

LAWRENCE. This was the first settlement made under the auspices of the Company. The Pioneer Party, which started from Boston July 17th. 1854, *first* pitched their tents "within a stone's throw from the bank of the river." The Second Party, which arrived early in September following, judiciously encamped on the high ground, in the rear of the now flourishing town, near the great California trail. These Parties united their forces, and went vigorously to work on the present town site. This spot was thus described by George S. Parks, Esq., as it appeared to him in June, 1854.

"On both sides of the river, above the Wakarusa, there are excellent bottom lands; and, a short way beyond these, another fine site for a town presents itself on the north side—while still farther up on the south bank, the high prairie comes right down to the water's edge, presenting another appropriate place, where the busy hum of commerce may by and by speak the presence of a city. Here we saw numerous cabins of settlers; and away, as far as the eye could reach, in a southwesterly direction, the prairies were high and rolling like the waves of Old Ocean. Southward, beautiful groves dot the prairie, and the dark line of timber that stretches along the Wakarusa valley—with the great Prairie-mound, so to speak, fixed there as the land mark of perpetual beauty—the meandering river, with its dark skirting forests of timber on the north—all are scenes in Nature's magnificent Panorama, here brought within range of vision. Proceeding north, high rich bottoms extend for many miles, and we saw vast thickets of grape-vines, pea-vines, raspberries, and pawpaws. The timber was principally oak, walnut, ash, hickory, mulberry, hackberry, linden, cotton-wood and coffee-bean."

Surely all who have heard the "busy hum," and witnessed the activity and industry which have since characterized that place, so clearly indicating that "Young America" is there, will feel constrained to acknowledge, in regard to the above writer, that the spirit of prophecy was in him.

Lawrence received its present appellation in September, 1854. The name was selected, as we were informed at the time, "first, in honor of the Treasurer of the Emigrant Aid Company, Amos A. Lawrence, Esq., both as an individual and officer of the Company; second, because the name *sounded* well, and had no bad odor attached to it, in any part of the Union, or world; and lastly, because the citizens *preferred* it to any other."