

About ten miles west of Ellis we found such an organization already under way, a large tract of land having been purchased by Messrs. Chaffee, Lower, and others, of Shelbyville, Ill. Early in the spring the town of Keim will be laid out on the tract, and a church, school-house and hotel erected, wells dug, trees planted, and a colony formed, which from the well-known business habits and energy of its projectors, will not be excelled by any similar organization in the West, and I can commend the place to any one wishing a good and healthy home.

At Wallace we stop for breakfast, and here I had the pleasure of eating my first buffalo and antelope steak. The table was as well laid as that at Topeka, and one naturally wondered where all the good things came from, so many miles (420) from the Missouri river.

Fort Wallace, a fine post, is situated two miles southeast from the station.

Between Arapahoe and Cheyenne Wells we cross the west State line of Kansas into the Territory of Colorado, and the next stop of importance is at Kit Carson, named after the illustrious frontiersman and scout, whose home and haunts were located at this wild and romantic spot. Kit Carson is the northern terminus of the Arkansas Valley Branch of the Kansas Pacific Railway, its present southern terminal point, at a distance of 56 miles, being Las Animas, which is a trading point of great importance and is situated on the south bank of the Arkansas river, about three miles above the mouth of the Purgatoire. This being also