

Lignite is distributed abundantly through Mercer county, and one of the first attempts to develop it on a large scale was made at Mannhaven, on the Missouri river. A number of years ago the Plenty mine, in Township 145, Range 84, Sections 5 and 9, near Mannhaven, was opened by eastern enterprise, and preparations were made to install an elaborate equipment. Flatboats were made to carry the lignite to points in' South Dakota, and even farther down the river, but their construction being faulty they sank on their first trip, and the enterprise was abandoned. The coal seam at this mine is reported as thirteen feet thick with six inches of clay in the center. It is situated sixty feet above the waters of the Missouri.