

citizens who may emigrate, will, if they are industrious and steady, find themselves in time well rewarded for their labor. The colonists, one hundred and eight souls, have arrived after a long journey, in which they experienced many hardships and disappointments, and are so destitute of everything that we were at once obliged to draw upon our credit in New York, so as to be able to supply their needs until the next harvest. We have provided temporary shelters for them, and have allotted the parcels of land to each colonist. Have also drawn rules and by-laws for the government of the colony, and for best managing its possessions, and have elected four trustees, — Fridolin Streiff, Balthasar Schindler, Fridolin Babler, and David Schindler, the last-named to act as secretary.”

Some of the regulations laid down for the management of the colony are worthy to be recorded as curiosities: “Section I.—Every one is obliged to take the land which he draws by lot, and whether it be better or worse to accept the same without protest. Section II.—The main street from east to west shall be thirty feet wide, but the other streets shall be only fourteen feet wide.<sup>1</sup> Further, all creeks, streams, and springs shall be the common property of all lot owners. The colonists shall be obliged to assist each other in building houses and barns. As soon as the patents for the lands shall have been signed by the president of the United States, and not before, each owner shall have the right to dig and prospect for mineral. Should such be found, then the lot on which it is found shall revert to the society, and the owner shall receive therefor an appropriate compensation.”

Of course these and other regulations from the same source were operative only for a short time, and until the people had become acquainted with the laws and customs of this country which govern such matters. Taking everything into consideration, in the light of better judgment and later experience, a better location might have been

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<sup>1</sup> This was bringing the narrow, contracted ideas of land in Switzerland, to the broad lands of America, with a vengeance.