

a good market for all the surplus stock of grain that may be raised, the purity of the streams, the abundance of living springs that well out upon the sides of the valleys, all offer strong inducements to those in search of desirable locations, here to establish themselves.

The original association that formed this settlement consisted of a small number of individuals, mostly from New England. These afterwards were joined by another party from Ohio, who at first located a few miles west of Fort Riley, but were induced to abandon that site and remove here, by the liberal offers made them.

Manhattan is 75 miles N. W. of Lawrence ; 125 miles from Kansas City ; 15 miles N. E. of Fort Riley. The Fort was, the past year, and probably will be for many years to come, a good market for all the produce that may be for sale, inasmuch as being a distributing post, it will have need of large supplies. The Commissary contracted the first season for 1200 tons of hay, paying for the same \$7 per ton on the ground, \$12 delivered at the Fort. Land yields from three to four tons to the acre, and much of the grass was to be had for the cutting. He also agreed to take all the corn procurable at \$1.50 per bushel.

The town and suburbs embrace about 1400 acres, which have been regularly platted. The main street is 100 feet, and the others 60 feet wide. Several parks or squares have been laid out in different sections of the town. The house lots are fifty feet front, by one hundred and fifty in depth. In one of the parks, a public well had just been completed when the writer was there. At twenty-six feet below the surface, a peat-bed, between layers of clay, was struck, and a foot deeper, the remnants of the trunk of a tree were found. Tusks and bones of supposed extinct animals have been dug up in the vicinity, as also above Fort Riley.

Manhattan has the Kansas River on the south, and the Big Blue on the east ; the latter empties into the former near the town ; the Kansas is a muddy stream,