

The Colonies.

Elsewhere in this number will be found a full and very interesting account of the agricultural colony at Painted Woods, Dakota, founded and sustained by the zeal and energy of the Israelites of St. Paul, Minn., under the superintendence of the Rev. Dr. Wechsler. From this report it will be seen that this attempt to settle the Russian emigrants in the Far West, there to earn a livelihood by tilling the soil, has not only not proved a failure, but bids fair, as far as human foresight can foretell, to result in a pronounced success.

The Beersheba Colony is as yet in a purely experimental state, and it will be impossible to speak definitely of failure or success before next fall. There is, however, but little doubt that the families now located there will after this year be able to earn a living, by farming and stock-raising combined.

From the dairy farm at Washington, D. C., we have no recent news. The experiment was successful from the start, and proved that the projectors were as wise as they were benevolent.

The Vineland Colony in New Jersey is still keeping afloat, but the reports from it are so contradictory that it is impossible to tell its condition without visiting it in person.

The settlement at **Cotopaxi**, Col., has been abandoned, and all the colonists have gone to other places.

Independent, *i. e.*, unassisted, colonies, are springing up in various places, mainly in Dakota, and projects are on foot in the East for further settlements during the coming year.