

their climates, productions, streams, soil, timber, *et cetera*.

The distance between the northern and southern boundaries of Nebraska is over 600 miles, and this distance covers a great variety of soil, hills, plains, and streams, as well as different climates and productions. The southern boundary of the Territory is about 540 miles from St. Louis, by way of the Missouri river.

The belt of country, partially wooded, extends from 2 to 400 miles west of the Missouri, and from thence commences that ocean of prairie which constitutes so striking and impressive a feature in the country beyond that river. On this vast plain—more or less covered with grass, and, in great extents, but in other parts nearly barren—the grand difficulty in the way of cultivation will be the want of water. Yet, it would seem, from the fact of the subsistence of immense herds of buffalo, elk, antelope, and other animals, that the day will come, when shepherds will be watching their flocks all over the boundless meadows of the plain. There is no doubt about the character of the Desert, in respect to its grazing qualities and capabilities. The southern portion of the prairies in Nebraska have a sufficiently mild climate to admit of wintering stock upon them, without any other provision for their subsistence than that which nature provides. But the eastern portion of the Territory, being generally well-watered by numerous limpid streams, and having a healthy, salubrious climate and fertile soil, will rapidly fill up with emigrants from the eastern and Middle States. It will be seen by a glance at the map of the United States, that