ^{who} were like us the first party of settlers in that region had the first choice looking over different quarter sections in such an unexceptionable soil with such fine timber & good water you sometimes think this is the best timber & that is the worst timber—this have got some fine building sites but on the eminences there is a little stone (which by the bye may not be an encumbrance but it looks so) while another quarter I— has no stone about but lies low likely to be overflowed by the river & you stand a good chance to be nearly eaten up by ~~the~~ Mosquitoes & melted by the sun in summer & blocked up by snow in winter which always especially in a climate like Kansas drift down into low places for my part not feeling inclined to ^{have} the product of my labour either in cultivation of the soil or in the erection of a cabin washed away by the overflowing river & not having any predilection whatever