

THE COLONIZER.

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THE TEMPERANCE COLONY.

What Has Been Accomplished by Settlers this Season.

DESCRIPTION OF TOWN OF SASKATOON.

From the Winnipeg Star.

Learning that the commissionaire of the Temperance Colony, Mr. Lake, was in the city, a representative of the Star waited upon him at the Douglas House, and found the gentleman very willing to give all possible information concerning colony matters.

"It is the year's operations been up to your expectations?" asked the reporter.

"Hardly. I had hoped we would be able to report at least one hundred and fifty settlers, but we have only about half of that number, who have only made a beginning. We have, however, about one hundred sections located that will be occupied by at least two families each next year."

"How much land was broken up this year in the colony?"

"About four or five hundred acres, a fair proportion of which has been cropped."

"Where do your settlers come from?"

"Ontario, principally. There are a few from the Old Country, and every one of those, we expect, will bring on an average three additional families next year."

"How do your settlers like the country?"

"Well, I think. In fact, I am sure they are all pleased with the land and prospects. Of course, the journey of 150 miles from the railway, though over a good trail, is a formidable matter. Yet some have made the journey two or three times, and altogether taking the lumber brought in by the river, about two hundred tons of freight has been taken in. The settlers are mostly persons of means, hardly any of them with less than \$2,000 and some are able to command as high as \$15,000 or \$20,000. The crops were exceedingly good. The rain came a little too light during July, but root crops turned out excellent, and grain, though sown late, was harvested in good shape. Very favourable reports have been made by all persons pass-

ing through, who have no interest in the colony. They are all impressed with the good soil in the locality."

"Where do you expect your next year's settlers from?"

"Many from Ontario are already arranging to come, and also from the maritime provinces; a large number from the Old Country, where we have some energetic agents, who have seen the colony, and also a few from the Western States. If we were only nearer to the railway, we could easily put in five hundred additional settlers next year, and perhaps in spite of everything we may come very near that number. But we hope to see a railway stretching out towards, if not into the colony, next year."

"Where is the city of Saskatoon?"

"It is a part of sections 28 and 21, in township 36, range five west of the third meridian. This is the entire district laid out for the place. About thirty thousand feet of lumber was used up in twenty days during September, in building five new buildings, the smallest of which is 16 x 24 and two stories high.* If



SASKATOON, FROM THE WEST BANK OF THE SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN.

lumber had been forthcoming we could have erected many more. There are several stone houses in course of erection there. Stone is being drawn to the place. A large quantity of lime has been burned, and these buildings will be finished in the spring. We have the finest town site between Minneapolis and Saskatoon, and I make the statement fearlessly. It is situated on the east bank of the Saskatchewan River, which is at that point from 1,000 to 1,100 feet wide. There is a park of forty acres along the river bank, with some trees eighteen or twenty inches in diameter. Water is obtainable at a depth of from fifteen to twenty feet. There is plenty of stone in the vicinity for building purposes, with sand at a convenient distance. Brick clay is also close at hand. Our prospects are as good as any in the great North-West, and the site being in the very centre of from two to four millions acres of good farming lands will make it a place of no little importance in the near future. I hope to complete arrangements this week to have a new saw and grist mill erected early in the spring, and also to make sure of

two or not more steamers on the river. Although the steamer Lily came to grief some time ago, she was not quite suited to the river. The captain of the ill-fated boat assures me that the river can be navigated safely and successfully."

"Can you not shorten the trail into your colony?"

"We are endeavouring to do so, and an exploring party leave Moose Jaw to-day to make a new and more direct trail, and spend from \$200 to \$400 in making it good. We expect to shorten the distance by almost twenty miles."

"What accommodation is there at Moose Jaw?"

"We have hitherto used a large tent and small storehouse for the settlers' goods and accommodation this year. But last week I built a large two-storey warehouse, twenty-two feet wide by forty-eight feet in length, and sixteen feet high. The lower story will be for freight, and the upper one for sleeping apartments. In the spring we will build a large house for kitchen and dining-hall, and also a stable for the horses. So, then, people can

do their own cooking, etc., if they please. I may add, we are all doing all we can to make our settlers comfortable on the way, and when they reach the colony."

"Have your settlers been satisfied with the C.P.R.?"

"The greater part of our goods came through without any extra charge worth mentioning. But on some cars we had to pay as high as eighty dollars, and no reasonable explanation was given. I am of opinion that the trouble was with the railways in the United States, and not the fault of the C.P.R. But if people are careful in shipping they are generally satisfied. The C.P.R., I think, are doing all they could reasonably be expected to do, especially when we consider the vast amount of material that must be taken in every day for construction. The road and its equipment are a great credit to the company and to the country. The whole work shows they have come to stay."

"When do you expect to return to the colony?"

* 60,000 feet, with plenty of doors, sash, trimmings, &c., have been sent in since.