

with the Delaware and other valuable lands in the State, pronounces the Ottawa the best tract of land of the same extent he has seen in Kansas. This is essentially a prairie State, although the timber is more widely diffused than in Illinois, being scattered in small bodies on the banks of the numerous streams. This reserve is, for prairie land, well timbered with black-walnut, hickory, oak, elm, cottonwood, &c. It is well watered by the Osage or Marias des Cygnes river, which meanders diagonally across the Reserve, and by its numerous tributaries. This is not a land of springs, and there are but few of any value on the Reserve, and the streams are not like the rapid, dashing torrents of mountainous countries, but are clear and running, excepting the lesser ones during a dry time. Well water is found abundantly by digging from 15 to 40 feet, and is clear and healthy, but "hard" like that of all limestone regions.

There are sections of sand stone lands in the Reserve, and first rate sand stone quarries; but lime stone is found in great abundance. It is in horizontal strata cropping out in the streams and just over the decling summit of the rolls or gentle bluffs. It intereferes very little with cultivation, showing but one or two rods in width, and winding like a ribbon across the prairie, furnishing an abundance of easily quarried material for stone fences, for burning lime and for building purposes. There are satisfactory evidences that coal will be found in abundance, as it crops out in various places on the Reserve, and one of the best mines yet opened in the State lies just off the Reserve. Salt of the best quality is manufactured at Osawatomie, ten miles distant.

#### THE TREATY.

On the 24th of June, 1862, the Ottawa Indians concluded a treaty with the United States. Its principal provisions are as follows:

1st. The Indians are to become citizens of the State and the United States

in July, 1867, and their annuities are to be commuted and paid them.

2d. The heads of families are to receive 160 acres of land each, and all other members 80 acres each. None of this land can be sold until they become citizens, and 40 acres including house and improvements, cannot be sold during the life time of the owner.

3d. There are then to be located twenty thousand acres of average lands for school purposes, as is hereafter indicated.

4th. The remainder of the land—some thirty-three thousand acres—is then to be sold to *actual settlers*, as provided for in the 9th article of the treaty, as follows: "It being the desire of the said Ottawas, in making this treaty, to insure as far as possible the settlement of their reservation by industrious whites, whose example shall be of benefit to the tribe at large, it is stipulated that, after all the above mentioned locations, assignments, and sales are made, the remainder of the land shall be sold to actual settlers, at not less than \$1 25 per acre, in the following manner: any white person desiring to obtain any unsold, unlocated tract of land, may file his proposition in writing with the agent of the Ottawas for the purchase of the tract, stating the price which he proposes to pay for said tract, not less than \$1 25 per acre, a copy of which proposition, as well as all others herein contemplated, shall be posted for thirty days, dating from the first posting, at the agency, in some conspicuous place, and if no person will propose a better price therefor within thirty days next after the first posting, in which further proposition the first person may join, he or such other person as shall have offered the best price shall, upon the payment of one-quarter of the price offered, be taken and deemed the purchaser of said tract, and shall be entitled to a patent therefor from the United States at the end of one year, if he shall pay the remainder of the price offered, have occupied the land, and placed lasting and valuable im-