

the Methodist Episcopal Church, and supplies from outside by the Baptist clergy, have been enjoyed there. A Sunday School has also been in operation. The inhabitants are from almost every State in the Union; but the town was commenced and is carried on chiefly by New Yorkers, Eastern, and Western men. A deep cut is made in the banks of the streams for the crossings; and a ferry-boat has been placed upon the Osage. I will close this brief letter by saying that the people in these parts came here to stay. They are pleased with the climate, soil, and country, and nothing seems to trouble them but the fact that they are at present deprived of their political rights."

No place in the Territory suffered so severely from the incursion of the "Border Ruffians" as this. A descent was made upon it, ere the dawn of day, on the morning of August 30th. 1856, whilst the inhabitants were still asleep. They were aroused from their slumbers, not by the Indian war whoop, concerning which many, before immigrating, entertained what proved to be imaginary fears, such sounds never being heard here, but by the savage yells of, so called, civilized men, drunk with rage and infuriated with liquor. The horde was led on by General Reid of Independence, Mo., (a recent candidate for Congress!) who seems since to glory in his shame, by recounting his valorous deeds.

The women and children were driven from their homes, the men who could not defend themselves were ruthlessly shot down, the houses were ransacked and plundered, the household furniture and other articles not stolen, were destroyed, and a large portion of the town reduced to ashes.* It was this barbarian party

* "That more prompt steps were not taken to defend Osawatomie, is merely another evidence of the slow process by which free-state men arrive at a correct conclusion upon border-ruffian character.

"The blow aimed at Osawatomie, can only be attributed to two things. In the first place, it was a thriving free-state town; in the second, the law and order ruffians, or those of them in this part of Whitfield's army, had been unable to get any booty in their recent campaign, and it was hard to leave the