

ritories 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