

the Platte river carries you far beyond and through the heart of Kansas Territory. The geographical position of Kansas will inevitably make her the point of outfit and departure of individuals and companies traveling across or destined beyond the great American Desert, as well as the place of transshipment and exchange between the far West and the Eastern States, and *vice versa*. A home market and extensive commerce must ever be hers of right, in consequence of the central position she occupies. Bounded as she is, on the East by Missouri, on the South by the Indian Reservations, Texas, and New Mexico, on the West by Utah, and on the North by Nebraska, and carrying across her face the natural lines for the great thoroughfares to Santa Fe and San Francisco—she cannot but be an object of interest to everybody who covets a home on the prairies. Governor Reeder of Kansas, who may be better authority than your humble servant, in a letter to a friend in Pennsylvania, writes, as follows :

“This is a most lovely and promising country. There is no finer under the sun, and next summer it will be a rich harvest for all kinds of building mechanics and laborers. Last season stone masons and carpenters got \$2.25 and 2.50 a day, and laborers \$1.25 and \$1.50. A legion of them will be needed early in the Spring and all Summer. If you have any to spare send them right along. We shall pay out in the Territory, near a million dollars in building, and a man can be earning the highest wages and getting a good farm at \$1.25 per acre, at the same time. The Government alone will spend \$100,000 or \$150,000 in stone buildings at Fort Riley. The stone mason, carpenter, bricklayer, plasterer, lime-burner, &c., can lay the foundation of a fortune here the first year. Send them on, I know they will not repent it. We have as yet had nothing I would call winter, and I doubt if it will be any colder. Spring opens about the 1st of March,

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