

a season become dissatisfied and return to Switzerland, or go elsewhere in America. Yet on the whole, most of those who came to New Glarus remained, and at the close of the year 1854 it could be safely announced that the colony was a success. The enterprise was standing proof of what a small amount of money, well directed and expended, may do to better the condition of the honest poor of overcrowded places in the old and new world. As the money thus laid out has long since been refunded, the founding of this colony cost literally nothing, while the benefit to thousands has been priceless.

Of these hardy first-comers but few survive, and they are year by year becoming fewer; those who remain are enjoying the peaceful evening of their lives in comfort and ease. All those who practiced the old-time industry, economy, and sobriety, are, with their descendants, far better off than it would have been possible for them to become in their old home.

Lands in Green county have steadily advanced in price, especially since the advent of cheese factories and railroads. Cheap lands are no longer to be had, and there is but little disposition to sell at all, for to the Swiss there is only one New Glarus. Numbers of stalwart young men come each year from the old home across seas, to found new homes here. On the other hand, many young men have each year gone to the fertile prairies of the farther west, settling either in colonies or as independent settlers. Dodge county in Minnesota, Lincoln county in Dakota, Kossuth and Humboldt counties in Iowa, and the states of California and Oregon, contain large numbers of young men who have gone forth from New Glarus.

Religious History.

I have sketched the material progress of the colony, but my work would not be complete unless the social, educational, religious, and political history received some mention. The established and prevailing religion of the canton of Glarus is the Reformed Church of Switzerland.