

cent Platte river, which has a longer course than any other tributary of the Missouri. It rises in the same range of mountains with the parent stream, and, measured by its meanders, is supposed to be nearly 1,200 miles in length, and may be boatable most of the distance; though, on account of some obstructions, it is at present navigated only some fifty miles from its mouth. It is a shallow stream, which its name implies, and may possibly prove to be boatable only during its floods; But whether it is to prove of any particular value as a water communication or not, we need not now stop to inquire, though we do so before we leave the task in hand.

The valley and borders of the Platte are the regions where most of the public attention is at this moment directed; at least, that portion of the public who think of homes or speculations in Nebraska. Yet, in this Territory we have a wide field for enterprise. No other country has so many beautiful streams, or so many miles of navigable waters within its bounds. We would like to enlarge upon the wonders, the riches, and the grandeur of the Missouri. But we cannot dwell longer upon the theme, which volumes, if written, would fail to exhaust; we must leave further description of that stream, at once the wonder and the pride of Nebraska, for the employment of abler pens. New features and new peculiarities of the country, as well as new views of interesting subjects press upon our mind as we advance into Nebraska. Many of its wonders and treasures have been revealed to the eye of man, but doubtless vastly more remain to be discovered.