

## Welshmen in Manitoba.

none the visitors at present in the are the Rev. D. G. Davis and Mr. Jones. These gentlemen are among the most influential of the contingent Welshmen who came to Western Canada from the Argentine Republic last summer. More than twenty years ago some wealthy Welshmen, patriots and enthusiasts of perpetuating the Welsh language, and distinctly Welsh in spirit, obtained from the government of Argentina a concession of territory in the valley of the Chubut. Large numbers of Welshmen were induced to emigrate to South America. The colony, however, did not prosper. A succession of dry seasons alternated with most disastrous floods. The river banks had to be artificially strengthened, at enormous expense, and the levees were frequently broken when the Chubut, swollen by melting snows of the Andes, be-

Llewellyn was chairman, set about devising means for their amelioration. Finally, as the result of negotiations with the interior department, some three hundred of them came to western Canada. The homestead lands of four townships near Salto Co. were reserved for them. It was June when the great bulk of the new settlers arrived, and since then they have been busy with necessary pioneer work, erecting houses and stables, digging wells, and breaking land for next spring's crop. Both Mr. Davis and Mr. Lewis state that the progress made in these particulars has been most gratifying. Some of the new comers have put as much as forty tons of hay, and all are working up to their utmost limit to get their homesteads in order at as early a date as possible.

Some of the houses erected are of logs, but the majority of them are well skilfully plastered and whitewashed. It is the intention of the settlers to start a brickyard next year, and they will then erect more pretentious homes. With one or two insignificant

penses of transportation. The latter has offered to take the Chubut Welshmen to South Africa, but decline to assist them to Canada. The practice of assisted passages to immigrants has long ago been abandoned by the Canadian government, and is not likely to be resumed, even for the securing of such admirable settlers as the Welsh are proving themselves to be. There is some probability that wealthy homesteaders in Britain will come to the help of these people, by advancing them sufficient to enable them to settle under the British flag.

Owing to the excessive cost of coming to Canada a few of the Salto Co. colony would have suffered some hardship during the coming winter. On Messrs. Davis and Lewis representing this to the interior department, the promise of food for those needing it, and seed for next year's crop, was given, the cost of such assistance being repayable by the settlers before the patents for their homesteads would be granted. Many of the young men are going out with threshing gangs,

of the vast spruce forests, ranging to the north and accessible from Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba have been cut over.

The following figures give the sales of sawn lumber effected by manufacturers and disposed of principally in the Manitoba market: The total is 165,512,000 feet, and is made up as follows:

	Feet.
Rat Portage Lumber Co.,	
Ilat Portage .....	60,228,000
Keewatin Lumber Co., Ke-	
ewatin .....	20,000,000
Savanne Mills Lumber Co.,	
Savanne .....	5,000,000
Pigeon River Mills, Port	
Arthur .....	10,000,000
Vigars & Co., Port Arthur ..	4,000,000
Wabigton Mills .....	2,500,000
Mills in British Columbia ..	20,000,000
Mills in Manitoba, operating	
on crown license .....	22,784,783
Mills in Manitoba, operating	
under permit .....	5,000,000

VIEW NEAR FORT QU'APPELLE, ASSA, SHOWING THE INDIAN MISSION SCHOOLS.

raging torrent. In a few weeks country became parched, and an artificial canal had to be dug. In spite of the possible work and forethought, the success would not attend the wishes of the colonists. The founders of the settlement lost all they had in the young men, for only a narrow strip of land on either side of the Chubut was the original allotment, and that, so far from being a Welsh colony, was a mixture of Welsh customs and traditions. A rising generation was determined more and more towards Spanish speech, thought and action. The young men, being born in the land, were compelled to serve in the army of that republic for the usual term of conscription. The government of the wishes of the Welshmen to matters of education; it refused to limit of endurance, and no compensating equivalent. The Welsh was frequently commanded by the government officials, whose extortion and rapacity were without protection. Thus, after years of strenuous effort, the settlement had to admit failure—in material, in future prospects, and in national aims which had led to the foundation of the settlement. They turned to their compatriots in Britain for aid, and an influential committee of which Sir John Dilwyn

exceptions all are delighted with Canada. The fertility of the soil and the opportunities for obtaining a competent education, but even more, and thought by them of the privilege of again living under equitable British law, and not being discriminated against in every possible way, as was the case in Argentina. It is expected that many more from the Chubut colony will make their homes in western Canada. This year there has been another disastrous flood, and the unfavorable conditions there, and the highly favorable reports as to their treatment by the Canadian government, sent by the Salto Co. settlers to their South American compatriots, will have the effect of bringing many more to the Dominion. The great obstacle to a large emigration to Canada is the lack of means of the Chubut colonists. They cannot realize on their property there, except at a tremendous loss. From Chubut they have to take boat to Buenos Ayres, thence tranship to Liverpool, and thence re-embark for a Canadian port. The cost of their coming is therefore very great and the sale of their steadings and stock, in the present condition of Argentine agriculture, is often not sufficient to bring a man and his family to the Northwest. Messrs. Davis and Lewis are endeavoring to get the British committee and the Canadian or British governments to assist in defraying the ex-

and will earn enough to carry them over the winter, but there is so much work needing to be done on their homesteads that many will be unable to get away, and it is to some of these that assistance will be given.

Messrs. Lewis and Davis state that the crops in the Salto Co. district are very fine. The first frost of the season occurred on the 10th inst. The new settlement is to be called Llewellyn, in compliment to Sir J. Dilwyn Llewellyn, the chairman of the British committee.

Yesterday the two gentlemen had a long conference with Mr. D. L. Thomas, of the Cardiff Daily Mail. Mr. Thomas is one of the party of British editors at present touring Canada and has always taken a strong interest in the movement to transfer the Chubut colony to Canada. Both Mr. Lewis and Mr. Davis expressed strong hopes that as the result of the information they had given to Mr. Thomas, and the representations he would make on his arrival at home, that a much larger movement of the Argentine colony to the Canadian Northwest would follow.

## The Lumber Industry.

Inspector E. F. Stephenson states that the amount of lumber manufactured by mills in Manitoba operating under government license, totalled 24,220,800 ft. As yet but a small area

Mills in Manitoba, cut on homesteaders' free permit is 3,000,000 Sawn lumber imported from the United States .....

13,228,000

Total .....

165,512,783

shown a great falling off during the preceding year from the United States amounted to 15,855,000 feet, so that this trade is gradually decreasing. The logs brought in from the state of Minnesota by the Lake of the Woods mills amounted to about 20,000,000 feet, board measure.

The importation of shingles has also shown a great falling off during the last two years as the following figures will show: 1900, 10,235,000; 1901, 3,557,049; 1902, 1,542,000. The British Columbia mills are now capturing most of the shingle trade to the exclusion of the American product.

The Plum Coulee drug store has been sold to W. J. McTavish, who took possession on the 9th inst. Edward McClung, who has been managing it for the past two weeks, has accepted a position as traveller for the Martin, Role & Wynne Co., Winnipeg.

High records for New York stock exchange seats have been broken by the purchase of a membership for an unknown western man for \$81,000. In addition to this sum, \$1,000 will be the price of initiation. Memberships were sold seven years ago as low as \$13,500.