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COLONIZATION COMPANIES.

We have procured from Ottawa a list of the Colonization Companies which came to time on the 31st ultimo, and paid the first instalment of forty cents per acre upon the odd-numbered sections within tracts of land in the North-West allotted to them respectively. It will be seen that out of what were understood originally to consist of nearly ninety allotments, only twenty-two have been secured, and all the others have lapsed.

The North West Fertile Belt Col. Co.
The Temperance Col. Society.
The Primitive Methodist Col. Company.
The Qu'Appelle Land Company.
The Farmers' North-West Land Col. Co.
The Dominion Lands Col. Company.
The Dundee Land Investment Company.
The Montreal & Western Land Company.
Alexander Scott, and Timothy Hay.
The York Farmers' Col. Company.
The Fertile Belt Western Agricultural Co.
P. D. Valin.
H. W. C. Meyer.
C. F. Ferguson, A. Blackburn & Company.
H. D. Smith.
Prince Albert Col. Company.
William Sharples.
G. G. Dustan, and W. B. Searth.
Patrick Purcell.
Shell River Col. Company.
The Scottish, Ontario, & Man. Land Co.
The East Durham & Qu'Appelle Land Co.

We are told that there are other companies which received more recent allotments, the time for first payment on which does not expire until the 20th inst.

The Saskatchewan Forks or Press Company does not figure in the list which our correspondent has supplied, nor has he been able to learn very definitely whether that company has made its payment or not. The *Canada Gazette* will reveal the facts of the case in good time. It is to be hoped that the representatives of the press are neither asking nor receiving different treatment from that which is meted out to others. It would at the same time, be a great disappointment, doubtless, to many who have subscribed in good faith for the stock, and have regarded it as a source of prospective wealth, if by any mismanagement the organization should have collapsed.

With regard to colonization companies generally, we have already had something to say, to which, for the present, not much could be added. For a time, during the months of February and March last especially, speculators seemed to look upon North-west lands as a perfect *bonanza*, and applications by the hundred for tracts for colonization, showered in upon the Minister of

the Interior. If a return of these applications, and of the allotments made, should be called for by Parliament, as no doubt it will be, it will be interesting to see who were the applicants, and what was their commercial standing. Without professing particular knowledge on this subject, we have a shrewd suspicion that in too many instances the capital of the applicants consisted of cheek and what is commonly called "political influence." support of this suspicion the remarkably large proportion of those to whom allotments were made and who have failed to "come down with the dust" may well be quoted. Among those even who have paid the first instalment, there are some who have bought a pig in a poke, never having examined the lands for which they applied, and they are yet in utter ignorance of their quality and fitness for cultivation. Where things are done in this haphazard way, it is safe to predict that not much success is likely to attend future operations. There are cases, however, where the selection has been made with care and judgment. There are also those who have paid and probably do know something of the quality of the land allotted to them, who, it is understood are willing to dispose of their right, title, and interest for a consideration. Fortunately, the agreement with the Government provides that this cannot be done without "the consent in writing of the Governor in Council." We hope that the Minister of the Interior will use the power of recommendation in cases of this sort, very sparingly. There is no more objectionable form of speculation than this would be, and it is in his power alone to prevent it.

It is no doubt a good thing for the companies which are in earnest, and mean business, that so few of the rival concerns to-day are in a live condition. The difficulty of finding the money to pay the first instalment is perhaps the smallest obstacle which these corporations are likely to encounter. To find the settlers, and thus comply with the vital condition upon which title to the odd-numbered sections may be earned, is a task of a very different order. This will be readily understood, when it is remembered that for these settlers the companies will have to compete with the Pacific Railway Syndicate, with the Hudson's Bay Company, with the Government, and with each other, and that the colonization undertaken—that is to say, two settlers in every section, even and odd—is to be completed within five years. This is a more Herculean task than even the least sanguine anticipated.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The United States Clearing House returns for the month of August are worthy of especial attention. Their aggregate is greater than that of the same month last year, which witnessed the extraordinary and wholly unprecedented speculation—at Chicago and Milwaukee in particular, when the transactions at the former city ran up from \$36,787,000 in August 1880, to \$90,629,000 in August 1881. The variation in the comparative clearings of August this year and last can be seen at a glance by the annexed:

	August, 1882.	Per cent. increase.
New York	\$3,725,593 000	+ 48
St. Louis	76,999,000	+ 49
Cincinnati	75,237,000	+ 67
Pittsburg	32,826,000	+ 48
Providence	19,241,000	+ 17.8
Kansas City	18,342,000	+ 41.0
Cleveland	9,684,000	+ 3.4
Indianapolis	8,864,000	+ 2.0
Hartford	7,199,000	+ 14.2
New Haven	4,961,000	+ 7.0
Lowell	2,896,000	+ 55.7
Worcester	3,094,000	+ 5.7
Springfield	3,225,000	+ 10.3
Syracuse	1,760,000	+ 15.0

The following cities report a decline in their aggregate clearings:

		Per cent. decrease.
Boston	\$278,420,000	— 30.3
Chicago	197,308,000	— 9.1
Philadelphia	210,535,000	— 3.6
San Francisco	55,729,000	— 7.2
Baltimore	63,300,000	— 0.6
Milwaukee	29,162,000	— 14.2
Louisville	29,302,000	— 13.3
New Orleans	25,643,000	— 13.9
Portland	4,146,000	—
Peoria	4,115,000	— 12.0
Columbus	4,670,000	— 7.6
Memphis	1,669,000	— 11.4

The aggregate business done at the twenty-six reporting cities was \$4,889,567,000, as compared with \$4,816,247,000 in August last year. This represents an increase of transactions equal to 1½ per cent., but outside of New York city the aggregate is seven per cent *less*. "There is," says the *Public*, vast amount of speculation this year also, and at some of the very cities above named. The decrease in other business has therefore been the greater. There is no point of encouragement in the returns." But it would be easy to draw very erroneous and exaggerated conclusions from them, we are assured, if the exceptional character of the movement last year were not recognized.

SALADS AS FOOD.

A Spanish proverb says that "four persons are necessary to make a good salad,—a spendthrift for oil, a miser for vinegar, a barrister for salt, and a madman to stir it up." There are few things upon the dining table which indicate the character of the cook so well as the salad. The wrong thing or the right one out of proportion, or if in right proportion, being bad in preparation, it can at once be seen whether the person who prepared it knows what to do to obtain a correct salad.

In preparing green vegetables for salads they should be obtained as fresh as possible and never be allowed to soak in water else they lose their crispness and delicate flavor. If the cook can gather them from her own garden, all the better, and the early morning or late evening should be chosen for the purpose. Never cut lettuce with a steel knife; if it cannot be done with a silver one it should be broken. Wash quickly or not at all and dry in a clean cloth before placing in the salad bowl. Salad should not be made ready till just before it is wanted for use. A variety of vegetables may be used according to taste, but a salad is better when simple. As in many other matters of cooking, France teaches most of what is known about good salads. Most of our salads, except the beetroot, come to us in the uncooked condition.

A very good salad and one often met with on good tables is called the *macedoine*, or