

Included in the Missouri Compromise were these words:-" Missouri shall be admitted as a slave state but slavery shall be forever prohibited north of the Southern boundary of Missouri; namely 36 deg. 30 min. N. Latitude."

In 1854 the Kansas-Nebraska Bill was introduced by Stephen A Douglas, senator from Illinois, to divide and organize the states of Kansas and Nebraska, and to permit the citizens thereof to decide whether such states should be free or slave. The bill ~~also~~ gave rise to Squatter Sovereignty, the occasion for the founding of Lawrence.

The Missouri Compromise thus being repealed the fate of the new territories depended upon whether slavery or anti-slavery immigration should predominate. To combat the influx of pro-slavery men from Missouri and the South, ~~New~~ the people of New England became aroused and organized the New England Emigrant Aid Society.

On August 1st. 1854 the first party of twenty nine men arrived ~~in Lawrence~~ on the present site of Lawrence and first encamped on the hill. The improvements were located in what is now Robinson Park, just south and west of the bridge in Lawrence. On Sept. 6, about five weeks later the second party of about 200 including men, women and children arrived.

It is of interest how the site for the city of Lawrence was chosen. When the Gold Rush of '49 was on, Dr Charles Robinson, afterwards first state governor of Kansas, was a member of a party which came up the Kaw valley. When Robinson reached the ~~top~~ crest of Mt. Oread, he viewed the valleys of the Kaw and Eakarusa, and said to himself, "What a wonderful site for a city, and what a place for a university. So when he became ~~the leader~~ identified with the New England Emigrant Aid Society, he recalled his earlier vision, and the party came directly to this spot.