

## APPENDIX A.

### THE WORCESTER CO. KANZAS LEAGUE.

It has been thought that the following constitution and plan of organization may be useful as a guide in forming other societies with the same object.

#### CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. Any person may become a member of this Society, by signing his name to this Constitution, and paying to the use of the Society the sum of one dollar, and shall continue to be a member so long as he shall pay such sum annually.

ARTICLE 2. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, seven Directors, Treasurer, and Secretary, who shall be Master of Emigration, — to be elected, in the first instance, immediately, and thereafter, on the second Monday in March, annually, at a meeting held in Worcester. The President, Vice President, and Treasurer shall be, *ex officio*, members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 3. The officers shall perform such duties as shall appertain to their respective situations, and such, also, as shall devolve upon them under the By-Laws of the Society.

ARTICLE 4. It shall be the duty of the Master of Emigration to receive and keep the names of all persons desiring to emigrate to Kansas from Worcester county; to agree upon the time and conveniences for their departure, and to confer with the Emigrant Aid Company, so as to make the best arrangements for their conveyance to Kansas, and their location there.

ARTICLE 5. The moneys of the Society shall be appropriated to promote such emigration into the above-named territory as shall be opposed to the introduction of slavery into the same; or, if slavery shall be introduced, as shall be in favor of repealing all laws tolerating the same; and also for such means of promoting free emigration as the Directors may select. Provided that nothing shall be done, in

virtue hereof, in contravention of the Constitution, nor in conflict with the existing laws of the land.

ARTICLE 6. Suitable By-Laws shall be adopted, at the first meeting of the Society, and the same may be altered or amended at any annual meeting.

ARTICLE 7. It is the design of this Society to cooperate with the Emigrant Aid Company in the colonization of Kansas with freemen.

ARTICLE 8. The Directors shall have power to fill any vacancies in their Board, or in the list of officers, antecedent to the annual meeting of the Society.

By-Laws.

ARTICLE 1. A majority of the Board of Directors shall be a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority shall reside in the city of Worcester.

ARTICLE 2. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep safely all moneys of the Society, and to pay the same over, from time to time, on the order of the President, or, in his absence, of the Vice President.

ARTICLE 3. Neither President nor Vice President shall give such an order except in pursuance of an appropriation by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 4. The Secretary of the Society shall also be Secretary of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 5. The compensation of the Master of Emigration shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

OFFICERS OF THE LEAGUE.

*President* — A. H. BULLOCK. *Vice President* — WILLIAM T. MERRIFIELD. *Treasurer* — P. L. MOEN. *Directors* — Henry Chapin, Chas. Thurber, Horace James, Wm. H. Harris, Edward E. Hale, William A. Wheeler, Oliver C. Felton, P. L. Moen.

We, the undersigned, citizens of \_\_\_\_\_, pledge ourselves to pay the sums affixed to our names, to constitute ourselves members of the *Worcester County Kansas League*, and to promote the objects set forth in its Constitution :

SUBSCRIBERS' NAMES. | \$ | c. |

APPENDIX B.

The following extract from a letter by George S. Park, published by the Emigrant Aid Company too late to take its place in the text, describes the most interesting parts of the valley of the Kansas and Smokyhill rivers :

“From the Pottawatomie line to its mouth, the Kansas river presses on the southern bank, touching the uplands every four or five miles ; while on the north side, from a point just below the mouth of the Blue, down some fifty miles, there is a continuous bottom, four or five miles wide, larger and more magnificent than the far-famed American Bottoms, below St. Louis. Here excellent corn has been raised, by the Half-breeds, for many years. The soil is a black, sandy loam — kind, warm, and quick ; and produces much earlier in the season than farms in the same latitude east. Emigrants to California and Oregon, who are aware of this fact, prefer to cross the Missouri river, at Parkville, and take the great road up the Kansas valley, on the north side, on this account. They find most excellent grazing for their stock by the 1st of April, often earlier. We have not seen a swamp or wet slough, nor any stagnant water, in the valley drained by the Kansas river. The streams generally speaking flow over gravelly beds ; most of the bottoms are high ; the few that are low are of a dry, sandy character, and the prairies are rolling enough to drain off the water freely.

“Passing the west line of the Pottawatomie nation, we entered upon open prairie, often reaching the river on both sides ; now and then a small grove and a light fringe of timber on the banks. On the right, in a great prairie bottom, in a bend of the river extending back to Rock Creek, Mr. Perry has made a selection for a stock farm ; and a little way above his claim there is another great bend, offering a tempting inducement to some other enterprising farmer who has a taste for stock-raising. Beyond this we passed a large grove of timber on the right, and then passed a most appropriate bluff for a town site — the first we saw for several miles. Here we saw Blue Hill,

which is a prominent landmark overlooking the mouth of Blue river. From this point upward the bluffs are higher and more abrupt, and the country back more elevated and broken. Here we saw a large eagle nest, out of which the old bird looked angrily at us, for intruding on its pre-emption; but she, too, must give way, with the red skins, to manifest destiny. A little way above another huge buffalo floated past; he may have been anxious to slake his thirst in the Republican or Smokyhill, lost foothold, and got carried away by the rolling flood.

“Passing the mouth of the Blue, which comes in from the north (as nearly all the tributaries of Kansas do), and appears to be navigable for some distance, we were pleased with its fine bottoms and long streak of timber; while, on the left, were conical bluffs and high prairie mounds, with figured lines and steps rising one above another in the distance, contributing to the scenery a very romantic appearance. Immediately above this important tributary, there is another beautiful prairie bottom, sloping back northward farther than we could see; and, on the left, still another, containing more than two thousand acres, in a bend not more than three-fourths of a mile across the neck. The enticing features of the latter are—a little grove of timber on the height, a cool gushing spring, and plenty of rock at hand in the bluff, with which to raise an enduring fence over the narrow isthmus. The world does not present a more excellent situation for a stock farm; indeed, the whole line of the main river and branches, from here upward, may be said to be adapted for a continuous series of such farms. On the right a bluff comes into the river, the first above the mouth of the Blue, offering an appropriate town site; and we saw stakes set on the slope, as well as a tent or cabin back on the high prairie, indicating that our countrymen were there. Just above, there is a clear, running stream, and a line of timber reaching far back. From this to the fort, the river winds like a natural canal through green, flowery meadows, with similar scenery in the distance. On the left we saw some splendid country for farms, up the valley of a stream, the name of which we do not recollect; there were fine groves of timber and rich valley land. We understand that several claims have been made there.

“On Monday night, just before reaching Fort Riley, we were over-

taken by a tremendous thunder-storm. We were surrounded by prairie; and the captain had to lay his craft close to the shore, and cast anchor, there being no stump or tree to hitch to. He is of opinion, that there should not be a cabin on steamers navigating these prairie rivers, where the winds sometimes sweep along with unbroken violence. We saw the Pilot Mounds in the distance, where the military road leaves the Kansas bottoms and passes through a depression in the bluff to the crossing of the Blue. We passed some small creeks on the right, with settlements on them; and Clark's Creek on the left, affording some fine timbered lands and good springs.

“A little after sunrise on Tuesday morning, we neared Fort Riley, its fine stone buildings looming up grandly in the sunbeams. It is located at the junction of the Republican and Smokyhill forks of the Kansas, on the second bench or roll of the prairie, having higher bluffs immediately behind, from which the building rock is quarried. It is soft limestone, easily cut into with a pick, and can be split into any shape; we noticed the same horizontal strata cropping out at all elevated points in the prairie. Crossing the Pawnee or Republican fork by the government bridge, we had a good view of the fine country between the two rivers, which rises gracefully backward in high, swelling prairies. Here there is a saw-mill just started. We strolled up the Republican, gathered some black raspberries, and crossed a spring branch, then mounted a high bluff, whence we could see the beautiful Republican valley a long way up. It is nearly three miles wide, high, dry, and level, with a loose, black, rich soil. The river flows in a serpentine course through the prairie bottoms, at some bends making nearly a circuit of six or eight miles, and coming back to within a mile of itself again—the banks generally having a light fringe of timber, with occasional groves near the water's edge, in the ravines, and on the bluffs. This is truly a delightful valley—the most inviting for settlement we ever saw.

“The ‘Excel’ made a short trip up Smokyhill. Lieut. Sargent, from the fort, accompanied us. We had an exciting time. The constant announcement from the man who heaved the lead was, ‘No bottom.’ The river was full and the current strong, but we had great difficulty in getting round the short bends. It keeps on

the course of the main Kansas, coming a little more from the southwest. There is more timber on this river than on the Kansas, above Pottawatomie, and the soil is better. We observed a deep marl deposit on the bluffs, beneath black soil, and the bottoms inclined up prettily from the river. A little way up we saw a band of Fox Indians crossing over, going north on a buffalo-hunt; and their motley procession stretched along over the prairies for miles. Here and there in the party was carried a pole, with a swan's neck or eagle's head and tail, &c., stuck upon it for a flag. They had with them about five hundred horses, all of which looked well. Great was the surprise manifested on seeing the 'Excel' puffing along up these unknown waters; but, poor fellows! the startling scream of the shrill steam-whistle, and the impetuous snorting of the iron-horse, will soon scare off the buffalo and other game from your hunting-grounds, to return no more — you, too, must follow in their trail, or succumb to the irresistible influence of civilization.

“Some forty miles up Smokyhill, an extensive bed of gypsum has been found, specimens of which have been tested and proved to be of superior quality; we brought a small specimen home with us. Salt is also alleged to be very abundant on the Saline fork; the waters of the Smokyhill are often quite brackish, and when the boilers of the 'Excel' are filled from that river, there is a slight incrustation of salt deposited. Specimens of coal, both bituminous and anthracite, and of tin, lead, and iron ore, have been brought in. Hints have been given that gold abounds, but in parts — *unknown!* There cannot be a doubt, however, that valuable minerals will be found cropping out beneath or interspersed in the primitive formation, as we ascend toward the Rocky Mountains. The country rises very rapidly in that direction from Fort Riley; up the Republican, for instance, the ascent, in the first three hundred miles, is said to be two thousand feet. The rock in the vicinity of Smokyhill is principally limestone, and the river bottoms are a sandy loam. The upland prairies are broken, but of black, rich soil, particularly where limestone predominates; the valleys are also very rich, and the soil mellow. Passing over the high uplands, often there is nothing to be seen but prairie spreading out beyond, till it is lost in dim distance; when all at once, as if by magic, you come upon a

‘Woody valley, warm and low,’ —

with fine springs and clear running water. This is, indeed, a well-watered region, and must be salubrious and healthy. We previously mentioned the scarcity of timber above Pottawatomie; it may here be added, that it is inadequate to supply what would be needed for agricultural purposes, and hardly sufficient for firewood. Here and to the westward, a new era in agriculture must be inaugurated — a new system must be practised. Nature demands that it should be so. Instead of clearing timber lands, as in eastern states, the citizen-farmers of Kansas must grow their timber. There is fuel wanted, but coal in many places can be got with little labor; houses must be built, and fences made, but, in the absence of sufficient timber, excellent rock for all purposes can be procured in abundance; or, for fencing, the farmer can hedge himself in most completely with Osage orange. The country abounds with the most luscious grapes. Stock of all kinds are remarkably healthy; and these rolling prairies will make the finest sheep-walks in the world. In fact, this may be designated the PASTORAL REGION OF AMERICA. The gardens at Fort Riley look well; and we procured some beautiful wild prairie flowers.

“The difficulty of navigating the Smokyhill with a stern-wheel steamer of such length as the 'Excel' prevented Capt. Baker from venturing so far up as he otherwise would. A shorter side-wheel steamer, of very light draught, adapted to the navigation of these interior rivers, will soon be put on the trade. We left Fort Riley, on the return trip, on Wednesday morning, and came down 'kiting.' Passing rapidly in review the splendid scenery of which we have attempted to make hasty memoranda, we entered the Missouri about daylight next morning.

“Before concluding these brief notes, it must be remarked, in reference to the productions and climate of Kansas Territory, that there are, no doubt, superior hemp lands in its central and western portions; but Nature unmistakably indicates stock-raising as the proper and most profitable occupation for the farmers who shall settle there. In the great Kansas valley below Pottawatomie, and in the eastern region along the Missouri, there are some of the finest hemp lands in the world. Wheat, corn, oats and vegetables, grow as well there as in any of the western states. Those in the Platte

Purchase, immediately east of the Missouri river, who attend to fruit-growing, say that their apples, peaches, plums, &c., cannot be surpassed anywhere; we can see no reason why as much may not be said of the same crops in the region across the river.

"The winters are generally dry and pleasant, and the roads fine; but little snow falls, and this lies on the ground only for a short time. Sometimes, however, there are very 'cold spells' of weather, but they are not of long duration. For instance, the masons in Parkville, Platte Co., Mo., quarried and laid stone last winter with but little interruption on account of the weather. Common cattle, colts, mules and sheep, can be wintered on blue-grass, provided the pastures are allowed to grow up in the fall, and the stock have a little corn or hay occasionally. February and March are frequently quite pleasant, and much ploughing can be done in the mellow dry loam of the Kansas valley. The summers are quite warm and long, the thermometer (Fahr.) not unfrequently marking up to near one hundred degrees in the shade. The high prairies, however, are generally fanned by cool, refreshing breezes; and as we ascend the branches of the Kansas from Fort Riley, there is a rapid rise to a cooler region. In May and June there is a superabundance of rain; but the latter end of summer and fall is generally dry."

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