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Author: Schwarz, Julius.  
Title: Report of Mr. Julius Schwarz on the colony of Russian refugees  
at Cotopaxi, Colorado, established by the Hebrew Emigrant  
Aid Society of the United States. 1882.  
Published: New York, Hebrew Emigrant Aid Society of the United States  
[1882]  
Description: 18 p. 23 cm.  
Subjects (Library of Congress):  
Russians--Colorado.  
Jews--Colorado.  
Cotopaxi (Colo.)

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REPORT  
OF  
MR. JULIUS SCHWARZ,  
ON THE  
Colony of Russian Refugees  
AT  
COTOPAXI, COLORADO,  
ESTABLISHED BY  
THE HEBREW EMIGRANT AID SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES.

1882.

HEBREW EMIGRANT AID SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Office, 15 State Street, New York.

NEW YORK, October 23, 1882.

H. S. HENRY, Esq.,

*President of the H. E. A. Society  
of the United States :*

SIR:—My position as General Manager of the Cotopaxi Colony imposes upon me the pleasant duty of presenting for your information a true account of the standing of the Colony, and of directing your attention to such matters of interest and importance as are involved in its success.

Above all, I congratulate you, Mr. President and the Executive Committee, as well as all those interested in the welfare of the refugees, on the general prosperity of the Colony, and it is with much satisfaction and justifiable pride that I pronounce the agricultural colony in the Rocky Mountains a full and complete success, and the question whether Jews are fit to become farmers, solved and answered in the affirmative; solved not by arguments of eloquence, but solved by the greatest of existing arguments—the argument of facts.

I would divide the duty of reporting, assigned to me into nine general heads:

1. The history of the Cotopaxi Colony.
2. The situation of the County of Fremont, and the topographical description of the lands on which the refugees have been settled.
3. The statistics of the Colony; the number of families, of adults, and those of minor age, etc.
4. Colorado farming, and the peculiarities of the soil.
5. The condition of the crop of the refugees; what they raise; their houses; the climate; the food they get.
6. The working capacity of the colonists.

7. Education and religious life of the colonists. Their relations to their Christian neighbors.

8. Expenditures made for establishing and supporting the Colony. The property of the Colony.

9. General remarks and conclusions.

### 1. THE HISTORY OF THE COTOPAXI COLONY.

The tyrannical illiberality of the Russian Government, which permitted the cruel persecution of a people for the simple reason that they are of a peculiar race and a peculiar faith, overflowed the free shores of our country with suffering refugees.

The desire to colonize these refugees, to make them farmers, and to tie them thereby to the spot which they might choose to be their home, speedily became a sentiment among our thinking co-religionists. Let us try to colonize them. Let us rescue them from the ever burdening chains of poverty and desolation, by opening for them the boundless fields of our country. Let us break the prejudice of the multitude against Jewish agriculturists. Jews as farmers are no novelty. There are Jewish farmers in Hungary, in Roumania, in Russia, and they all prosper and get along. The idea, the conception of colonization soon grew to a thought, and the thought was soon carried out and became a fact. It was decided that Government land be taken up in Colorado, and an experimental Colony be founded. The scheme matured, and the Committee generously aided all efforts tending to speed the execution of the plan. Proper persons, amongst them some trained farmers, were selected, and on the 3d of May, 1882, the Colony, consisting of thirteen families, left for Cotopaxi, where they arrived after a five days journey.

Although I was at first appointed Clerk to the Colony, its entire management was subsequently intrusted to me.

The management of the Colony was intrusted to me, and Leon Tobias, of Odessa, was selected as assistant and field overseer.

### 2. THE SITUATION OF FREMONT COUNTY, AND THE TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LANDS ON WHICH THE REFUGEES HAVE BEEN SETTLED.

The village of Cotopaxi lies in the County of Fremont, 35 miles west of Canon City, and 25 miles east of the City of Salida, almost in the centre of the great line—Denver—Leadville.

Fremont County has an area of nearly 1,300 square miles, and is bisected by the Arkansas River, which flows from west to east near the centre of the county, for a distance approximating 50 miles.

Canon City, the capital of the country, is situated two miles east of the Royal Gorge of the Arkansas, midway between the north and south, and twenty miles west of the eastern boundary line, at an altitude of 5,000 feet above sea level. Thirty-five miles west from Canon City on the main line of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway lies the village of Cotopaxi, so named from the famous volcano in South America. Cotopaxi is the headquarters of a rich mining district: is situated in a beautiful valley surrounded by high mountains, most of which contain valuable minerals, especially silver and copper, galena and lead. The Arkansas River runs at the foot of the valley. It is a pretty lively railroad station, and is by means of its favorable site destined to become one of the best places in the Centennial State. Opposite Cotopaxi, on the southern banks of the Arkansas River, there are about 500 acres of farming land, ascending in easy grades, and surrounded on both sides by high mountains, whose interior resounds with the drilling and blasting of the miners, and which are covered with oak trees that furnish an excellent material for fence posts and kindling wood. This land, covered with fresh green grass, which at points reaches the height of two feet, extends to the length of three and one-half English miles, and forms the first link in the chain of farms that are under the cultivation of the expatriated Russian Jews. Here on Oak Grove Creek three of our farmers are located: Joseph

Nudelman, himself a farmer; Loeb Zadek, a carpenter, but who is now one of the best farmers, a man who has the most carefully irrigated land, and who is the living proof that Russians are by no means that stiff-necked lazy people for which they were taken. The third is Sholem Chorovsky, whose farm looks like a flower garden; a man who while staying in New York was known to the committee only as a boisterous rebel, as a dissatisfied, quarrelsome creature, and who now, when colonized and placed in a home, has become a placid, peaceful man who likes his home, and in the closest meaning of the word caresses the spot on which he has based his future.

A steep mountain range, strewn with gigantic rocks, separates these farms from the second division of the colony—from Wet Mountain Valley, so called on account of the frequent rain falls and the natural humidity of its soil. Here six of the farmers are located, occupying six full lots of 160 acres each, total, 960 acres. The names of the six farmers are: Marcus Chuturan, Sholem Chuturan, Michael Shames, Baruch Milkstein, Morris Menkowsky and Isaac Shames. Four other lots, I found, had been taken up and proved by Christian farmers. I have ordered these to be left, not only to avoid quarrelsome litigation, but because I found, three and a half miles further south, a body of better land, easier to be watered, and run through by creeks, allowing a plentiful irrigation. I, therefore, deserted those lots and located the landless farmers on a body of land comprising two lots.

Here, on the third division of the farms, I located the other five farmers, namely: Abel B. Sneider, Samuel Newman, David Grupitzky, a man who during the week, shovels the ground and carries lumber, or goes to work, while on Sabbaths he performs the duties of a reader and rabbi, Hirsch Dublitzky and Henry Lauterstein. The farmers Sigmund Vositzer, Zalel Prstrand and Jacob Milchstein, participate in cultivating the farms of B. Milchstein, Isaac Shames and Michael Shames. The acreage of the lands already settled amounts to 1,780 acres. Besides, we

have at our disposal, surveyed and staked, on Wet Mountain Valley, nine more lots comprising 1,440 acres, which, however, can only be cultivated by means of a three miles long ditch to be dug, through which the water shall be carried from the mountains. The amount of land belonging to the colony and being at the disposal of the Hebrew Emigrant Aid Society, is thirty-two hundred and twenty acres. All these lands have been carefully surveyed, and possess a rich phosphate soil. Nobody is allowed to occupy more than 160 acres of Government land, this being the legal claim allowed to each individual occupant.

The laws of Colorado have pretty strict provisions in this respect, they are, however, distinct and without ambiguity. They compel each colonist to cultivate at least five acres of his claim within six months from the day of his settling upon it, and to stake the balance of 155 acres, or less. After the occupation has been made, the occupant has to file a declaration for record in the office of the Register of his county. After this, filing must be done at the land office, either by pre-emption or homestead, where upon the necessary papers constituting title and ownership of the occupant are issued. If filing is done by homestead, the occupant must reside on his land, that is, must have a dwelling thereon. Four of our farmers have their houses already, and two will have them built in Cotopaxi itself, the remaining six on their respective lands. Those living in Cotopaxi have, in order to comply with the law to erect log cabins on their lands, which they have partly already done.

### 3. THE STATISTICS OF THE COLONY.—THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES, OF ADULTS AND THOSE OF MINOR AGE, ETC.

At the time the colony left New York, it consisted of thirteen families numbering fifty persons. On the 27th of May, the fifteen months old child of Joseph Nudelman, died, reducing the above number to 49. On the 6th

of June, a baby was born, re-establishing the original fifty. On the 30th of July, the family of Abraham Moskowitz, a circus rider by profession, was sent to Denver, at his own request, and upon order of Director Mr. Morris Tuska. On the 16th of July, the family of Henry Lauterstein arrived, the expenses of transportation being defrayed partly by the Society and partly by Mr. Leopold Gershel. On the 29th of August, three other families consisting of fourteen persons arrived. These persons, relatives of the farmers B. Milchstein and M. Shames were sent by Mr. Tuska upon request of their relatives and on my recommendation. Thus the present state of the colony is as follows: seventeen families numbering sixty persons. The working force of the colony consists of twenty-three men. There are thirty-one males and twenty-nine females. Males over the age of twenty-one are twenty, over thirteen are five, over six three, and under six three, total, thirty-one. Females are over twenty-one years of age twelve, over fourteen, five, over six, eight, and under six, four, total, twenty-nine.

#### 4. COLORADO FARMING AND THE PECULIARITIES OF COLORADO SOIL.

Farming in Colorado can by no means be compared to farming in other States or regions. While farmers in Hungary or Germany, depend upon rain to water the thirsty fields, the farmer who undertakes the task to break up Colorado's soil cannot put too much trust in the natural rainfalls, but is as a rule compelled to do without it. He catches the bubbling waters of the many springs that run through the virgin soil and uses it to water his land with. In other words he irrigates, and irrigation is no easy task. While in some parts of the west, as Dr. Julius Goldman correctly remarks, farming on virgin soil requires no previous knowledge or experience, being mainly a question of observation and imitation, accompanied by such advice as is easily obtained; farming in Colorado requires the

knowledge of irrigation, which, however, can easily be learned, but not so easily carried out, as irrigation requires great patience, tireless attention, and a great deal of hand work—qualities which I am proud to say I have found in our colonists. It is a general saying in Colorado, that the test of a good farmer is his way of irrigation, and our refugees have irrigated well. They irrigated with so much success, that they had the water readily at their disposal, not as it pleased the ditch but as it pleased the irrigator. In other words, our colonist created his rain but curbed it also. It rained when it pleased him. He opened and shut his ditches just as it suited him. He led the water from one end of his farm to any part of it; he caused it to branch out in many little streams, and to bring refreshment, new life and the conditions of thrift and growth to the sun-burnt and thirsty fields. Colorado is a peculiar State, but the East has altogether an erroneous idea of its capabilities. There is hardly one person out of every five hundred in the East but who believes that Colorado is a barren plain, utterly unfit for agricultural purposes. It is the common belief that the State is good for nothing except mining and stock raising. It is my unshaken belief and conviction that Colorado can be made one of the greatest agricultural States in the Union, if the the proper efforts are taken to make it so. One great bugbear that has gained great circulation is, that it never rains in Colorado, and agriculture cannot be made a success in a desert. There never was a more egregious error than this. The present season has amply verified the fact that it does rain in Colorado, but even if it did not rain, farming could be prosecuted successfully and profitably. The system of irrigation mentioned above commends itself to the farmers as the means of promoting the growth of agricultural products, and there is no tiller of the soil but who will say that he prefers irrigation to natural rainfalls. The system of irrigation enables the farmer to get just as much water as he needs, and no more, and to put it just where it will do the most good. Therefore, even the scarcity of natural

rainfalls would not operate to the detriment of Colorado, and will not do so as long as the means for irrigation can be so easily taken advantage of. The cost of irrigation cuts no figure in the case at all, the increased production from the land more than compensating for the cost of water. There are under cultivation in Fremont County, at the present time, about 15,000 acres of land, and 100,000 acres additional can be made productive with an effective system of irrigation, for which purpose there is an abundant supply of water in the Arkansas River. The principal crops are corn and vegetables. With good cultivation, fifty bushels of corn per acre is an average yield. In the production of vegetables the capacity of the soil seems boundless. One gardener raised 140,000 pounds of cabbages on nine acres the last year, all of which sold for two cents per pound. Another gardener reports 45 tons of carrots from a single acre. Orchards are growing on about 75 acres in Fremont County, the oldest being but ten years old, and that has produced its fourth crop. A gentleman named Jesse Frazer has the largest orchard in the county. He was an Argonaut of 1859, one of the many who failed to find fortune in the golden sands of Cherry Creek, and in 1860, he wended his way south, halting at the spot where he has since lived. He manufactured a plow of cottonwood, and with that crude implement broke the ground for his first crop. He now owns about 100 acres on the banks of the Arkansas River, eight miles from Canon City, two-fifths of which is in fruit—apples, pears, peaches, grapes, cherries, plums, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, etc. Altogether, twenty acres of his trees are now producing, and from their spreading branches he can gather golden fruit, yielding him an income of \$5,000 per year. The apple crop finds also a ready market at Colorado at six cent per pound, in other words as much for ten or fifteen pounds as the New York fruit-growers received for a barrel of that healthful fruit a year ago. Around our farms there are wild cherries and grapes growing in abundance, and in five years our refugees will be able to offer to

the market the finest specimens of grapes and cherries. The question is now: If water is the principal condition of harvesting a plentiful crop, is there always water on hand when needed? To which the answer is: Water is on hand in any quantity, but for some farms it is more easily reached than for others. While, for instance, on three of our farms, on those that are situated on Oak Grove Creek, the water supply is constant and abundant; in Wet Mountain Valley it must be led off from the mountains through a long ditch, the direction of which I have personally surveyed and pointed out. But the soil in Wet Mountain Valley is so moist that even without irrigation a crop could be raised. This year our farmers had to make shift with the natural rainfall, and it was found that the soil on the valley is so compressed that it keeps the precious rain drops for weeks, proving thereby that if it only rains a few times during the season a crop can be raised. The soil is black and feels like cool ointment. The main water supply of the country in which our farms are located is the Arkansas River. Of course, farms having a water front enjoy the benefit of an abundant, so to say, ready-made water supply. Our farmers get their water partly from the creeks running through their lands, partly from the lake that flows on the boundaries of Fremont and Custer Counties. The irrigating canal of the Canon City Hydraulic Company, receives also its supply from the Arkansas River at the mouth of the Royal Gorge, and passes through the park north of that town, furnishing an abundance of water for irrigating all of the ground within the city limits and many thousand acres outside. From a point one and a half miles above the city to a point an equal distance below, the Arkansas River falls one hundred and seven and one-half feet, and so great and constant is the volume of water, that the power yet to be utilized can scarcely be computed. Five turbine wheels having an aggregate of three hundred horse power are in use to furnish power for different purposes, and yet, competent judges estimate that not one-tenth of the power is utilized. It can be seen from this that water is always

on hand, and that getting it is merely a question of more or less work.

As to the qualities of the soil, nothing illustrates more its productiveness than the fact that, despite of unusually unfavorable circumstances whereby our farmers did not get all the agricultural implements that were needed, and were obliged to break the ground with common shovels, the seed sown soon yielded precious fruits. Fine cabbage, large potatoes, peas, beans, and squashes, rewarded the persevering labor of our farmers, proving the surprising growing powers of the soil, and testifying to the willingness, earnestness and industry of our Russian co-religionists, who, I believe, will do almost anything, if they are rightly treated and rightly understood.

In connection with the foregoing, I shall now take up the next point of inquiry :

#### 5. THE CONDITION OF THE CROP OF THE REFUGEES—WHAT THEY RAISE—THEIR HOUSES—THE CLIMATE.

The season having been too far advanced to sow wheat or oats (we arrived on the 9th of May expecting to find land already located, but as this was not the case, we had to prospect for it, and it was not until the latter part of May that we established the first settlement) the colonists planted mostly garden stuffs and vegetables. As the settlement was commenced too late, I limited myself to distributing the land amongst the settlers, giving each colonist 160 acres of land in one body, ordered, however, that a number of acres be cultivated in common, and the crop to be raised thereon apportioned according to the size of each family. Thus about forty acres have been cultivated and ploughed up with potatoes, cabbages, beets, beans, turnips, onions, cucumbers, melons, peas, corn and raddish. We planted 14,000 pounds of potatoes. The potato crop is in quantity as well as quality an excellent one. It could have been larger had not such drawbacks interfered that would have discouraged every earnest and honest beginner. We

had no wire for fences, hence the thousands of cows grazing in Wet Mountain Valley ate up the plants; our houses were not furnished (of the twelve to be built, only eight are built as yet), hence the colonists could not live on their lands, could not watch and protect them, but had to walk home ten to twelve miles, or lie on the open field night after night; and yet, and despite of all these drawbacks, to the indefatigable perseverance of the colonists, owing to the circumstances that the management of the colony never failed to remain in contact with the refugees, never failed to show that it feels for them and with them, imbuing thereby in the desperate hearts of the lingering refugees the consoling consciousness that there is somebody that watches over them, knows them, and understands them. Owing to the really gentlemanly conduct of the majority of the colonists, we have accomplished something. Our principal crop is the potato crop. It will suffice for the purpose of seed for the next spring, and deducting some percentage will leave about 45,000 pounds for sale. As the price of potatoes is unusually low at present. I gave orders that the potatoes when picked up should be stored in underground cellars and kept until the early part of the spring, when it is expected that the market price will be considerably higher. I am glad to say that my recent reports from Cotopaxi announce a slow but constant rise of the price. Our cabbage crop has been greatly damaged by cattle. It will, however, suffice for household requirements, as well as all the rest of the garden stuff and vegetables. The quantity of the latter is not satisfactory for reasons already detailed; the quality, however, is astonishing. The Colorado cabbages are, in comparison to cabbages that I saw in the Hudson Valley, perfect giants. A potato that I brought to show the Committee in New York weighs not less than two and one half pounds, and a beet about nine pounds.

The Committee has ordered twelve houses to be built for the colonists. Eight of them are completed. The size of the houses is 16 feet by 20. The houses are double boarded,

with tar paper between them, and have a 1-3 pitch roof. They contain three rooms and a kitchen, with stove and cooking utensils. The height of the houses is 12 feet in the centre. Before the houses were finished the colonists lived, and some of them still live, in Cotopaxi in a reception house. This is a building about 50 feet long by 28 feet wide, and is divided into three large light rooms, one good sized back room and two smaller rooms. We had also two good sized warm log cabins at our disposal. The climate of Colorado, especially of that part where our colonists are located, is the healthiest in the Union. It is called, and with reason, the sanitarium of America. It is well known that as one ascends from the level of the sea, there is found a declension of temperature averaging one degree for every 300 feet of elevation, but this is true only when the ascent is made from the surface of the earth. At the base of the Rocky Mountains we have a more genial climate and higher winter temperature than will be found in the same latitude near the level of the sea. This statement is pre-eminently true of the County of Fremont. As a winter resort for persons out of health, Fremont County has no equal. The altitude, the dry air, the rapid evaporation, and the direction of the winds, are the most efficient causes of all the peculiar characteristics of Colorado climate. The pure air, the dewless nights, the gorgeous scenery, and the mental relaxation so readily secured, are the advantages of Colorado climate. In Colorado, in a tent, the tenderest babe and the most delicate invalid can live and sleep all the year around and derive benefit therefrom. As a consequence of these facts our colonists enjoy the best of health. No serious case of sickness has occurred, the infant that died having been suffering with diabetes since its arrival at New York. In speaking of the climate of Colorado, I can justly refer to a very excellent observer and popular medical writer, Dr. W. W. Hall, who once remarked in relation to the beneficial results of Colorado climate: "I have seen the hollow chest expand, the sluggish step quickened into activity, the sunken eye grow bright, the weakened or unde-

veloped muscles gain wonderfully in strength, all within a few months." Good climate requires also good food, and our colonists never lacked good food. Their chief food was bread, butter, fish, rice, coffee, beans, prunes, dried apples and potatoes. Since the beginning of August I furnished them also Kosher meat from Denver, and since the 1st of October, they having their cows and calves, they have also milk.

#### 6. THE WORKING CAPACITIES OF THE COLONISTS.

"Your folks are first-class workers," that is what I was pleased to hear about the laboring capacities of our people. There is no doubt that the refugees have shown that they are not that lazy mob for which they were taken. Under favorable circumstances they have done more than could have been expected. Only one who knows what it means to break up virgin ground with a common shovel, can appreciate the industrious efforts of the refugees. They have broken up the ground with a shovel, they have done the hardest part of the work required to make a wagon bridge; they have filled the ditches with big rocks, which they were compelled to cut and hew from the mountains; they went up to their throats in the swift Arkansas River to make a foot bridge to enable them to reach their lands; they worked in dark, damp mines as good and as perseveringly as trained miners; they worked on the railroad, giving entire satisfaction to their employers; they carried lumber on their shoulders to speed the erection of their houses; they walked often twenty miles a day to chop wood in the forests for the purpose of putting fence posts around their farms. Mr. P. M. Carrol, one of the officers of the Gunnison Division of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway—a man who, at my request, employs, and will constantly employ any quantity of our colonists for \$2.00 a day, told me upon my question, as to his being satisfied with our people: "the only drawback with your people is, that they work too fast; you can see how anxious they are to show

their working abilities." They furthermore worked their farms as if they were trained farmers, which they were not. Amongst thirteen families, numbering twenty adults, there were only three farmers, the rest were composed of tradesmen; and still, to-day, one can hardly distinguish who was a farmer and who was not. With one word, I can testify, and I fulfill a pleasant duty in doing so—that our Russian co-religionists, as a rule, can work, and will work if they are properly treated and understood.

#### 7. EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS LIFE OF THE COLONISTS.

There is a public school in Cotopaxi which answers the requirements of a good practical education. The children of our colonists visit the school, and Mr. James H. Freeman, the teacher, assured me that they will pick up the English language very soon. I arranged with him the plan of organizing a school for the grown colonists, to teach them English, arithmetic, geography, etc., and he promised that he will earnestly take it into consideration. Every Sabbath (that is, Friday evening and Sabbath mornings, as well as in the afternoons), divine services are held in the public school building, which are noted for the solemn and impressive way in which they are conducted.

The Rev. Dr. Baar, the worthy superintendent of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, presented us with a Sephar Thora, and two ladies, who do not want their names stated, adorned the scroll with two beautiful mantles; and I am happy to say, that although the colonists adhere to our sacred religion in a way which is called in America orthodox, yet they are by no means fanatics, but as enlightened as any of their European co-religionists. They have formed amongst themselves a Congregation and Mutual Relief Society, called Ohev Sholem (Lovers of Peace) which is in a very thriving condition. The relations of our colonists to their Christian neighbors, I am happy to say, leave at present nothing to be wished for. It is, and was always my opinion, that the best argument to break the prejudice

prevailing amongst Christians against Jews, is the "argumentum ad hominem." Let the Christian see the Jew, let him come in contact with him, and in Cotopaxi they see each other, visit each other, deal with one and other. The surrounding Christians frequently attend our divine services, and as an evidence of the brotherly spirit existing in them, it may be noted that the board of the school directors of Cotopaxi has offered spontaneously and voluntarily the recently built school house for public worship on our Sabbaths and holidays.

#### 8. EXPENDITURES MADE FOR ESTABLISHING AND SUPPORTING THE COLONY.—THE PROPERTY OF THE COLONY.

As Mr. Morris Tuska, one of the Committee who has officially visited our Colony, has already reported—not counting the cost of transportation—the Colony cost so far, \$8,750. For food for the period of five months, \$1,544.87 were expended, that is, \$25.80 for each person for five months, and \$90 and some odd cents for each of the seventeen families. The cost of the houses is \$3,360; for rent of the reception house we have to pay \$100. The rest of the \$5,044 was spent in barbed wire, twelve cows, a team and wagon, ploughs, agricultural implements, seeds, furniture, hauling, etc. Although the colonists earn money daily, and are self-supporting, yet there are some reasons which induce me to recommend to your kind consideration the pressing of another appropriation of \$500, as last and final contribution. These reasons are the following:

1. The families of Shames, Prissand and Vorsitzer, did not get cows, nor houses, and as they are undoubtedly among our best men, who never grumbled, and who silently bore their misfortune, never complaining at the circumstance, that all the rest were generously furnished with house and cow, while they were left without them, because they did not belong to the Colony from its start. I do strongly recommend that three cows and a cow be bought for

them at once, as they derived no benefit from our Society, except that of having being supplied for two months.

For this purpose I request .....	\$150 00
2. For the reception house, and as final payment on the houses when they will be finished....	210 00
3. Salary of Mr. Tobias, who ably assisted me in my labors, and board from the 2d of November to the 18th of November.....	44 00
4. For flour to be distributed amongst the Colonists.....	96 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$500 00</b>

These figures show that I actually request for the Colonists only \$96, the balance of the money being spent towards indispensable requirements. I only ask of you a contribution of \$96 to our Colonists. They have brought respect to the Jewish name in the Rocky Mountains; they have gratified and pleased our Society by their success, they have more than realized our most sanguine expectations; the Committee will not withhold from them this trifle, which, under the circumstances, will make it easier for them to get along in the difficult road of human life.

I lay much stress upon the fact, that our Colonists, previous to my parting from them, earnestly requested me to let them know the amount that they may be indebted to the Society, as they desire to repay every cent spent on them in yearly installments.

The property of the Cotopaxi Colony consists of a strong wagon and two mules; two ploughs and box of tools, and some agricultural implements. I call these the property of the Cotopaxi Colony, as they belong to the Community, each farmer having an equal share in the enjoyment of them. The property of each individual farmer is: A house, a cow and a calf, the necessary agricultural implements, their land, the crop and their two arms that are ready to work, ready to take up the struggle with the vicissitudes of life.

## 9. GENERAL REMARKS AND CONCLUSIONS.

Where these are facts, no theories are needed. The argument of facts conquers all other arguments. The facts are, that the Colony in Cotopaxi is a success, the facts are that those who advocated the idea that a Hebrew cannot make a farmer, have been refuted. They brought forward opinions, weapons of eloquence and of phrases, which we encounter with the weapons of facts. Facts speak. Sixty Russian refugees left New York as paupers five months ago. To-day they are self-supporting citizens. They had been colonized, thus they became self-supporting; that is the logic of facts. Do not spend lavishly your money for the purpose of distributing it to a desperate mob—that mob will ever remain a mob—even if you give each individual double the amount he gets now. The system of money distribution mitigates the pains of the wounds, but does not heal the wound. Colonize them, give them land, settle them, give them a home and the mob will become a class of peaceful citizens, who love the spot to which their faith has tied them. There is a great and sublime principle in colonization. The principle of the qualification of Judaism. There never was a better opportunity to show the never dying perseverance of the Jewish race, never a better chance to prove to the world that agriculture is not adverse to the Jewish feelings and inclinations, whereby can be utilized the secret power of the soil. Distribute money, spend thousands of dollars for supplying daily wants, and you will breed and raise paupers and beggars; colonize and you will make self-supporting men.

Our Colony in the Rocky Mountains will always stand forth as a noble monument of Jewish charity, as the striking proof of the working capacities, of the perseverance, of the earnestness of our Russian co-religionists, and as the victorious declaration of the truth—that the Hebrew can be a farmer and is a farmer. Those sixty Russian refugees have again and again proved the truth of the beautiful words

of Cicero about agriculture: "*Nihil uberius! nihil dulcius, nihil homine libero dignius agricultura!*" There is nothing nobler, nothing sweeter, nothing more becoming to a free man, than agriculture.

Respectfully submitted,

JULIUS SCHWARZ.