

in this young country, and also the size of that magnificent stream, the Kaw or Kansas.

Ogden, the next stopping place, is a point of some historical interest in the annals of the State, the first Territorial Legislature of Kansas having been convened here by Governor Reeder, and the stone building in which it was held still remains.

Now we round a curve in the track, and in front of us, on the summit of a lofty plateau on the north bank of the river, may be seen the stars and stripes floating from a flagstaff on Fort Riley. This post was established in the spring of 1852, and was first known as Camp Center, it being very nearly the geographical center of the United States.

Two miles farther on, we stop at Junction City. This is a substantially built town, located at the junction of the Smoky Hill and Republican rivers, which form the Kansas river, and has a population of between three and four thousand. The superior class of buildings here is owing to the great abundance of building material in the immediate vicinity; in fact, good stone and clay appear to be plentiful everywhere in this wonderful country.

The valley of the Republican, which stretches far to the northward and contains thousands of acres of the richest farms, is made tributary to the Kansas Pacific Railway by its Junction City and Fort Kearney branch, which connects here with the main line.

Twenty miles north of Junction City is located the Powys Welsh Colony, and 16 miles north-east of the