

house of Worship. Members of other Denominations are also actively engaged in raising funds for Church edifices. The inhabitants number about fifteen hundred; and nowhere throughout the Union can there be found a town, which, proportioned to its size, contains so large a number of liberally educated individuals.

TOPEKA. This is the second place, in time, established as a Free State settlement. The site was selected by the Agents of this Company, and on their recommendation, certain individuals of the Fifth Party here drove down their stakes on the 29th. day of November, 1854; they were a few days after joined by "the advance column" of the Sixth Party, and on the 5th. of December, an organization was completed, and the town founded; subsequently further accessions were made to their number, and they rapidly advanced in prosperity; so that it has at length become the third town in the Territory, in point of size and importance. It lies on the south bank of the Kansas River, about 75 miles from the mouth, 25 miles west of Lawrence, and 75 miles east of Fort Riley.

The town is one and a half miles square; the streets are one hundred feet wide, running from Kansas River to Shungamung, or Red Horse Creek; the house lots are 75 feet front, and 150 feet deep.

It contains several stone structures, a number of stores, two Printing offices, from each of which a weekly Newspaper is regularly issued; a Saw Mill, Grist Mill, and other conveniences; ground has been broken for a Methodist Church, 40 by 60 feet in dimensions; the foundation of a new Hotel was commenced, and many new buildings were being erected as the cold weather set in.

It is the centre "of one of the largest, unbroken tracts of beautiful, healthful, and productive farm claims of which the Territory can so justly boast. Its local natural advantages are unsurpassed. The purest water can either be obtained from the living fountain, or by the sinking of wells to a depth less than twenty-five feet.— Stone for building purposes, of the finest quality and in