

MASSACHUSETTS EMIGRANT AID CO.

REPORT

1854

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NEBRASKA AND KANSAS.

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS

Emigrant Aid Company, Boston.

WITH THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

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BOSTON:

PUBLISHED FOR THE MASSACHUSETTS EMIGRANT AID Co.

1854.



P.P.S. 1/14/1854

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Sec. 3. The capital stock of said corporation shall be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each; but no more than four dollars on the share shall be assessed during the year eight hundred and fifty-four.

Sec. 4. At all meetings of the stockholders, each stockholder shall be entitled to vote for each share held by him; provided, that no stockholder shall be entitled to cast

# CHARTER OF THE Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Co.

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

*In the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-four*

### An Act to Incorporate the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Company.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECT. 1. Benjamin C. Clark, Isaac Livermore, Charles Allen, Isaac Davis, William G. Bates, Stephen C. Phillips, Charles C. Hazewell, Alexander H. Bullock, Henry Wilson, James S. Whitney, Samuel E. Sewall, Samuel G. Howe, James Holland, Moses Kimball, James D. Green, Francis W. Bird, Otis Clapp, Anson Burlingame, Eli Thayer, and Otis Rich, their associates, successors, and assigns, are hereby made a corporation, by the name of the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Company, for the purpose of assisting emigrants to settle in the West; and, for this purpose, they have all the powers and privileges, and be subject to all the duties, restrictions, and liabilities, set forth in the thirty-eighth and forty-fourth chapters of the Revised Statutes.

SECT. 2. The capital stock of said corporation shall not exceed five millions of dollars. Said capital stock may be invested in real and personal estate: provided, the said corporation shall not hold real estate in this Commonwealth to an amount exceeding twenty thousand dollars.



## ACT OF INCORPORATION.

SECT. 3. The capital stock of said corporation shall be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each; but no more than four dollars on the share shall be assessed during the year eighteen hundred and fifty-four, and no more than ten dollars on the share shall be assessed in any one year thereafter.

SECT. 4. At all meetings of the stockholders, each stockholder shall be entitled to cast one vote for each share held by him: provided, that no stockholder shall be entitled to cast more than fifty votes on shares held by himself, nor more than fifty votes by proxy.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

The Corporators of the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Company met at the State House, in Boston, May 4th, according to notice, and accepted the foregoing Charter. A Committee was appointed to report a plan of organization and system of operations. The Committee consisted of Eli Thayer, Alexander H. Bullock, and E. E. Hale, of Worcester, Richard Hildreth, and Otis Clapp, of Boston, who submitted the following Report, relating to the plan of operations, at an adjourned meeting, held in Boston, May 12th.



## REPORT.

THE objects of this Corporation are apparent in its name.

The immense emigration to America from Europe, introduces into our ports a very large number of persons eager to pass westward. The fertility of our western regions, and the cheapness of the public lands, induce many of the native born citizens of the old States also to emigrate thither. At the present time, public and social considerations of the gravest character render it desirable to settle the territories west of Missouri and Iowa; and these considerations are largely increasing the amount of westward emigration.

The foreign arrivals in America, last year, were 400,777. In the same year, the emigration to Western States, of Americans and foreigners, must have amounted to much more than 200,000 persons. The emigration thither this year will be larger still. And from the older Western States large numbers are removing into new territory.

Persons who are familiar with the course of movement of this large annual throng of emigrants, know that under the arrangements now existing they suffer at every turn. The frauds practiced upon them by "runners" and other agents of transporting lines in the State of New York, amount to a stupendous system of knavery; which has not been broken up even by the patient endeavors of the State officers, and by very stringent State legislation. The complete ignorance as to our customs in which the foreign emigrant finds himself, and in more than half the foreign emigration, his complete ignorance of our language, subjects him to every fraud, and to constant accident. It is in the face of every conceivable inconvenience, that the country receives every year four hundred thousand foreigners into its seaports, and sends the larger portion of them to its Western Country.

The inconveniences and dangers to health to which the pioneer is subject who goes out alone or with his family, only in making a new settlement, are familiar to every American.

The Emigrant Aid Company has been incorporated to protect emigrants, as far as may be, from such inconveniences. Its



duty is to *organize emigration to the West and bring it into a system*. This duty, which should have been attempted long ago, is particularly essential now, in the critical position of the western territories.

The Legislature has granted a charter, with a capital sufficient for these purposes. This capital is not to exceed \$5,000,000. In no single year are assessments to a larger amount than ten per cent. to be called for. The corporators believe that if the Company be organized at once, as soon as the subscription to the stock amounts to \$1,000,000, the annual income to be derived from that amount, and the subsequent subscriptions, may be so appropriated as to render most essential service to the emigrant; to plant a free State in Kansas, to the lasting advantage of the country; and to return a very handsome profit to the stockholders upon their investment.

1. The emigrant suffers whenever he goes alone into his new home. He suffers from the frauds of others—from his own ignorance of the system of travel; and of the country where he settles; and, again, from his want of support from neighbors—which results in the impossibility of any combined assistance, or of any division of labor.

The Emigrant Aid Company will relieve him from all these embarrassments, by sending out emigrants in companies, and establishing them in considerable numbers. They will locate these where they please on arrival in their new home, and receive from government their titles. The company propose to carry them to their homes more cheaply than they could otherwise go—to enable them to establish themselves with the least inconvenience, and to provide the most important prime necessities of a new colony. It will provide shelter and food at the lowest prices after the arrival of emigrants, while they make the arrangements necessary for their new homes. It will render all the assistance which the information of its agents can give.—And, by establishing emigrants in large numbers in the territories, it will give them the power of using at once those social influences which radiate from the church, the school, and the press, in the organization and development of a community.

For these purposes, it is recommended, 1st, that the Directors contract immediately with some one of the competing lines of travel for the conveyance of 20,000 persons from Massachusetts, to that place in the West which the Directors shall select for their first settlement.

It is believed that passage may be obtained, in so large a con-



tract, at half the price paid by individuals. We recommend that emigrants receive the full advantage of this diminution of price, and that they be forwarded in companies of two hundred, as they apply, at these reduced rates of travel.

2. It is recommended that at such points as the Directors select for places of settlement, they shall at once construct a boarding house or receiving house—in which three hundred persons may receive temporary accommodation on their arrival,—and that the number of such houses be enlarged as necessity may dictate. The new comers or their families may thus be provided for, in the necessary interval which elapses while they are making their selection of a location.

3. It is recommended that the Directors procure and send forward steam saw mills, grist mills, and such other machines as shall be of constant service in a new settlement,—which cannot however be purchased or carried out conveniently by individual settlers. These machines may be leased or run by the company's agents. At the same time, it is desirable that a printing press be sent out, and a weekly newspaper established. This would be the organ of the company's agents:—would extend information regarding its settlement, and be from the very first, an index of that love of freedom and of good morals, which it is to be hoped may characterize the State now to be formed.

4. It is recommended that the Company's agents locate, and take up for the Company's benefit the sections of land in which the boarding houses and mills are located,—and no others. And further, that whenever the Territory shall be organized as a Free State, the Directors shall dispose of all its interests there, replace by the sales the money laid out, declare a dividend to the Stockholders;—and

5th. That they then select a new field, and make similar arrangements for the settlement and organization of another Free State of this Union.

II. With the advantages attained by such a system of effort, the Territory selected as the scene of operations, would, it is believed, at once fill up with free inhabitants. There is reason to suppose that several thousand men of New England origin propose to emigrate under the auspices of some such arrangement this very summer. Of the whole emigration from Europe,—amounting to some 400,000 persons, there can be no difficulty in inducing thirty or forty thousand to take the same direction. Applications from German agents have already been made to members of the Company. We have also intimations in corres-



pondence from the free States of the West, of a wide spread desire there among those who know what it is to settle a new country to pass on, if such an organization can be made into that now thrown open. An Emigrant Company of those intending to go has been formed in Worcester County, and others in other States.

In view of the establishment by such agencies of a new Free State in that magnificent region, it is unnecessary to dwell in detail on the advantages which this enterprise holds out to the country at large.

It determines in the right way the institutions of the unsettled Territories, in less time than the discussion of them has required in Congress. It opens to those who are in want in the Eastern States, a home and a competence, without the suffering hitherto incident to emigration. For the Company is the pioneer,—and provides, before the settler arrives, the conveniences which he first requires. Such a removal of an over-crowded population, is one of the greatest advantages to Eastern cities. Again, the enterprise opens commercial advantages to the commercial States, just in proportion to the population which it creates, of free men who furnish a market to our manufactures and imports. Whether the new line of States shall be Free States or Slave States, is a question deeply interesting to those who are to provide the manufactures for their consumption. Especially will it prove an advantage to Massachusetts, if she create the new State by her foresight—supply the first necessities to its inhabitants—and open, in the outset, communications between their homes and her ports and factories.

In return for these advantages, which the Company's rapid and simple effort affords to the emigrant and to the country, its Stockholders receive that satisfaction, ranked by Lord Bacon among the very highest, of becoming founders of States,\* and, more than this,—States which are prosperous and free. They secure satisfaction by an investment which promises large returns at no distant day.

Under the plan proposed, it will be but two or three years before the Company can dispose of its property in the territory first occupied—and reimburse itself for its first expenses. At that time,—in a State of 70,000 inhabitants, it will possess several reservations of 640 acres each,—on which its boarding houses and mills stand,—and the churches and school-houses

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\* See Mr. Everett's Speech on the Nebraska Bill.



which it has rendered necessary. From these centres will the settlements of the State have radiated. In other words, these points will then be the large commercial positions of the new State. If there were only one such,—its value, after the region should be so far peopled, would make a very large dividend to the company which sold it, besides restoring its original capital, with which to enable it to attempt the same adventure elsewhere.

It is to be remembered that all accounts agree that the region of Kansas is the most desirable part of America now open to the emigrant. It is accessible in four days continuous travel from Boston. Its crops are very bountiful,—its soil being well adapted to the staples of Virginia and Kentucky, and especially to the growth of hemp. In its eastern section the woodland and prairie-land intermix in proportions very well adapted for the purposes of the settler. Its mineral resources, especially its coal, in the central and Western parts, are inexhaustible. A steamboat is already plying on the Kansas River, and the Territory has uninterrupted steamboat communication with New Orleans, and all the tributaries of the Mississippi river. All the overland emigration to California and Oregon, by any of the easier routes, passes of necessity through its limits. Whatever roads are built westward must begin in its territory. For it is here that the emigrant leaves the Missouri River. Of late years the demand for provisions and breadstuffs made by emigrants proceeding to California, has given to the inhabitants of the neighboring parts of Missouri a market at as good rates as they could have found in the Union.

It is impossible that such a region should not fill up rapidly. The Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Company proposes to give confidence to settlers, by giving system to emigration. By dispelling the fears that Kansas will be a Slave State,—the Company will remove the only bar which now hinders its occupation by free settlers. It is to be hoped that similar companies will be found in other Free States. The enterprise is of that character, that for those who first enter it, the more competition the better.

It is recommended that the first settlement made by the Directors, shall receive the name of that city in this Commonwealth which shall have subscribed most liberally to the capital stock of the Company, in proportion to its last decennial valuation; and that the second settlement be named from the city next in order so subscribing.



It is recommended that a meeting of the Stockholders be called on the first Wednesday in June, to organize the Company for one year; and that the incorporators, at this time, make a temporary organization, with power to obtain subscriptions to the stock and make any necessary preliminary arrangements.

**ELI THAYER,**  
*For the Committee.*

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# NEBRASKA AND KANSAS.

BY ONE WHO HAS BEEN THERE.

The following letters; descriptive of some portions of the territories of Nebraska and Kansas, copied from the Worcester Spy, are said to be from the pen of DR. CHARLES ROBINSON, of Fitchburg, who visited those territories in 1849.

## NUMBER 1.

In the *Spy*, some time since, I noticed a call, anonymously signed, for a meeting of persons interested in the settlement of the proposed new territories of Kansas and Nebraska, to be held at the City Hall in Worcester. Having spent several weeks on the eastern border of those territories as well as having passed through their entire length in 1849, and believing them to be the very garden of the world, for situation and fertility of soil, as well as for loveliness of climate and scenery, I am deeply interested for their future condition; and, as I am often questioned upon the subject, I propose to pen a brief, general description of the country for your columns.

The situation of this territory, as all are aware, is in the very heart of the country, it being about 2000 miles from its eastern boundary to the Atlantic at Boston; and also the same distance to the Pacific Ocean. It is connected with the finest commercial emporiums of the West and South, by the Missouri, Mississippi, and Ohio rivers, and thence to every State, and important city in the Union, by Steamboat or Railroad communication. The great Pacific Railroad, will undoubtedly pass through this whole territory, thus opening a more direct route to California, and Oregon, as well as make one of the links in the great chain of steam communication that is soon to girdle the whole earth. When this road is built, and a line of Steamships established between San Francisco, and China, it will be the great thoroughfare for the commerce of Europe, and the United States, with Asia, as well as between the Atlantic and Pacific States. So far, then, from being out of the world, as some seem to suppose,



Nebraska is *geographically* in the centre of the most important country on the globe, and will soon be so, *politically and commercially*, if saved from that curse of all commerce and politics, *slavery*.

The soil of Nebraska, for the most part, is unsurpassed for richness and depth, by any in the world. True, in some parts, as near the mountains, and some other places, it is thin and sandy, but for hundreds of miles from the Missouri State line, not an acre of waste or poor land was to be seen on our route. The land is gently rolling, thus giving an endless variety to the scenery, as well as ridding the country of all low marshes, swamps, and stagnant pools of water, so productive of malaria and disease. Lest it should be thought that this is written for effect at the present time, and, therefore, the representation too strong, I will quote upon this subject, a line from my journal written on the spot, in April, 1849, after visiting the Wyandott tribe of Indians in this territory, as follows: "The land they occupy is immensely rich and very beautiful. All this region, both the Indian territory and this side of the Kansas river, (in Missouri,) is superior to any I ever saw for cultivation, and if it were occupied by New England society, I would never think of visiting California." The soil is not only rich, but well watered. Not only are the clouds more prodigal of their treasures than at Salt Lake Valley, and in California, during the summer season, but streams of pure water are to be found, at short intervals, in every direction. These streams are almost invariably skirted with timber, in the eastern portion of the territory, and can afford water power in abundance, for every kind of manufactures.

Of the climate, scenery, &c. &c., I may say something hereafter, as well as give some quotations from my journal, kept while travelling through the territory in question, should you think this worth publishing.

#### NUMBER 2.

Agreeably to my promise, I will say a word of the climate, scenery, &c., of the proposed new territories of Nebraska and Kansas. This vast tract of country, extending, as it does, as far south as the southern borders of Virginia and Kentucky, and as far north as the northern portion of the Canadas, must, of course, have a variety of climates; but it is of that portion lying in the latitude of Ohio and southern New York, I propose to speak. In this latitude, the climate is agreeably mild and



healthy, not subject to extremes, either of heat or cold. In summer, although the thermometer may stand at eighty or a hundred degrees, the heat is not oppressive, owing to a gentle breeze, that rises in the early part of the day, and continues till late in the afternoon. This breeze is nearly as regular in its appearance as are the trade winds on the Pacific coast, and is as pure and healthful; hence, whatever damps, fogs, or noxious gases, of any kind, may have been generated during the night, they are early displaced by the wholesome air from the distant snow-capped mountains. It is, doubtless, owing to this free circulation of the air, that the cholera,—which proves so fatal in the heavy wooded bottoms of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, whenever that disease visits this country—seldom or never seeks its victims in the open prairies of this territory. Such was the case in 1849, and also in 1835, according to the testimony of a missionary at Council Bluffs, in that year. The climate of Nebraska varies, not only in the different latitudes, but also in the different altitudes. While on its eastern borders no frost can be found, and the grass is from three to nine inches in height the first of May, on its *western*, near the "South Pass" of the Rocky Mountains, ice in abundance may be found in the middle of June, and on the mountain tops are perpetual snows.

The scenery of this territory is as varied as the climate. The monotonous level of the river bottoms, the beautiful rolling prairies, the picturesque bluffs of the Platte, the grand and stately piles of granite on the sweet Water, and the sublime heights of the Rocky Mountains, afford sufficient variety to feast a lover of Nature a lifetime. There is probably no other country, of the same extent, that contains so much variety and beauty of scenery as this, neither is there any country that has scenery like it in many of its characteristics. The scenery of the Platte, in the vicinity of Scott's Bluffs, stands unrivalled, and unapproached, even in the picturesque. It is not only *sui generis*, unlike every other in character, but surpassingly beautiful. Rev. Samuel Parker, in describing the bluffs on the Platte, says: "Many of them are very high, with perpendicular sides, and in every imaginable form. Some appeared like strong fortifications, with high citadels; some like stately edifices, with lofty towers; I had never before seen anything like them of clay formation. And what adds to their beauty is, that the clay of which they are composed is nearly white. Such is the smoothness, and regularity, and whiteness of the perpendicular sides and offsets, and such the regularity of their straight and



curved lines, that one can hardly believe that they are not the work of art."

This is but a very imperfect outline of the background of the picture that extends for miles, while the Platte, with its wide and rich bottom, constitutes the foreground. But, though the lovers of nature and the beautiful, while Time shall last, will bow in adoration at this shrine, and the curious and fashionable shall make it their resort, yet, few of the emigrants of this generation will make it their home. The scenery that most attracts such men is found nearer, in the eastern portion of this territory, where the deep virgin soil of the rolling prairie invites the plough and spade. To give some idea of this scenery, I will quote my impressions, as they were pencilled, while travelling through the territory, south of the Kansas river.

May 11th. Our course, to-day, has been over the rolling prairie, and we passed along without difficulty. The prairie seems to be an endless succession of rolls, with a smooth, green surface, dotted all over with most beautiful flowers. The soil is of the most rich and fertile character, with no waste land. The feelings that come over a person, as he first views this immense ocean of land, are indescribable. As far as the eye can reach, he sees nothing but a beautiful green carpet, save here and there perhaps a cluster of trees; he hears nothing but the feathered songsters of the air, and he *feels* nothing but a solemn awe in view of this infinite display of creative power.

13th. Turned out this morning at 4 o'clock, to watch the cattle. Went upon a high roll of land where I had an extensive and enchanting of this, seemingly, boundless and ever varying prairie. The sun is rising out of this sea of land in the east, a line of timber skirts Cedar Creek to the N. E., also Spoon Creek to the N. W., while still further on, in the same direction, is seen a thick fog, marking the course of the Kansas river. All is still save the grazing of the cattle, and the concert of birds, which is composed of a great variety of songsters. The cooing of the prairie hens, heard in every direction, constitutes the base; the loud cawing of the crows, the tenor; the fine sweet voices of the ground and small birds, the treble; and a noise as of distant wild geese, the alto.

23rd. Passed a beautiful little creek of pure, cold water, about 12 M., where we found a newly made grave. Ascended a high bluff near the creek, where I had a most delightful view of the country to a great distance. I was reminded of the view of the Connecticut River Valley from Mt. Holyoke. There is this



difference, however: while one is circumscribed by hills and forests, the other is illimitable in extent, and stretches from the rising to the setting sun; and while one is striped and checked with cornfields and meadows like a carpet, the other is capable of being checked as numerously with States and nations.

At some distance north of our route, Mr. Parker describes the country as follows:

“For about twenty-five miles since we crossed the Elkhorn, and between this river and the Platte, which are about ten miles apart, there is not a single hill. It is rich bottom land, covered with a luxuriant growth of grass. No country could be more inviting to the farmer, with only one exception—the want of woodland. The latitude is sufficiently high to be healthy; and as the climate grows warmer as we travel west, until we approach the snow-topped mountains, there is a degree of mildness not experienced east of the Alleghany mountains. The time will come, and probably is not far distant, when this country will be covered with a dense population \* \* \* Then this amazing extent of most fertile land will not continue to be the wandering ground of a few thousand Indians, with only a *very few* acres under cultivation; nor will millions of tons of grass grow up to rot upon the ground, or to be burned up with the fire enkindled to sweep over the prairie, to disincumber it of its spontaneous burden. The herds of buffalo that once fattened upon these meadows are gone, and the deer that once cropped the grass have disappeared, and the antelopes have fled away, and shall solitude reign here till the end of time? No; here shall be heard the din of business, and the church-going bell shall sound far and wide. The question is, by whom shall this region of country be inhabited? It is plain that the Indians, under their present circumstances, will never multiply and fill this land. They must be brought under the influence of civilization and Christianity, or they will continue to melt away, until nothing will remain of them but relics found in museums, and some historical records.”

This was written in 1835, and Mr. Parker's predictions seem about to be fulfilled, and this garden of Eden is about to be re-occupied by the descendants of Adam; and God grant that they may remember that all the nations that dwell upon all the face of the earth are made of *one* blood.

### NUMBER 3.

I propose in this letter to show why, in my judgment, the ter-



territories of Nebraska and Kansas offer greater inducements to the emigrant than most, if not all other localities in the West. There is, however, one objection to some parts of this territory, and that is a scarcity of wood. The fires that annually sweep over the prairies prevent the growth of timber, except along the river courses, where the grass does not become sufficiently dry to burn readily. But this objection does not apply with much force, so far as the present is concerned, for in many places there is a sufficiency for at least one generation of settlers, and ample provision can be made for the future, by planting forests, and protecting them from fires. Besides, coal has been known to exist in this region for a long time, as well as in Missouri, where Hinton says it is found in "immense strata." With beds of coal within and around it, Nebraska can afford to have its soil devoted to wheat fields and pastures, since it is to become a part of the great granary of the world.

One advantage Nebraska has over other places in the West, in addition to those before named, is its market. The best market for the West is California. That State, while the mines continue, which will be at least a century, will depend chiefly, for articles of consumption, upon its neighbors; for, unless flour should bring from fifteen to twenty dollars a barrel, it will not pay to raise it, where wages are from three to five dollars a day. As soon as the Pacific Railroad is completed, California will be almost wholly supplied with breadstuffs from the Western States and Territories this side of the Rocky Mountains; and, as this territory is nearer than any other grain-growing territory or State, of course it will have the advantage accordingly.—When we take into consideration what the population of California is soon to be—that San Francisco is soon to be one of the great centres of commerce, and contain a population exceeding that of the whole State at present, some just estimate of its value as a market may be made. It is well known that the shipping of flour from the Atlantic cities to California is a losing business generally; in the first place, because of the great distance, and consequent high freights; and, in the second, because probably one-half of all that is thus sent gets damaged, hence all purchasers are suspicious of American flour, and it must be sold, the best of it, below the market price of good flour. Consequently, Chili can afford to raise wheat to supply this market, although paying a tariff of twenty per cent., I think, ad valorem. Nebraska soil can raise as much wheat to the acre as that of Chili, or any other country, and when the railroad shall



be built, the freight to San Francisco will be as low ; and, with the disadvantage of the twenty per cent. duty, Chili will be driven from the market, leaving the Nebraska farmer far ahead of all competitors. Even at the present time, the market for flour, on the borders of this territory, is equal to almost any in the West, on account of the annual emigration to California, across the country ; and when the ground is broken on the Pacific Railroad, and thousands of workmen are scattered along its course, it will be still better. In 1849, flour at Salt Lake Valley was twenty cents a pound, and other things in proportion ; and, although this was probably an unusual price, yet there is no fear for a want of a market, so long as the emigration continues. Beside the Missouri river, and the railroad across that State, afford ready access to St. Louis, Cincinnati, New Orleans, &c., for any excess over the demand at home.

Also, for stock raising, what State or country can compete with Nebraska ? There is no limit to the pasturage, and every man may keep his thousands of cattle, without encroaching upon his neighbor. Cattle, in the more Southern portion of the territory, will winter themselves in the open prairie, and fatten themselves during the summer. The market for live stock is better even than for grain, as thousands every year, are driven from the Western States, by the over-land route to California, where I am informed by a gentleman who returned from that State in December last, oxen bring from \$200 to \$400, a yoke, and other cattle in proportion. The wild cattle of Northern California having been nearly all slaughtered, the States east of the Rocky Mountains are relied upon, chiefly, to supply the markets of that State ; hence there is and will be a better market in Nebraska and Kansas, for all kinds of cattle, than in Ohio or any other Western State.

Another reason why this territory is the most desirable for emigrants is that the land is not, like much of the valuable land of the West, in the hands of speculators. While in the States, the settler must take an undescribable location, and far removed from any settlement, or pay an exorbitant price for his land, in Nebraska the most desirable situations can be had at the Government price. No sooner is a settlement made in the vicinity of this territory, than that the land is worth from ten to fifty dollars an acre, and, of course, if not taken by the actual settlers, it is by speculators, and hence the desirableness of emigrants going in companies, or under the auspices of a company in order that land may be secured in a settlement, at the first cost



## NUMBER 4.

As I am frequently questioned about the inhabitants and settlements on the Western border of Missouri, and about the Indians in the Kansas and Nebraska territory, I will say a word in reference to them. As I shall write chiefly of such men and things as came under my own observation, it will be, for the most part, merely a transcript of my journal.

APRIL 10, 1854.—Arrived at Kansas, on the Missouri river, at its junction with the Kansas River, where we take up our abode for the present. We take our meals, (about forty of us,) at a log hotel, for two dollars a week per head, and sleep in a storage building, finding our own beds. Our fare is chiefly bacon, or smoked pork—sides and all—bread and molasses, and eggs, with occasionally a taste of fresh beef. There are better hotels in the place, but this is near the landing, and the warehouse where our "plunder," as the Missourians call our baggage, is stored, and hence we patronize it. Kansas is a small town, adjoining the Indian, (Kansas,) territory, built upon rolling land, containing about eight hundred inhabitants. The houses are built, some of logs, some of brick, and some of framed timber and boards. It contains three hotels—one to represent each class of houses—those of logs, brick, and timber, and several stores, besides six or eight doctors, and a school house, used on Sundays for a church.

Soon after landing, I rode, with some of the company, to Independence, thirteen miles, for letters. The road was through a most delightful country, with a rich, deep, and fertile soil. The surface is gently rolling, covered with oak, black walnut, white, and cotton wood timber. As we rode through the woods it seemed like an extensive grove, as there are but few underbrush, or low limbs, upon the trees, and the traveller can see quite a distance in all directions. The roads are self-made, and are never repaired. If they become bad in any place, or a tree falls across them, the remedy is to strike out a new path among the trees, without expense to town or county. On the road to Independence are many farms under cultivation, and the owners appear to be in easy and prosperous circumstances.

Independence, about six miles from the Missouri River, and twelve miles from the Indian territory, in a direct line, is the shire town of Jackson County, Mo., and contains a court house, some large and elegant hotels, numerous stores, and perhaps two thousand inhabitants. As we pass the court house, the sheriff comes to the door and calls out, at the top of his voice, three



times, for somebody "to come into court." About one thousand emigrants are encamped at this place, preparing for their journey "across the plains." Mules and oxen, for teams, may be had here, the first for fifty or seventy-five dollars each, and the last at the same for a pair.

APRIL 12. Last night we were saluted by the yells of four Indians, from Wyandott city, over the line. They were on a spree, and made night hideous with their shouts. There was one female among them, and all were drunk. They prostitute their squaws for whiskey, when they cannot get it without. It is against the law for any white man to sell them liquor, hence what they obtain they get privately. The agent of the government, residing among the Wyandotts, and others, is a physician from Ohio, and came up on the boat with us, and I have had frequent conversation with him about the Indians, the country, &c., &c.

13th.—To-day is rainy, and no work has been done by the company. Had a long talk with Dr.——, the Indian agent, upon slavery, politics, &c. He said the abolitionists had made bad work with the missions among the Indians, as some of the church members were slave holders. He thinks the North ought not to agitate the question, and felt very sensitive upon the subject. He said he had sent away one missionary because he was an abolitionist, and the missionary had gone to Washington to try to get him removed from his agency, but he had no fears of the result.

SUNDAY, 15th. Visited Wyandott city, the residence of the Wyandott Indians, and attended their church. The missionary was not at home, and we had the pleasure of having a *talk* from two of the natives, in their own language. The meeting was very orderly, and conducted with more propriety than they usually are in N. E. There was not a whisper or smile during the whole service. The speakers seemed very much engaged, and the hearers interested. The meeting house is situated in the forest, with no other building near, and seems just the place in which the Child of Nature should worship Nature's God. The house is of brick, and will seat upon benches three or four hundred persons. The seats are made of logs, split and hewn in a rough manner, supported by legs of round sticks. The congregation numbered about fifty persons, of all ages. The women wore dresses like Americans, with kerchiefs about their heads. The nation numbers about eight hundred persons, of all colors, from jet black to the delicate pale face. They came from



Ohio, and live by cultivating the soil. Like the Americans, they have all classes, from the strictly temperate and virtuous, to the most degraded wretches on earth. The land they occupy is immensely rich, &c.

In my next letter, this subject will be continued.

### NUMBER 5.

KANSAS, MO., APRIL, 17, 1849.—Our landlord, at the Kansas House, has been drunk several days, and the company are dissatisfied with their board. A meeting of the company was held this morning, when it was voted that each member be allowed two dollars a week, and secure his own board. After the meeting, I started into the woods, to seek a boarding place more congenial to my feelings and *taste*. Three miles from Kansas, I came to a farmhouse, where I engaged board for myself and ten members of our company, at \$1,50 per week. Our new landlord, Mr. H., and his wife, are very agreeable, and the accommodations good. The situation is very pleasant, being a clearing in the woods, of about fifty acres of land, most of which is under cultivation. The house is two stories, with an L and slave apartment attached. The barn is not larger than a common New England corn barn, and is used for a granary, and to shelter the horses only, the cattle being obliged to take care of themselves, with the help of a little corn fodder, and the like, which they must eat in the open air. The young stock, and such as are not wanted for labor, or the dairy, are driven a few miles out to the prairie, and left to obtain their own subsistence.

Mr. H. has four slaves, three females and one male. He is apparently a kind master, and has but little trouble with them. The young slaves appear to enjoy themselves pretty well, and to be ignorant of their condition; but the older wear a sad expression upon their countenances, and cast an imploring look upon strangers, as much as to say, "Kind sir, is my case hopeless?" They appear as though they were conscious that there was an impassable gulf fixed between them and the rest of the world.

18th.—Amused myself this evening by noting down some of the provincialisms of the Western people. Mr. H. had friends with him from Kentucky, and the following are some of the remarks: "We had a right smart chance of sledding last winter." "A powerful pretty piece of land." "Looked like it was a heap good flour." "A heap of springs were dry last summer." "There was a heap of wind last night." "A right smart horse." "I had saw the big ox of Kentucky before I seed



the one in Ohio." "I knowed him well." "I toted my plunder (baggage) to the boat." "A right smart sprinkling of bears." "I got shet of him." "He is powerful weak to-day." "A mighty little calf."

19th.—Visited Wesport, four miles south of Kansas, and near the line of the territory. This is a small, but enterprising town, with about five hundred inhabitants, to appearance. Here are saddlers, blacksmiths, and other mechanics, with nearly everything needed for an outfit to California. Business is very brisk, on account of the great number of emigrants fitting out here. Our company complete their purchases here, excepting their flour, which they will get at the Baptist Mission, four miles farther on our route, in the Indian Territory.

In the evening, two of our company amused themselves by singing a few pieces from the N. E. Glee Book, which quite astonished the natives, who said they had not heard such good singing before, and thought the singers would do better to give concerts than to go to California. After this our singers were in great demand, particularly when our host had company.

Soon after our company left boarding at the Kansas House, the cholera, which had accompanied us up the river, made its appearance in Kansas, and one night, ten persons in the village died. The next day the wind, which the day before blew up the river, changed and came from the north-west, and no cases of cholera occurred; but the day following there was another change in the direction of the wind, and several persons were attacked. During the prevalence of this disease on the Missouri River bottom, the emigrants removed their encampments to the open lands, where it did not follow them. Our physician was in great demand, as he was more successful in this disease than the resident physicians, and by a request of the people, he met the physicians of the place, and gave them his course of treatment. When the company were about to leave, he was urgently requested to remain, and was promised his board and the keeping of his horse for a year, gratis, and all the business he could do, if he would stay. Notwithstanding some of the Southern and Western people affect to look upon the New Englanders, as a set of bigoted *laborers*, they are very ready to accept of their services and skill, when danger threatens them, and, in fact, the Yankees who settle among them, in spite of all prejudice that some may feel, are the most enterprising and successful men to be found in the community.

On the tenth of May, our company had everything in readi-



ness for the journey, except the flour, which we obtained at the mill of the Baptist Mission. The trading at this Mission was done by the missionary, who seemed as capable of looking after the temporal interests of his flock as the spiritual. He wished to learn how to treat the cholera, should it appear in his fold, and, in exchange for the information received from our physician, gave us some recipes for curing the fever and ague, which he professed to be able to treat with success. We received a very favorable account of the Indians among whom he labored, and everything indicated comfort, contentment, and general prosperity. Not far distant from this station is a large brick building, which I did not visit, said to be a flouring mill, belonging to the Methodist Mission. The country about here is exceedingly beautiful, and the land would have long since been taken up by white settlers, if allowed by the Government.

#### NUMBER 6.

Ninety-three miles, by our reckoning, from Wesport, the last town in Missouri, is the upper crossing of the Kansas River, where is a ferry kept by half-breed Indians. There is another crossing lower down the river, (twelve miles, I think,) where there are also ferry boats. At the upper crossing, near the river, is the Pottawatomie trading post and village, and two or three stores. The business at the ferry, and at the stores, was transacted by half-breeds, some of whom could talk English very well. The village is very pleasantly situated, and presented a neat and inviting appearance. A few graves near by were guarded by a railing, and within the enclosure was a cross, the fruits, doubtless, of the Catholic Mission eight miles distant. Several Indians from the village, visited our camp for the purpose of obtaining whiskey, and *swapping* horses. About the only words they could speak, of English, were, *whisk*, for whiskey, and *swap*; but these, with their gestures, were sufficient to enable them to make known their wants. Our wagons were taken upon the ferry-boats by hand, and the oxen crossed about a mile above by fording. The current was quite swift, and the water, in some places, deep. The river bottom, at this place, is heavily wooded on either side, and the soil, as usual, very rich.

Eight miles farther on is the Catholic Mission, which is less inviting in its appearance. The place contains about a half a dozen log houses, but no store or mechanic's shop, of any kind. The Indians are supported chiefly by the annuity they receive



from the government, and appear to be a shiftless and thriftless race of beings. There was about being erected, at this place, a large church, the timber for which was already on the site, I had an interview with the Priest, who is an agreeable person, and gave us much information about his charge, and the Indians generally. The Chief of the Pottawatomies, whom I met here, is a half-breed, and quite intelligent, speaking English readily. This tribe and the Pawnees are at variance, and the Pottawatomies were about raising an army to drive the Pawnees from their vicinity. The Chief said, a year ago, in 1848, the Pottawatomies attempted to form a treaty of peace with the Pawnees, which the latter would consent to on condition that they would use their influence to effect a like treaty between them (the Pawnees and the Kickapoos.) This was agreed to, and the warriors of the Kickapoos, Kaws, and Soux were assembled, and marched with the Pottawatomies to the residence of the Pawnee Chief, shook hands, and changed position with him, as is their custom when they wish to signify perfect friendship. If peace is doubtful, they advance, salute each other, and then withdraw to their own party. After the salutation of the Chiefs, the Pawnee warriors advanced to greet the warriors of the different nations, till they came to a Kaw whose father had been killed when attempting to make peace with the Pawnees. He said he could not make peace with them that day, and immediately commenced firing upon them, when all rushed to arms, except the Pottawatomies, who retreated at a slow pace, without firing, it being contrary to custom to run or fire a gun when on a mission of peace. But after the Pawnees had pursued and fired upon them for the distance of a half a mile, they then turned upon them with a shout, and killed fifteen men and thirty horses. Thus ended the affair, till last fall, the Pawnees, stole from them thirty of their best horses, and recently six more.

He warned us to beware of the Pawnees, as they were hostile to emigrants, and might attack us, five or six hundred strong. He said their method of attack was, to rush upon a company when least prepared for them, and frighten off their cattle with the most hideous yells. They usually prefer a severe thunder-storm, or a very dark night, for their operations. If the mules and horses are tied, a few will stealthily pass among them, and cut their ropes, when others rush in behind, and frighten them off.

About three miles beyond the Catholic Mission, I saw about a dozen Indians, but none, after that, till we had crossed the



South fork of the Platte, a distance of three hundred and forty-six miles. Not only were there no Indians in sight, but no traces of them were to be seen on the route, except in one instance, there was seen a bright light, at a distance across the Platte, below its forks, and a noise was heard, which was attributed to Indians. About one hundred and thirty miles beyond Fort Childs, we met about forty Sioux Indians, who had paraded themselves across the road, with two large United States flags unfurled. In personal appearance they were superior to any we had seen, being well formed and good looking, especially the females. They solicited tribute of all passers by, as well as traded horses, larietts, or halters and trinkets. The Indians along the upper Platte lead wandering lives, moving from place to place, as inclination may lead them. According to Mr. Parker, their lodges are composed of eight or ten poles, about eighteen feet long, set up in a circular form; the small ends are fastened together, making an apex, and the large ends are spread out, so as to enclose an area of about twenty feet in diameter. The whole is covered with their coarse skins, which are elk or buffalo, taken when they are not good for robes. A fire is made in the centre, a hole being left in the top of the lodge for the smoke to pass out.

Mr. Parker says these Indians appear friendly, not only to white men, but also towards each other. He saw no quarrelling among them. Their minds are above the ordinary stamp, and the forms of their persons are fine. Many of them are "nature's grenadiers." The women, also, are well formed, their voices are soft and expressive, and their movements graceful. I was, he says, agreeably surprised to see tall young chiefs, well-dressed, in their mode, leading by the arm their ladies. In decency and politeness, as well as in many other particulars, they differ from those Indians on our frontiers, who have had more intercourse with bad white men, and who have had access to whiskey.



The following description of the territory of Nebraska is copied from a recent number of the *Newburyport (Mass.) Herald*:

### NEBRASKA.

Until within a few years, to civilized men this name was unknown. Nebraska is derived from the Indian name of the great river that flows into the Missouri, near Council Bluff, which the French call the Platte, and which is so designated on the maps. On the north-east flows the Missouri; on the west are the Rocky Mountains, which separate it from Utah; and south it comes down to 36 deg. 30 min. It is from 300 to 350 miles from north to south, and runs back from Missouri, 240 miles; and has almost a half million of square miles of territory. It is one of the finest lands that the sun shines on in all his course through the heavens. Its location, its climate, its soil, its vegetable productions, and its mineral wealth, all invite the free pioneers and the hardy laborers.

The rivers running through it are numerous, serving as highways from the upper country, and offering an easy transportation to the corn and wheat—the hemp and tobacco—the coal and the iron—the timber and the stone—in fine, for the products of its fields that would feed the world—the wealth of its mines, just coming to light, and the building materials that everywhere abound. The Missouri is navigable nearly all the year, for first class steamboats; the Kansas for two hundred miles navigable for boats; and the beautiful Platte, and numerous smaller streams, abundantly supply it with water.

For two hundred miles west of Missouri, what constitutes the valley of the territory—the soil is a deep black loam, in richness equalling any portion of the United States, and capable of supporting a great population. For a grain country the lands of Ohio and Michigan are as far behind this as New England is behind them; and within twenty years flour will come down the Missouri river for exportation to all parts of the world, in such quantities as we have never dreamed of. Nature has been for ages garnering up her fertilizing properties there, and from one period to another, through untold times, gathering strength that she might pour abundance into the barns of the first settlers. The valley of the Platte for two hundred and fifty miles, is exceeding fertile; and the ridges between the Arkansas and Kansas, and the Kansas and Platte—especially the latter—are capable of yielding immense crops. For the last hundred miles



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towards the mountains the land is less desirable, but all through it are charming valleys, where labor would obtain an easy and a fair reward. As the higher region is dry and covered throughout with buffalo grass, for wool growing it is particularly adapted.

The climate is as inviting to the settler as the soil. The weather is less changeable than on the Atlantic slope, and the winters commencing in December terminate before March; while the winds that sweep down from the Rocky Mountains carry health and vigor to all the living creation.

No part of our country is of greater importance in itself than Nebraska; nor is there any section that requires, or would have a more rapid settlement. To Utah, New Mexico, California, and Oregon, there are now passing and repassing from fifty to a hundred thousand persons annually. Great numbers of these persons would settle on the way, if the country was open to settlers, and especially would this be the case, if the Pacific Railroad should take the middle route. The settlements would soon extend all along the great thoroughfares, and the advantages arising therefrom would be very great. There may at present be something like a thousand white inhabitants. The principal part of these are at Fort Leavenworth, on the Missouri River, and are Officers, Soldiers, Mechanics, Teamsters and Farmers, connected with the army.

Most of the lands in the eastern section are Indian reservations; and here are the remnants of twenty-eight distinct tribes, most of them removed from the north-west, under the act of Congress in 1830, for the extinguishment of the titles to their native soil. Since that day they have been undisturbed in their new homes, though they have made but slight advancement in civilized life, and many of them have almost entirely wasted away, and now cultivate but a small portion of their lands: as, for instance, the Delawares who own 2,200,000 acres, do not cultivate 1000. Our pledge to them was, that they should be undisturbed forever. But when that pledge was made, California was not settled, and overland emigration had not commenced; and it is not now possible to prevent the invasion of the country by the whites. If the bill, therefore, does not pass, and they remain, constantly will they be in contact with the whites, and constantly will their numbers diminish. If the bill should pass, a second removal will be their destruction.

We might wish the fate of the Indian to be different—but it is irrevocable; we may mourn to have them blotted out from

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among the peoples, but it is unavoidable. The providence of God brings about unexpected events, and one comes and another goes by his will; nor could we wish the progress of the world staid for a race irreclaimably lost in heathenism, and capable only of learning the vices of civilization. Who would say that the State of Maine should never be settled because a few Penobscot Indians yet exist, who might lay claim to it? No more should the great States of the Northwest be lost from such a consideration. The government has done, and will do, all that they can for their comfort. It will purchase lands which are worthless to them, and which they cannot retain of themselves. Mr. Many-penny, Indian Commissioner, was last year sent to negotiate with them. He held councils with tribes, numbering only 11,384 persons, owning 23,220,480 acres of land. Other tribes, numbering 11,597 persons, owning 18,399,200 acres, were not visited. Most of them are ready to sell and remove further towards the setting sun; and while the territory is thus opened to the white man, they will for a time be beyond trouble from immigrants.

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The article which follows is taken from the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, and was published a day or two after the Committee of the Legislature had reported in favor of granting a Charter to the Emigrant Aid Company.

### EMIGRANT AID COMPANY.

We are glad to find that some practical measures are in progress for assistance to the great emigration westward, which takes place every summer. There are many obvious reasons why that emigration should not be left to the difficulties and want of system, which cannot be prevented in the movements of individuals.

A petition is in circulation to the Legislature, for the incorporation of a company whose object is to facilitate emigration to the distant territories of the Government. At the present moment, a combined emigration to the valley of the Missouri and Kansas Rivers, will be an object which seems especially desired.

We have for many years expressed the wish, that some arrangement should be made to protect, by the guarantee of a responsible company, emigrants bound westward, from the frauds



of irresponsible ticket brokers in the large cities. Never has a movement so large as that from Europe to our Western States, been left so completely unprotected to the rapacity of unprincipled men.

A letter, from one of our most distinguished merchants, says:

“The competition of the different Railroads to the West, promises to destroy one *giant* fraud upon the emigrant, viz: the impositions of the various inland packet and forwarding companies. For one item, it was estimated a year or two since, that the *scalpers*, as they were then called, realized \$500,000 profit in one year, out of the emigrants who passed through Buffalo.”

He then remarks, and very truly, as we conceive, that neither law nor philanthropy can contend with such rapacity. “It takes *commerce* to deal with evils like this.” As another letter from the same source has said to us—“Benevolence may point the way, and law help to regulate the abuses, but when you are dealing with an emigration of 400,000 people, you must make your scheme of benevolence a profitable one, or it will only go a mile while the enemy goes round the globe.” To prevent such abuses, in a business way, and by business arrangements, is one of the objects of the new company.

In providing proper arrangements for the safe transfer of American and Foreign emigrants to the West, the Emigrant Aid Company has another object in view. This is, to induce such emigrants, in large numbers, to settle in the new territory of Kansas, and to secure its freedom forever. One of our correspondents says of this region, that “it is the finest country out doors,” and official accounts confirm this statement. We learn, however, that single families of emigrants pass through to the more northern districts of Nebraska, simply in fear that it will become a Slave State. This fear will be ended at once and forever, by the establishment, together, of a few thousand free settlers there this summer. This, as we have before remarked, is a perfectly easy process; 250,000 persons and more, will pass from the East to the West this summer. The Emigrant Aid Company will offer facilities and inducements which will turn quite enough of them to Kansas, to settle its fundamental institutions in the right way, before Congress has ended its deliberations.

We commend the Company's petition for incorporation to the Legislature for yet another reason. The establishment of a thriving Western Colony, under Massachusetts auspices, is another link between our markets and factories and the West.



If the operations of the Company render necessary a line of packets to Germany,—it seems to us desirable, for Germany now furnishes more emigrants even than Ireland,—by so much is our foreign and domestic commerce enlarged. The establishment of such a Company negotiating between the empty paradise of the West, and the unemployed laborers of Germany must be a great commercial advantage to Massachusetts; while its efforts tend at the same time to the success of the great principles of freedom, to which she has pledged herself from the beginning.

### A PLAN FOR FREEDOM.

We invite particular attention to what follows. At the last session of the Massachusetts Legislature, an act of incorporation was granted by that body establishing an "Emigrant Aid Society," with a capital of five millions of dollars. The bill was passed without a dissenting voice.

The incorporators met at the State House, in Boston, on the 4th day of May, accepted the charter, and appointed a committee to report a plan of operations. That Committee consisted of Eli Thayer, Alex. H. Bullock and E. E. Hale of Worcester, and Richard Hildreth and Otis Clapp of Boston. The meeting adjourned to the 12th inst., when it again met, and received the report of its Committee.

In pursuance of the last recommendation, the incorporators made a temporary organization by the choice of Eli Thayer of Worcester, Mass., President pro-tem, and Otis Clapp, of Boston, Secretary, and opened books of subscription to the stock of the Company in Boston, Worcester, and New York. Previously, however, a public meeting was held at Worcester, on the subject, at which letters were received from a number of distinguished gentlemen in Congress, warmly approving the project. Among them was one from Senator Wade of Ohio, which, as best embodying the spirit of the whole, we lay before the reader:

WASHINGTON, April 27, 1854.

DEAR SIR: Your favor came to hand this morning. The subject of your letter is of the utmost importance to the interests of the free States. It presents also, a feature, so far as I know, entirely *new* in the non-slaveholding States; it shows a re-awakening of the northern people to the *propagandism of liberty*, as



an offset to the counter propagandism of Slavery by the slave States. I need not say that, after a twenty years' service in the endeavor to awaken the people of my own State to the encroachments of Slavery, it gives me the sincerest pleasure to know that the people of my *native* State (old Massachusetts) are now "up and doing," in the good cause.

I regret to say, that such is the state of business before Congress, that I do not feel at liberty to leave my post here, although my inclinations are exceedingly strong, to forgo this duty, for the more pleasant, but less pressing one of attending your Convention. Feeling the deepest interest in, and desire for the success of your Convention, I remain,

Respectfully your obedient servant,

EDWARD WADE.

Such, in brief, is the plan offered to the earnest and philanthropic men of the free States, who desire to prevent the spread of Slavery into Kansas and Nebraska, and to secure the early admission of those territories into the Union as free States. To all those who are anxious to do something in the present crisis to repair the wrong just committed at Washington, it offers a wide and hopeful field of effort. Here is abundant opportunity for all who have money to invest, or hearts to labor in the great cause of Freedom. The scheme strikes us as singularly well adapted to secure the objects in view. Properly managed, and in the hands of discreet and responsible men, it cannot fail to accomplish the noble and generous purpose at which it aims, and at the same time it promises to eventually return to every contributor all of its original outlay, with a handsome recompense for its use. From this plan thus briefly shadowed forth, we entertain a confident hope of the most satisfactory results, and cordially commend it to public attention.

It will be seen that a meeting of the stockholders is to be held on the first Wednesday of June, at Boston. Meantime, subscriptions can be made by those who desire to do so, at the office of this paper, either by letter or person. The co-operation of the friends of the enterprise in this city is earnestly desired, and a gentleman from Massachusetts is now in town for the purpose of obtaining it. It is expected that, after the permanent organization of the Company is effected, on the 7th of June, public meetings will be held in Boston and this City, and elsewhere, to further the objects of the undertaking. The spirit which has been aroused throughout the free States by the perfidy of our rulers, is such that we cannot entertain a doubt that, un-



der proper auspices, the Society in question will not only enlist the co-operation of our principal cities, but that of the enumerable flourishing towns and villages scattered throughout the free States.

But we cannot too earnestly impress upon the minds of the movers in this work, the absolute necessity of such an organization, in point of character, as will raise the association entirely above every shadow of a suspicion of improper management, or of its having any objects in view but those of the most disinterested, honorable and lofty character. Such a taint would be fatal. But, totally freed from everything of the sort, and under the control of energetic men, it is difficult to set bounds to the amount of usefulness it may be instrumental in conferring upon our common country.—*New York Tribune, May 29th.*

#### THE PLAN FOR FREEDOM.

The colonization of Kansas and Nebraska by free men, determined to exclude Slavery from those territories, and as auxiliary thereto, the immediate organization and active co-operation of the EMIGRANT AID SOCIETY proposed in yesterday's TRIBUNE, has been eagerly seized upon by some of our best and most distinguished citizen, and a private preliminary meeting will be immediately held in furtherance of its suggestions. The great missions of colonizing Kansas and Nebraska with a free population will, we are confident, secure a general and hearty co-operation throughout the free States. The alacrity with which the first suggestion of a feasible plan for this purpose is responded to in this city, and the tenor of the letters we are receiving from other points, testify unmistakably to the profound interest that exists on the subject in the public mind, and the universal willingness to embrace a scheme promising such wide and beneficent results. The organization of a powerful Association of large capital, in aid of the cause of human freedom, is a step in a new direction of philanthropic effort, which may well enlist the sympathies of the unselfish and benevolent, not only of this country, but of all mankind. In view of the monstrous wrongs which slavery is at this hour meditating, in view of the enormity it has but just perpetrated, the heart of every man who has one spark of humanity in his bosom, must be stirred as with the sound of a trumpet by the suggestion of a remedy so simple, so comprehensive, and so practical.



We should but insult our readers by adducing considerations in detail, at this important crisis in our national history, to induce them to engage in the great work before us. The duty to be done is rather to aid in giving the machinery, it is proposed to set in motion, a proper direction. The great labors of the world have been performed by Association. Our Societies for the spread of the Bible, and the diffusion of Christianity—and our other varied combinations for benevolent objects—all demonstrate the immense power of well-directed associate effort. If it be our duty to spread Christianity over the world, it is a precedent obligation resting on us to prepare the waste places of the earth for its reception. But what sort of Christianity can be spread over a land cursed with human Slavery? This indicates the importance in which we hold this new Association for the spread of Liberty. Let it grow and expand till it shall become the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night to the lovers of Freedom all over the earth. Its first aim is to secure Kansas and Nebraska as Free States. But when these are redeemed from the perils that now encompass them, the Society will advance upon objects of even a wider scope. Controlling the direction of the great stream of European emigration—which office it should aspire to, and may certainly reach—its opportunities for good will be co-extensive with the continent. Clothed with the moral power, enjoying the confidence, and wielding the pecuniary resources of the whole body of Anti-Slavery men in the North, which may be now reckoned as constituting nineteen-twentieths of the population, its onward course must be irresistible, and its work continue till all the Territories of this Republic are occupied by populous free States.—*New York Tribune, May 30th.*

**THE PLAN FOR FREEDOM**, which we put forth in Monday's paper already awakens an echo in the public mind. In addition to further active steps of the gentlemen in this City who have taken hold of the subject, we have received voluntary offers of subscription by letter, together with the most fervent expressions of zeal and determination from all quarters, to rally in defense of freedom, and in opposition to the gigantic schemes of aggression started by the slave power. The contest already takes the form of the People against Tyranny and Slavery. The whole crowd of slave-drivers and traitors, backed by party organization, a corrupt majority in Congress, a soulless partizan press, an Ad-