

Vermontville stands alone and this "Constitution" is here reproduced as a matter of interest to all.

"Rules and Regulations of Union Colony"

WHEREAS, The enjoyment of the ordinances and institutions of the Gospel is in a great measure unknown in many parts of the western country; and

WHEREAS, We believe that a pious and devoted emigration is to be one of the most efficient means, in the hands of God, in removing the moral darkness which hangs over a great portion of the valley of the Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, We believe that a removal to the west may be a means of promoting our temporal interest, and we trust be made subservient to the advancement of Christ's Kingdom;

WE DO THEREFORE, Form ourselves into an association or Colony with the design of removing into some parts of the western country which shall hereafter be designated, and agree to bind ourselves to observe the following rules:

1. The Association or Colony shall be known by the appellation or name of "The Union Colony."

2. The Colony shall consist of those only who shall be admitted through a committee appointed for that purpose, and will subscribe their names to the articles and compact adopted by the Colony.

3. We hereby agree to make our arrangements for a removal as soon as our circumstances will permit--if possible, some time during the summer or fall of the present year--1836.

4. We agree, when we have arrived in the Western Country, to locate ourselves, if possible, in the same neighborhood with each other, and to form ourselves into such a community as will enable us to enjoy the same social and religious privileges which we leave behind.

5. In order to accomplish this object, we solemnly pledge ourselves to do all that is in our power to carry with us the institutions of the Gospel, to support them with the means which God has given us, and to hand them down to our children.

6. We do also agree that, for the benefit of our children and the rising generation, we will endeavor, so far as possible, to carry with and perpetuate among us the same literary privileges that we are permitted here to enjoy.

7. We do also pledge ourselves that we will strictly and rigidly observe the Holy Sabbath, neither laboring ourselves nor permitting our children or workmen or beasts to desecrate this day of rest by any kind of labor or recreation.