

kept as is, to keep citizens here and at Hays from pouncing on the stone quarry, and the same with the wood on the Pawnee Fork.

The line along the river is none too long. Only a narrow strip of meadowland, is obtained about a quarter of a mile in width cut up with marshy, springy ground ^{but} ~~with~~ here and there a growth of swamp willows. This is the only ground for procuring hay or ^agrazing animals for most of the year. The bunch grass and red ^{top on the hills} ~~tops~~ does not mature until late summer, and ^{for} ~~the~~ five miles north of the post, is of very poor quality. He refers to special orders number 131 of 1866, which defined the reservation. When Gen. department orders order number 52, series of 1866, was ^{recently} ~~recently~~ published, it was sent here, accompanied by general order number 7 of '66 by district headquarters, which provided that such reservations, as had already been announced, in orders from department headquarters would not be changed. The reservation appears large on paper, but the only ^{advantages} ~~aspects~~ obtained are ~~be~~ derived from a little strip ~~ef~~ along the river and a strip on both sides, south branch of Pawnee Fork. The intermediate land ~~wast~~ being waste, dry, lonely prairie without a stick of timber, and impractical for settlement. ^{Not} ~~In~~ one foot can be cultivated. The land south of the road is liable to inundation. There is really nothing in this vicinity to attract immigration. If the ~~rai~~ railroad passed through here it would be different. As it is, the only attraction here is the trade with the Government and soldiers and employees of the garrison. Those that wish to avail themselves of this advantage won't build houses, but will erect huts to cover their goods, and their trade will consist principally of whiskey.

When the stone buildings are completed Major Douglas thinks the north line at the reservation might be drawn within a mile of the post, but the lowland east and west of the post should not be given up, needed for hay and grazing. There is no grass fit for grazing within a mile to the east or a mile to the west of the post. Requests no change.

Signed--H. Douglas