

Its site, in two respects, is very important:—1. Being near the outlet of three great rivers, flowing from different points, each of which water a great extent of fertile country. 2. Occupying a more central position, as it respects territory, than any considerable town in the U. States. St. Louis progresses fast in commerce and population, and will probably be one of the largest towns in the Union.

From the town of Herculaneum, on the west bank of the Mississippi, 30 miles south of St. Louis, to St. Genevieve, the land on the river is hilly, and of a thin soil; thence to the Saline, second rate, excepting a spacious high bottom, contiguous to St. Genevieve, containing nearly 10,000 acres, which is of an excellent quality.—Beyond, the hills approach the river, bordering it for 8 miles; thence, receding from one to three miles, leaves a fine bottom, called Bois Brule, above the reach of high waters, to Apple creek, being a distance of 20 miles.

The tract called the *Barren Settlement*, has a good second rate soil; is high, well watered, well timbered, and productive of the small grains; being occupied by a number of industrious farmers. Southwest of Genevieve, for 10 or 15 miles, though supplied with wood and water, and producing moderate crops of grain, the lands are ordinary. In this region lead and coal are abundant.

The lands watered by Big river, a branch of the Maraimack, possess a good soil, and are suitable for cultivation: thence to Potosi, the country is hilly; further west, the land is good, supplied with wood and water. *Belle-vue* settlement, lying south of Potosi, contains a large body of excellent land. There are valuable mill seats in this tract.