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DECREE
OF THE
CHILEAN GOVERNMENT
ENCOURAGING

EMIGRATION TO THE COLONY OF MAGALLANES,
ON THE STRAITS OF MAGELLAN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
SANTIAGO, *December 2, 1867.*

Considering—

1°. That it is proper to encourage, by all possible means, the Colony of Magallanes, which, from its geographical situation, is destined to become an important station for the commerce of Europe with the nations of the Pacific;

2°. That the importance of this Colony will increase, in great proportion, with the establishment, soon to be effected, of a line of steamers to ply between the ports of Europe and those of Chile, by way of the Straits of Magellan;

3°. That the developement and prosperity of the Colony depend principally on the encouragement of immigration, it being for that reason indispensable to offer inducements to colonists to enable them to come to the Colony and establish themselves therein:

Availing myself, therefore, of the authority conferred upon me by the laws of November 18, 1845, and January 9, 1857, I decree:

ARTICLE 1. To all families of colonists established or hereafter to establish themselves in Magallanes, there will be granted—

1°. Free passage for themselves, their baggage, and their tools and instruments of labor, in the transports sent by the Government to Magallanes;

2°. A portion of land, the extent of which is to be determined by the Governor, not to exceed twenty-five acres, (*hectareas*,) for each head of a family, and twelve for each one of his male children over fourteen years of age. The land will be sold to the colonists at fifty cents an acre, and payment is to be made therefor as provided in the following article:

3°. Army rations for the period of one year to the father of the family and each son over ten years of age;

4°. An allowance or pension of five dollars a month to each family for the period of one year. The Governor, with the approbation of the Government, may increase this allowance whenever extraordinary circumstances shall afford reason to authorize such increase;

5°. Free importation of the effects, tools, and implements of the colonist intended for his own private use;

6°. A collection of seeds, at the choice of the colonist, not to exceed the value of ten dollars; three hundred boards or planks, and a quintal of nails, all being valued at the current prices;

7°. Medical attendance and necessary medicines, and free schooling for their children.

ART. 2. The subsidies referred to in the preceding article will be advanced to the colonist by way of a loan. The repayment of this loan is to be made in ten equal parts, in money, by instalments at the end of each year—the first instalment not to be required until three years after the colonist has taken possession of his allotment of land.

ART. 3. Any colonist who, without cause duly accepted by the Government, shall have failed to establish himself in his portion of land, either in person or by deputy, within the six months following the delivery of it to him, will lose his right thereto, and the Governor may dispose of it as vacant.

ART. 4. The title-deeds of the property shall be given to each colonist whenever, in the opinion of the Governor, he shall have made inclosures and effected a clearing or cultivation of any importance.

ART. 5. Any colonist who, after three years from the day on which his allotment of land shall have been delivered to him, shall not be in a condition to receive his title-deeds to the property, as not having effected the labors set down in the preceding article, shall lose his right to the said allotment, and the Governor will dispose of it to some other person, charging to the account of the new owner the value of the improvements made upon the land.

ART. 6. Every allotment of land will remain hypothecated for the amount in which the colonist is indebted to the Treasury.

ART. 7. Any colonist may abandon his allotment and take another one whenever, in the opinion of the Governor, the soil of the former one is not easily adapted for cultivation.

ART. 8. Let there be established the office of Secretary of the Government of Magallanes, with an annual salary of eight hundred dollars, and whose duties, in addition to those laid down in the Act of Internal Regulation for employees of his class, will include that of keeping three books, in the following form :

In the first are to be set down the records that are to show the delivery to each colonist of his proper allotment. Each of these records is to be signed by the Governor, the Secretary, and the colonist receiving the grant. It should show the date of the delivery, and the number by which the allotted section of ground may have been designated.

In the second there is to be kept an account of the title-deeds to be issued to each colonist, when he has complied with the conditions prescribed by the present ordinance; and these title-deeds are to express the amount of the hypothecation with which the property has been charged.

In the third there shall be opened an account for each colonist to record his indebtedness to the Treasury and the payments that may have been made by him on account of this indebtedness.

ART. 9. The title-deeds to be given to each colonist will be signed by the Governor, the Secretary, and the party interested, and will show the number of the allotment, its limits, and the sum total of the indebtedness of the colonist to the Treasury, and for which his allotment shall remain hypothecated.

ART. 10. The Governor of Magallanes shall be directed to distribute proportionately to each family the animals in the colony that may be subject to the control of the Revenue Department of the Government, the value thereof to be repaid under the same conditions indicated for the payment of the other subsidies that have been conceded.

Let this decree be promulgated and published, and due credit given thereto.

(Signed) PEREZ,

(Signed) F. VÁRGAS FONTECILLA.

DECREE OF THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGING EMIGRATION TO THE COLONY OF ARAUCANIA.

SANTIAGO, April 8th, 1868.

Considering: 1°. That the fortifications erected on the frontiers afford sufficient security to the inhabitants of the lands settled in the Territory of Araucania;

2°. That the State has acquired considerable extension of territory in the Department of Nacimiento; and

3°. That, according to the Act of December 4, 1866, one part of these lands is intended for the foundation of colonies:

Using the authority conferred upon me by the laws of November 18, 1845, and that just mentioned of December 4, 1866, I decree :

ARTICLE 1. The lands situated in the Department of Nacimiento, that shall be designated for this purpose by the Commander-in-chief of the army of operations on the frontier, shall be set aside for colonization lands.

ART. 2. To such families as shall establish themselves on the territory set off according to the preceding article, there will be granted :

1°. A tract of 20 square acres of level and well-watered land for each father of a family, and 10 acres additional for each one of his male children over fourteen years of age. If in the tract there should be any hilly land, there will be granted an extension of such equal to double the former kind.

2°. The necessary subsidies to cover the expenses of their passage to Talcahuano or Lota, and those for the transportation thence of themselves and their baggage to the tract allotted to them in the colony.

3°. A free habitation from the day of disembarkment to the time when the authorities place at the disposal of the colonist his proper tract of land.

4°. A daily allowance of money to aid in the maintenance of each family for the same time. This allowance will be thirty cents for the head of the family and twelve additional for each child over ten years of age.

5°. A pension of fifteen dollars a month for each family, for the period of one year, counting from the time of establishment upon the tract.

6°. Importation free of duty of the effects, tools and utensils intended for the private use of the colonist.

7°. Exemption, for the period of twenty years, from the payment of land, excise, and patent taxes.

8°. A collection of seeds, not to exceed five dollars in value, a yoke of oxen, three hundred plank boards, and

forty-six kilogrammes of nails, all to be estimated at the current prices.

9°. Gratuitous medical aid and medicines for the period of two years, and free schooling permanently for their children.

ART. 3. For the lands and subsidies, both special and pecuniary, referred to in the preceding article, the colonists will pay as follows: For the lands, valued at two dollars an acre, in fifty years, at the rate of two per cent each year; and for the special subsidies and money, in five equal portions, at the end of each year, the first portion not being payable until three years after the colonist has taken possession of the tract.

ART. 4. Any colonist that shall not have established himself on his tract within six months after its delivery to him, shall lose his right to it.

ART. 5. A title-deed of the property shall be given to each colonist as soon as he shall have erected on his tract a permanent house and shall have inclosed five acres and placed the same in a good state of cultivation.

ART. 6. Any colonist who, after three years, counting from the day on which the land shall have been delivered to him, shall not be in a condition to receive a title-deed, on account of not having accomplished the improvements mentioned in the preceding article, will lose his right to the tract, the State however repaying to him the value of any improvements that he may have made, after deducting his indebtedness to the Treasury.

ART. 7. The Commanding Officer above-mentioned will set off to each colonist his proper tract; and if the soil of any one should turn out to be ill-suited for cultivation, such tract may be exchanged for another one.

ART. 8. The Departmental Treasury of Nacimiento will keep the following books of record relative to these colonies:

1°. One in which shall be set down the record of the

delivery of his tract to each colonist. This record is to be signed by the Governor, the Treasurer, and the colonist. It must show the date of delivery and the number by which the tract may have been designated in the plan of the colony.

2°. A second book, in which a record shall be kept of the title-deeds to be given to each colonist.

3°. A book, in which an account is to be kept of the indebtedness of each colonist to the Treasury, and of the payments to be made by him on account of such indebtedness.

ART. 9. When the colonist shows that he has effected the improvements mentioned in Art. 5, the title-deed of his property will be delivered to him by the Departmental Governor, the expenses of the execution of such title-deed to be borne by the Treasury. In the deed is to be expressed the sum due by the colonist to the Treasury in payment for his land and for the subsidies received by him, the farm remaining hypothecated for the said amount.

Let this decree be promulgated and published, and due credit given thereto.

(Signed) PEREZ.

(Signed) F. VÁRGAS FONTECILLA.

EXPLANATORY NOTICE.

In addition to the concessions contained in the previous decree, the Government is disposed to grant to such agents as would engage to carry colonists to Chile, as high as \$40 in gold for each person, male or female, over 15 and under 50 years of age, and \$20 for those under 15 and over 4 years of age. Payment for such transportation would be made immediately on the arrival of the vessels in the harbors of Talcahuano and Lota.

The lands which the Government has at present designated for colonization, have an extent of about 200,000 acres. They are of fine quality for the cultivation of every kind

of grain and vegetable products, and for the breeding of cattle, sheep, and horses. The average yield of wheat in the crops of the present year was fifteen fold, without any sort of subsidy.

Throughout the whole territory water is found in abundance, as also fuel; and, in the neighborhood of the colonies, there are forests, the wood of which it would be easy to render useful. The colonies are situated at a short distance from navigable rivers. The freight of a quintal (metrical system) from the place of production to the ports of Lota or Talcahuano, will not exceed 50 cents. The means of transportation are easy, and the harbors offer every kind of convenience and advantage for the shipment of produce. The climate of this part of Chile is mild and temperate, although somewhat rainy during six or seven months of the year.

The colonists will enjoy the most complete security of person and property. The laws, moreover, guarantee religious toleration to all creeds and the free exercise of all religious practices not contrary to morality and propriety.

In the neighborhood of the colonies there is quite a numerous population, among which may be found all articles necessary for the conveniences of life, and for carrying on agricultural pursuits. The administrative and judicial authorities are vigilant in the maintenance of order and guaranteeing the civil rights of the inhabitants of those localities.

Plans of the region destined for colonies are now in course of preparation; and, although the season of winter, which is now beginning, has suspended the operations of the engineers appointed to execute the survey of the country, they will be finished in a short time, and those interested may examine them in the office of the Chilean Legation at Washington. Any persons desiring to enter into contracts to send emigrants to Chile, in accordance with the provisions of the preceding decrees, can address the Chargé d'Affaires of Chile, at Washington, No. 439 13th Street.

COPY OF DECREE OF THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT.

ACT of Congress explanatory of Article 5 of the Constitution of Chile.

SANTIAGO, *July* 27, 1865.

Whereas, the National Congress has discussed and passed the following resolution :

ARTICLE 1. It is declared that, by the 5th Article of the Constitution, those who do not profess the Roman Catholic and Apostolic Religion, are allowed the practice of their own religion within the precincts of their private residences.

ART. 2. Dissenters are allowed to establish and maintain private schools for the instruction of their own children in the doctrines of their own respective creeds.

And whereas the Congress of the State having discussed the said resolution, has approved and sanctioned the same, therefore, it is hereby ordered that it be promulgated and carried into effect as a law of the Republic.

(Signed) JOSÉ JOAQUIN PEREZ.

(Signed) FEDERICO ERRAZURIZ.

COPY OF DECREE OF THE CHILIAN GOVERNMENT.

ACT of Congress explanatory of Article 5 of the Constitution of Chile.

SANTIAGO, July 27, 1885.

Whereas the National Congress has discussed and passed the following resolution:

ARTICLE I. It is declared that, by the 5th Article of the Constitution, those who do not profess the Roman Catholic and Apostolic Religion, are allowed the practice of their own religion within the precincts of their private residences.

ART. 2. Dissenters are allowed to establish and maintain private schools for the instruction of their own children in the doctrines of their own respective creeds.

And whereas the Congress of the State having discussed the said resolution, has approved and sanctioned the same, therefore it is hereby ordered that it be promulgated and carried into effect as a law of the Republic.

JOSE JOAQUIN PEREZ.

(Signed)

FEDERICO HERRERA.