

Lecompton.

Lecompton, was laid off in the spring of 1855. The Capitol was located there in August of the same year. At that time it had only been surveyed. But now there are some 100 buildings in the place, with a population of six or seven hundred souls.

Lecompton is located immediately on the banks of the Kansas river, on an elevated site. The ground lies gently undulating and taken altogether is a beautiful town. It is destined to make a large and flourishing place. It has natural advantages that but few towns possess. It is on the direct line from this place to Fort Scott and Arkansas. The country around the town is sufficient of itself to build up a large and flourishing city. The soil is rich, and capable of producing all the staple articles of the West. There are some of the finest Hemp lands in its vicinity. The Grasshopper, a large and beautiful stream empties into the Kansas river immediately opp site Lecompton. On this stream is a large body of timber, which is unsurpassed for quality and quantity in the Territory. There is the valley of the Kansas with all its good timber. The Wakarusa only a few miles South of Lecompton, is famed for its excellent soil and fine timber.

The Capital and County Seat is located there. Buildings for each will soon be erected. In addition the Surveyor General of Kansas and Nebraska has his office located there. The Land office is also located at Lecompton. The Governor and the officers of the Territory reside there. The Legislature holds its annual sessions there. The U. S. District Court holds its sessions there. These are only a few of the many advantages it possesses for building up a city.

The Lecompton Union says: "There is not a more prosperous or thriving village in the Territory than Lecompton—and it has fair in a short time to be one of the largest places in it. The country around it is as rich as any in the world—well timbered—and the Kansas river affords an abundant supply for all purposes—and in addition to its natural advantages—it will have all the artificial circumstances—that adds importance and strength to the place."

The same paper further adds:—

"But we are happy to state that things are assuming a more cheering aspect—the sound of the axe, saw and hammer, is heard from morning until night, and frequently we rise in the morning and walk over a lot without a vestige of a house on it, at night we see erected upon it the hull of a good and comfortable building.

Notwithstanding this, the cry is still "house room," and the demand far exceeds the supply. As an evidence of this fact, houses that cost from two to four hundred dollars to build, are renting for from \$250 to \$300 and selling from \$600 to \$1200. Within the last two months eight or ten new houses have been built, and there are at present fifteen or twenty nearly completed or under contract. Lots that sold for \$100 four weeks ago cannot be bought now for less than \$200. All that it wants is workmen of every kind, and men and capital. Come gentlemen, there is room for speculation."