

not received that attention which its advantages entitle it to. The

ADVANTAGES OF THE STONEWALL DISTRICT for settlement are many and important, and may be summarised as follows: First, as an agricultural district, it will compare favorably with the most renowned sections of Manitoba. There is abundance of wood all through the district. Excellent water is easily obtained in unlimited quantities. In this respect the residents claim that they have better water than any section of the country. There is plenty of hay, and the numerous bluffs afford protection to stock. Schools and churches are established all over the district. In the municipality of Rockwood, of which Stonewall is the centre, there are thirteen schools and about twenty churches. Another important feature is the market facilities. Stonewall affords as good a local market for the disposal of grain and farmers' produce as can be found in Manitoba, and in addition to this, settlers here are within driving distance of Winnipeg. Thus it has advantages of markets possessed by no other place in the province. Another important point is that land can be obtained here at lower figures than in most of the other favorite districts of the province. Prices of land vary from \$2 to \$5 per acre as to quality. It will be seen from these statements that the Stonewall district is really one of the most favored localities of the province. There are some districts having an excellent soil for farming, but without wood. Other districts possessing really choice land, are at a disadvantage from the difficulty in obtaining water. It can therefore be truthfully said that the Stonewall district has all the advantages and none of the drawbacks to settlement.

The town of Stonewall itself is situated on a gravel ridge, affording excellent natural drainage. Mud and dirty streets are unknown. The town is surrounded by groves of trees, which give a pleasing effect. Underlying the town is a solid strata of excellent building stone, and this stone forms a natural floor for the cellars of the stores and residences. A great deal of stone was taken from here during the construction of the C. P. railway, and for use for building purposes in Winnipeg. Of late years very little has been done, but this year operations in the quarries are more active. Stone has recently been taken out for the two bridges across the Assiniboine river at Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, for the Northern Pacific railway. Lime is also manufactured here.

The principal industry of Stonewall at present is the

ROLLER FLOUR MILL, of Rutherford & Co. The mill has a capacity of 50 barrels daily, but there is ample room in the building for a grinding capacity of 125 barrels. The proprietors contemplate enlarging the mill to this capacity at some future time. The mill was originally a stone system mill, the roller plant having been put in two years ago. The mill is a great convenience to the farmers. The surplus flour over local requirements has all found a market in Winnipeg. There is another roller flour mill in the municipality, at Balmoral, north of Stonewall.

In the mercantile line there are four general

stores, the oldest established business now in existence being that of J. B. Rutherford, who started in 1882. G. C. Longstreet & Co. carry on business as general merchants. Connected with this business is that of Longstreet & Co., hardware and boots and shoes. The hardware and shoe lines are carried on in a separate building from the general store. Lindsay & Paterson carry a large stock of general merchandise in all lines but hardware. Coombs & Co. carry a general stock of staple goods, but make a specialty of boots and shoes. All the general merchants handle farm produce largely, and some buy grain. J. Montgomery confines his business to hardware, tinware, etc., and he also represents the Watson Manufacturing Co. in agricultural implements. Geo. Houston carries a stock of stoves and tinware, and manufactures tin, copper and sheet iron goods, etc., eavetroughing and roofing. He is the only manufacturer in these lines. James Walton buys cattle for shipment and carries on a meat business. He also handles groceries, provisions and produce. Wm. Hancock carries a stock of furniture, and in an adjoining building he also has a fine stock of harness goods. He does manufacturing in the harness and saddlery line, and he also manufactures blacksmiths' bellows. The bellows he disposes of principally to Winnipeg wholesale dealers. G. G. Graham has a blacksmith shop, and he also handles agricultural machinery and implements for Harris, Son & Co., in which line he does a large trade. H. C. McQuarrie, blacksmith, handles the implements of the Massey Manufacturing Co. J. W. Clift also has a blacksmith shop. The millinery and fancy goods line is represented by the Misses A. & L. Anderson. Isaac Riley does the lumber trade of the town. N. H. Jackson carries on business in drugs, Mrs. McEwan handles confectionery, etc., W. E. Crawford is the jeweller, A. B. Thoin, the photographer, and Dr. Dunn cures the sick. Thos. Lusted has a wagon shop, in connection with G. G. Graham's establishment. The painting line is attended to by Godfrey Brown, and Bell Bros. have a livery business. There are two hotels. The Villa House is kept by Isaac Walton. It has sample rooms for commercial men. Mr. Walton also sells agricultural implements for H. S. Westbrook, of Winnipeg. This season he is experimenting in farming. The Canada Pacific Hotel is kept by Isaac Riley, who has good sample rooms and stabling in connection with his house, and a lumber yard adjoining. Among the business institutions of the place must also be noticed the *Stonewall News*, which, though mentioned last, is not least in importance. The *News* is a weekly journal, published by Neil R. McDonald.

Stonewall has

FOUR CHURCHES

and a splendid school building. There are also a number of very good residences, including that of S. J. Jackson. Mr. Jackson, who is a member of the local house for the district, has a farm adjoining the town, which he claims is the best farm in Manitoba. A number of the buildings are built of stone. Stonewall is not incorporated, and this is a very fortunate circumstance. Had it been incorporated during the "boom" days, it would, doubtless, like

many of the other older towns of the province, been now heavily in debt. The municipality of Rockwood, of which it forms a part, has only a debenture debt of \$7,000. The council has adopted the plan of paying for all improvements as they are made, and though this has made the taxes rather high while settlement is sparse, yet it leaves the municipality in good financial shape. There are unpaid taxes due sufficient to wipe out the present debenture debt. Stonewall has a registry office and court building, but the people are so law abiding that a case has never yet come up at the court for the district. The town has therefore no use for a lawyer.

The implement dealers report large sales of implements this spring and a large increase in the area of land under cultivation. About 25 per cent. more new land was broken last summer. The hardware dealers report large sales of wire fencing. This shows that the country is advancing in settlement. Wheat grown in the Stonewall district took first prize at the Manitoba Provincial Exhibition for several years in succession. A cheese factory has been operated at Stonewall for some years, but it is understood that it will not likely be operated this season. One of the sights of Stonewall is a field full of bee-hives. The bees are owned by A. Magwood, grain dealer, who brought in a few hives from Ontario some years ago, and found the bees so profitable that he imported about fifty more hives last summer.

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