

*Material Progress.*

During the first two seasons, the requisite labor of building, and breaking land, was performed mostly in common. Out of the common fund, Streiff purchased four yoke of oxen. They were used in regular turn by each settler, for breaking, drawing wood, or other necessary work. These oxen are reported to have had fully as hard fare and service as any of the colonists. After becoming acquainted with the older settlers in the vicinity, the Swiss learned from them valuable lessons in the methods of American agriculture, and also obtained from the latter timely assistance. Among those often mentioned by the colonists with feelings of gratitude, were Capt. Otis Ross, Theodore Greenwood, Charles George, and the Armstrongs. Noah Phelps and Norman Churchill, of Monroe, are also mentioned as having, in a spirit of kindly charity, collected and brought to the colony a wagon-load of provisions and clothing for the destitute settlers, during the year 1847.

From 1847 to 1854, although the material progress of the colony was slow, it was sure. Every year's count showed an increasing gain in property. In a very short time the Swiss realized the truth of the Ohio-river captain's assertion that twenty acres in this country was as nothing; and all money, slowly and toilsomely earned, was carefully hoarded. As soon as fifty dollars was saved by a colonist, he promptly invested it in a forty-acre tract of government land. The journey to the land office at Mineral Point, thirty-five miles distant, was mostly made on foot, for prior to 1850 there were very few horses in the colony. Counts of stock, etc., in the colony, made in 1847 and 1849, resulted as follows:

	1847.	1849.		1847.	1849.
Horses .....	2	1	Calves .....	25	51
Bull .....	1	1	Sheep .....	..	15
Oxen and steers...	16	41	Hogs .....	193	1,482
Cows .....	37	49	Land broke (acres)	109	280
Heifers .....	15	40	Population .....	104	125