

F 326
.A22
Copy 1

ALABAMA:



HER RESOURCES AND WHAT SHE IS DOING WITH THEM.

1796

10

30

ALABAMA.



GOV. WM. J. SAMFORD.

What resources has Alabama? is an inquiry of declining importance. What is being done with them? has usurped the old interest in the first query. Not that all her native wealth has been measured and mapped or even discovered, for much searching below the surface is still in progress, not without reward. But developing wealth means much more to men than natural riches, and human interest in growing and expanding industry is now tense and strained in Alabama.

What may be called the industrial literature of the State, affords an apt and unmistakable illustration of the point. In the eighties there was a mighty boom, and the pamphleteers and newspapers poured a tide of ink through the land. The story was of the ores and the coal and the timber and soil possibilities, and the industries that were coming, while gay maps were showy with dotted lines of railroads yet to be.

The literature of this good year 1901, issued by well-organized commercial bodies and the railroads, and the trade editions of the papers, deal rather with mines and furnaces and railroads and factories in operation and with farm improvements already here. For an instance, it was formerly customary in pamphlets like this to say that the soil of Alabama is admirably adapted to the production of rice and sugar cane. Handsome pictures on some other pages of this little book show a rice harvest and a cane field ready for the knife.

In short, Alabama is in the full tide of an era of development that is the astonishment of her own people

and the best of all invitations to the investor and the worker.

True, except in the matter of coal and iron, development in Alabama long proceeded slowly and gradually, so that its extent was hardly realized by the people who were working it out. Comparisons covering periods wide apart show rather startling changes. Latterly, comparisons are made of each year with its predecessor.

Area.—The area of Alabama is 52,250 square miles, or 32,463,080 acres. Of this, three-fourths is arable. One-sixth is underlaid with minerals in workable quantities. At least two-thirds is yet covered with forest growth, much of it valuable as timber.

Population.—The population of Alabama is 1,828,697, a gain of 20.8 per cent. since 1890. This is only two-tenths of one per cent. less than the gain of the country as a whole, and exceeds the gains of the East.

AN AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

2 Not without significance as indicating the progressive spirit of the people, is the existence of a well-organized Agricultural Department as a part of the State government. Under this Department, statistics are gathered and information on agricultural subjects disseminated among the people. Lecturers are sent among the farmers and institutes held for the discussion of practical subjects. As a part of the same impulse towards improvement, two regular experiment stations are maintained and an agricultural high school has been established in each of the congressional districts. The Department works in harmony with the State Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn. This Department, also, under special provision of law, makes displays of the products of Alabama at interstate and international expositions, and has now an exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo.

AGRICULTURE.

Tilling the soil is the most important industry of the people in Alabama, and rapid as the gain has been in mining and manufacturing, it does not appear that the farmer is to be left in the race. Not only does he measurably keep pace in numbers, but real progress in method and economy and variety of product, is becoming as



THE COTTON HARVEST.

noteworthy among the fields as by the streets of Alabama. The fertility of the soil where it was exhausted under the old regime, is being steadily restored by intelligent fertilization, care for the land and rotation of crops, while factory, mine and saw mill are a direct stimulus and aid to agriculture in the markets they afford and the transportation facilities they encourage and promote.

The census of 1900 shows the gain of population in Alabama during the ten years to have been 20.8 per cent. The gain in rural population was 18.4 per cent. This is a really wonderful testimony to improving agricultural conditions in Alabama, when we consider that for many years farm desertion was the despair of thoughtful men. The old time when cotton, corn and the sweet potato patch made up the round of effort, is a long way off now. Worn out lands are being reclaimed and made fertile, forests are being



SUGAR CANE FIELD.

cleared away, the farms improved, the crops varied, and the things for sale and use multiplied beyond the hope of former examples.

The Soil.—The soil of Alabama is of infinite variety. In the middle portion, prairie predominates, though interspersed with the rich alluvium of the river valleys and bottoms along the creeks. Taking the State as a whole, the most common soil is the light loam overlying a subsoil of clay. Much of the soil in the pine regions

to the south is sandy, though this is interspersed with a thin loam on a red clay bed. Between the four dominant soils are found every gradation known to soil composition, including the thick limy loams of the mountain valleys. The products seem, however, rather a matter of climate and fertility, than of soil composition, since scarce a plant or tree that grows in one does not flourish in the others. The prairies and alluvial deposits are of seemingly inexhaustible fertility; the red lands are maintained with little manuring and are easily restored when worn; the sandy soils respond to fertilization, and under the stimulus of the mineral ingredients now so abundant and so cheap, they are the seat of a thriving and prosperous population. In large sections of Southern Ala-

5



THE ALABAMA RICE HARVEST.

bama, the home-seeker is following the saw mill, and the thin lands that grew the pine are being transformed into fruitful fields and flowering orchards.

Climate.—The climate of Alabama is sunny enough to bring cotton to its best perfection and to give its sweetest, finest flavor to every fruit that grows in temperate and sub-tropical latitudes. The mercury rarely rises to a hundred as it rarely falls to zero—a narrow range. In the hottest spells of summer it falls at night fifteen or twenty degrees, refreshing the sweltering people and saving them from sunstroke and the exhaustion of more northern localities. There is rainfall enough to thread the land with rivers and creeks and brooks and pour from the hillsides everywhere many thousands of never failing springs.



A RIVER LANDING.

Dividing the State for meteorological purposes into the northern or mountain region, the middle or prairie and alluvial region, and the southern or gulf coast region, we have annual average temperatures as follows: Northern, 61°; Middle, 64°; Southern, 66°.

The average rainfall is as follows: Northern, 49.92 inches; Middle, 47.03 inches; Southern, 55.87 inches. The average dates of the first killing frosts of autumn are: At Birmingham, in the Northern district, October 30th; at Montgomery, in the Middle district, November 7th; and at Mobile, in the Southern district, November 19th.

The average dates of the last killing frosts are: At Birmingham, March 28th; at Montgomery, March 12th; and at Mobile, February 20th.

These averages are based on observations of the Weather Bureau of the United States Department of Agri-



YOUNG AFRICA.

culture, covering a series of twenty-eight years. They bear out the statement that the climate is mild and equable, guiltless of extremes. The long range of time between the latest and the earliest killing frosts, shows how and why it is common here to produce from the same land two and even three crops in a single season.

With such a soil and such a climate it is no wonder that the farmers of Alabama have caught the quick step of progress, have adopted the lessons of experience and of experiment and of economy, and are making merchandise of that of which once they boasted and talked under the grand generic name of "soil possibilities." Agricultural progress is neither a dream nor a theme, but an actual thing turning a growing list of products into the channels of commerce.

Health.—Closely related to climate is the subject of health. The well-organized medical department of the State has carefully gathered statistics through many years, and the average death rate among the people as a whole is found to be about 13 per thousand. In the cities the average is about 20, with a maximum of 25. With these figures anyone can institute comparisons for himself with other States and cities.

Staple Crops.—Historically speaking, the staple crops in Alabama were cotton, corn, and sweet potatoes. 7

The point of interest here is not so much the extent to which we have increased the production of these, but to what extent have we increased the list and thus brought into practical and commercial use the variety of wealth-producing vegetation adapted to our mild climate and varied soil.

If by "staple crops" we mean those that are regularly, profitably and systematically raised for purposes of consumption, use or sale, we must greatly increase the list. We must add peas, oats, sugar cane, melons, rye, barley, wheat, vegetables, strawberries, peaches, pears, grapes, mellilotus, alfalfa, vetch, Johnson grass, pea vines, peanuts, clover, timothy, rice and tobacco. Nor must it be overlooked that some of the now staple products of every farm have developed from patches



WATER MILL AND GIN.

into fields. The potato, the pea, sugar cane, rice, tobacco, and even oats, formerly raised in a small way for home consumption only, have become money crops, regularly and systematically put upon the market.

Cotton.—This great staple is grown in all parts of the State and is still the most general source of the money supply of the people. It brings to the State as raw material more than \$30,000,000 per annum. Notwithstanding the increased acreage and production of other crops, it has more than doubled in thirty years.

Cotton Seed.—The seed of the cotton never went to waste in Alabama, but was formerly used as manure in its raw state. It is now a great article of commerce, and a money crop. Every two bales of cotton represents a ton of seed, and the 500,000 tons produced in the State are worth \$5,000,000. If only half the seed are sold, the value to the farmer in money is \$2,500,000. These seed are turned into oil, meal and hulls, and are shipped to every part of the world as staple articles of commerce.

Corn.—Every farm has its corn field and the yield is limited only by the fertility of the soil. Forty bushels to the acre is not an uncommon yield, while the thin lands respond profitably to a little manuring.

Sweet Potatoes.—The farms of Alabama have never been without their potato patch. Next to corn meal, it is and has always been, the most common article of food among the farm laborers. Every cabin has its patch and in winter its "hill," an earthen mound or bed where the crop is stored for winter use. The yield is from 200 to 300 bushels per acre, practically limitless. The extent of cultivation is limited by the market and the needs of the household. In hard times, poor people have lived and made crops with the potato as the main diet. It is more nourishing than the Irish potato, having a large percentage of sugar, and is more abundant in its yield in this latitude. The market is mainly confined to the local urban population, and the increase of the latter through growth of factories, has largely increased the production of the potato. Improved methods of preservation through the winter have prolonged the marketing season, and the time is already here when last year's crop is obtainable almost until the new crop comes in.

Peas.—No agricultural development in Alabama surpasses the growing value of the common field pea. The pea itself is a staple article of food on the table of the humblest cottager and the lordliest hotel. The market is yet far beyond the production. The value of the vine as a soil fertilizer and a rough food for animals has been known for many years, but it is only in the recent past that the body of the people have come to realize its full

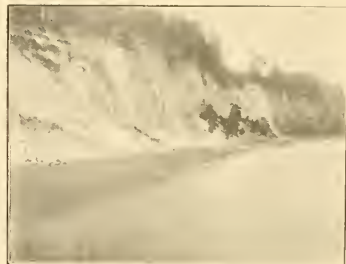


TALLASSEE FALLS WATER POWER.

importance and to get the most out of it. Planted upon worn out lands, the pea produces a fair crop and leaves the soil always richer. The vine turned under, rapidly restores fertility. Its value in this respect is derived from the nitrogen which it draws from the air and that which is stored in the roots. It is even claimed that the vine may be taken off for hay and the roots will yet leave the ground in better shape than they found it. But at a certain stage of growth, the vines make a most nutritious hay, and the yield runs from a ton on the poorest land to three tons on soils of average fertility. It may be truly said that progressive farming in Alabama is measured by the attention paid to the field pea.

Sugar Cane.—The Alabama farmer who does not make his own molasses, and a far better quality than he can buy on the general market, is behind the times. The sugar cane patch is becoming as universal as the garden spot. Here and there a farmer has his own mill and boilers, but usually each neighborhood has its traveling mill which goes from farm to farm making up the crop. The molasses thus made is sold in the towns and cities at fair prices. Nor is the home-made sugar left in the bottoms of the barrels a despised item of farm economy. Four hundred gallons per acre is not an uncommon product. Manure is required on the soils of Alabama and there is hence no prospect of cane raising on the plantation system. But as part and parcel of general farming, nothing adds so much to the purse or the comfort of the Alabama farmer. The cane thus raised on our lands in Alabama is richer in sucrose than that of Louisiana by two per cent. Through neighborhood co-operation, this cane can be turned into sugar by the most improved processes, and thus a source of wealth is opened up which is so much gain, not interfering with the general operations of the farms as heretofore pursued.

Hay.—Much has been written and much said of the grasses of Alabama, an almost infinite variety flourishing here. In the Tennessee valley clover has long been successfully grown. Of its own accord and as a volun-



BLUFF SCENE ON ALABAMA RIVER.

tary visitor, both white and yellow clover are spreading over the old fields and along the highways as far south as Montgomery where it is proving valuable for pasture. The staple grasses for hay crops are, the old native crab grass, the imported Johnson grass, mellilotus, alfalfa, timothy, millets of several kinds, and pea vines. Allusion has already been made to the last named. The crab flourishes everywhere and has the advantage that it can be alternated with other crops without replanting. The Johnson grass makes a coarssr hay and is raised on land given over to itself. On good soils in the prairies and river lands, it produces from year to year an average of three tons per acre and requires no cultivation. The great grazing grass of the country is Bermuda, which is tenacious, requires no attention, is rich in butter qualities, and affords pasturage for nine months of the year. Mellilotus has been found to restore fertility to the bald and worn prairie soils in a few years, and is invaluable in muddle Alabama. Other grasses are of great value, and only await development to multiply many fold the varieties in practical use as money producers. Nowhere on earth can any crop be produced with so little labor that will command on any market at any time from \$20 to \$50 per acre in money.



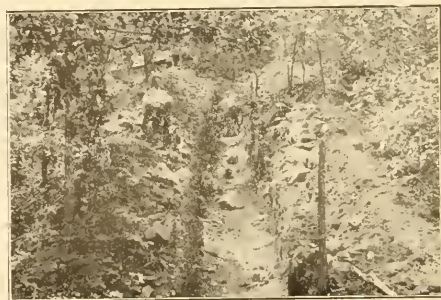
GULF COAST HOME, M. & O. R. R.

Oats.—Alabama produces oats quite equal to those of any other part of the country, and forty to sixty bushels per acre is not an unusual yield. Rye and barley are raised in small quantities, the local demand not justifying their rapid substitution for more profitable crops.

Rice.—Precept upon precept has resulted at last in a forward movement in the culture of rice. It is being raised on the uplands, though many thousands of acres of bottoms are waiting and adapted for this crop. Even on the uplands, a crop of seventy-five bushels is not a rarity. Hitherto the rice patches on the farm have been scarce simply for lack of mills to clean it when produced. About ten rice mills have now, however, been put into operation in South Alabama, and in 1899 these cleaned over 50,000 bushels for the small farmers who raised it in patches. Some of these patches are being enlarged to fields, and the industry is a rapidly growing one. The value of the rice crop ranges from \$50 to \$100 per acre, being greater than that of any other grain crop grown anywhere in the world.

Tobacco.—Alabama has long produced tobacco in a sort of domestic way, the poorer farmers raising a little for home use. It is now becoming a commercial crop, experiment having shown that Cuba has little if any advantage over our southern counties in the matter of quality. At Geneva is a cigar factory that not only uses the home-grown article, but raises its own supplies. Over six hundred acres are under cultivation in that community, and the cigar is popular in the market, ranking high in every respect.

Cattle Raising.—A great stimulus has of recent years been given to cattle raising. Buyers from the West unexpectedly made their appearance at every farm house in the State, anxious to buy up cattle for shipment to the Western grazing lands. It was like a windfall. The farmer hardly looked upon the few head which he had allowed to grow up about him, as being a money asset. There was no market. The



IN THE GOLD REGIONS.

Western buyer rapidly cleaned out the country. But the farmer had learned his lesson of the buyer at his door and everywhere the effort is making not only to supply the demand but to supply it with an animal that will bring a better price.

Dairying.—The growth of the towns and cities has been accompanied by increasing attention to dairying. Dairymen have multiplied sufficiently to have organized their industry. The demand for milk is everywhere abundantly supplied by the delivery wagons of suburban farmers. Farther out there is increasing production of butter, selling at twenty-five cents the pound, but there seems to be yet a vast margin between the supply and demand. No industry would seem to be more inviting than butter making in Alabama, where many of the native farmers still reluctantly abandon the old cotton one-crop habit and leave the more profitable branches of the business open to their more enterprising neighbors. But little feeding is necessary, and even in winter the cow gets part of her living in the open pasture.

It is a fact that an Alabama cow, fed on a Madison county farm, holds the world's butter record for a year's product.

Sheep and Goats.—The same impulse that is drawing attention to cattle, is moving the farmers to increase their flocks of sheep and goats. The market has developed and there is movement to supply it. Special inquiries by the State Agricultural Department brought uniform replies that the increase in the numbers of these animals is quite general and is



attended with profitable results. There are wide ranges of unoccupied land where they almost raise themselves. The wool produced by sheep in the climate of Alabama is of long fibre and soft texture and commands a ready market.

Hogs.—In former times Alabama raised nearly all her own meat. The long neglected hog is regaining his lost prestige, and home-raised meat for the table is becoming a rule, while the market towns are increasingly supplied with native and juicy hams as of yore.

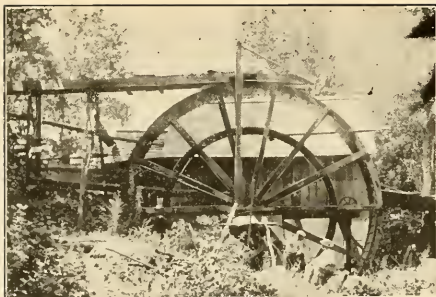
Stock.—Alabama is still a large purchaser of mules from Tennessee and Kentucky, for use in raising cotton. But she is raising an increasing number of her own. A few large stock farms have proven wonderfully successful in the breeding of fine horses, and the impulse toward blooded stock is general. No community is now without the best strains from Tennessee and Kentucky, and horses with pedigrees are found everywhere. But the most gratifying progress in this respect is found in the fact that the small farmer is raising one or two colts as a part of the general farm economy. He is taking advantage of the natural increase of the horse and displacing the expensive mule. This plays no small part in the evidently increasing prosperity of the small farmer.
14 On the open pastures of the open Southern winters, it costs less than \$25 to raise a colt to maturity.

Market Gardening.—For a good many years the business of market gardening on a large scale in Alabama was confined to the gulf coast around Mobile. But the business has spread northward. Evergreen and Brewton and Cullman have become great shipping points, and the industry is growing around all the larger towns. The development of local markets has furnished the stimulus, and thus the general development of manufactures and commerce has reacted upon agriculture to the latter's benefit.

Fruit.—Melon growing for shipment has long been profitably carried on in Southeastern Alabama. But no part of the State seems favored above another for the general growing of fruit. Strawberries are grown and shipped without regard to locality. Peaches are grown for sale in all localities, generally for the local markets. But there is an ever-growing surplus finding its way northward and westward. Fortunately, we can leave generalities here and paint the Alabama fruit story by the simple statement of a fact, viz: Near Huntsville, Ala., are two of the largest nurseries in the world, and one of them is a branch of a nursery at Rochester, New York. There are successful nurseries at Montgomery, Evergreen, Mobile, Ashland, and in Washington and Covington



A GENERAL FIELD SCENE.



GOLD STAMP MILL.

16

infinite variety of fruits that flourish on the Alabama farm.

The profit in growing fruit and grapes is not a matter of experiment. The business is an established and growing one. Fruitdale, in Washington county, near the gulf, is a flourishing community based upon fruit growing. Cullman is another. Fruithurst and Thorsby are grape-growing colonies in the foothills of the mountains.

Land Values.—A gratifying and indisputable evidence of improving and profitable agriculture in Alabama is the increase of land values and the cash market for farms. The lands of Montgomery, for instance, are now assessed for taxation at a higher price than they commanded in the market twenty years ago. In the fine prairie region between the Alabama and Tombigbee rivers, almost no land is for sale at any price, and only occasional sales are made at from \$20 to \$50 per acre for improved farms. The red lands bring from \$5 to \$10 against from \$3 to \$5 not many years ago. The same increase is true of the valley and pine lands, though it

and other counties.

It must be confessed, however, that the grand possibilities of fruit as a money crop in Alabama are just beginning to be realized and made available. Hitherto fruit has contributed to the pleasure, the comfort and the health of the inhabitants rather than to their profit. The people of Alabama can have, with only the trouble of planting, the fig, pomegranate, scuppernong, raspberry, currant, pecan, peach, apple, pear, quince, plum in infinite variety, cherry, etc., and on the coast the luscious orange. Growing wild, in utmost profusion, are the blackberry, haw, locust, persimmon, chestnut, chinquapin, muscadine, wild grape, common plum, wild cherry, huckleberry and hickory nut. Nowhere can the principles of farm economy be invoked with more profit than by him who will turn to account the

may be truly said that all land yet sells below its real value—below its rental value. The prices still invite the investor and home-seeker. The rising values are encouraging as showing the progress of events

Public Lands.—There are still open to homestead entry in Alabama 359,250 acres of public land, of which 177,490 acres are in the northern part of the State, and 181,760 acres in the middle and southern sections. The land offices are located at Huntsville and Montgomery. The lands themselves are mostly of thin, light soils, capable of quick improvement. There are also 58,000 acres of mineral lands, which are reserved by the government.

Good Roads.—Closely related to the subject of agricultural progress, is that of good roads, the building of which is one of the striking manifestations of improving rural conditions in Alabama. These roads are built by the counties and began in a tentative way by small bond issues as experiments. So gratifying was the result and so wise was the investment proven to be, that one county followed another and “good road” acts are a special feature of all sessions of the State legislature. These roads cost from \$2,000 to \$3,500 per mile, according to the character of the country and the distance from material, and are maintained by regular annual appropriations, there being not a toll-gate in Alabama. In Jefferson county there are



BANANA WAREHOUSE, MOBILE & OHIO R. R.



MOBILE BAY, M. & O. R. R.

the gratifying total of \$10,220,000.00. It would not be far out of the way to say the banking capital of the State is in round numbers \$11,000,000.00. The increase in the number of banks in recent years has not been in the cities, but the smaller towns, and is thus the more significant of general progress and development among the people. It is a witness to the fact that the little towns and the rural population have gotten away from the old simple commercial limit of selling cotton in the fall and buying it back in meat, corn and a few dry goods in the spring. With the general development of the country has come a more complex commercial life, and a

more than 200 miles, in Montgomery 110 miles. Madison and Colbert are leading counties, and in many others the mileage steadily increases year by year. The good roads picture on another page of this pamphlet shows a wagon loaded with thirty-six bales of cotton, a weight of 18,000 pounds, brought into Montgomery a distance of twenty miles in the winter season. Before the advent of the macadamized road, empty wagons were wont to have a hard time of it over these prairies. The economy of the improvement is manifested in improving country houses, growing contentment with farm surroundings and social life, and increasing land values.

Banking Capital.—There are one hundred and twenty-six banks and banking houses in Alabama. Some of these do not give their capital, but those which do make up



NEWS ENG. B'ham, Ala.

GOOD ROADS IN ALABAMA.

trade that is not confined to a single season. The farmers themselves have moneys to deposit and exchanges to buy, and the little banks have gone out among them to meet a real demand. One enterprising gentleman in Montgomery has established five of these banks in the outlying towns, and another firm as many more. The multiplication of the small banks and the widening out of modern commercial life among the small communities, is an evidence of thrift and progress quite as gratifying as the factories and furnaces of the larger towns and cities.

RIVER SYSTEM.

No State in the Union is better watered than is Alabama. Indeed, it may be questioned whether any other is watered so well. This does not refer to the magnificent river system only, but to the innumerable creeks and branches, brooks and springs that everywhere abound. Many of these creeks would be called rivers in Europe and the East. Two of the largest springs in the world are at Huntsville and Tusculumbia, pure water gushing out in quantities to run mills and supply great populations. In many places in the State are mineral springs long famous for their health-giving qualities, such as Blount, St. Clair and Talladega among the northern mountains, and Bladon in the far southwest. But the springs and lesser streams contribute to the comfort and health of the people. The river systems are nature's grand arteries of commerce.

The navigable streams are the Alabama, Coosa, Warrior, and Tombigbee, whose waters, united, form Mobile river; the Tennessee, which dips down and crosses the northern part of the State; the Choctawhatchie, Conecuh, and Escambia, which flow into the gulf through Florida; the Tallapoosa and Cahaba, tributaries of the Alabama, and the Chattahoochee, which is the boundary line between the lower half of the State and Georgia. Of these, the Tallapoosa, Cahaba, Conecuh, and Escambia are not now navigated, railroads having drawn off the traffic to the extent that the expense of keeping them open was deemed unnecessary. The combined length of the navigable waterways of Alabama is nearly two thousand miles. The greater part of this splendid system of rivers flows into Mobile bay, and before the advent of railroads centered a vast commerce at Mobile and made of it one of the most flourishing cities in the world. The revival of water traffic now going on all over the country, is doing no little to re-establish the ancient eminence of Alabama's only seaport.

MINES AND MINERALS.

It is somewhat beside the purpose of this little pamphlet to dwell upon the mineral riches of Alabama. These are less than they were a hundred years ago, before any of them were put to use. It is more to the point to tell of the great development of wealth and industry built upon them, giving use to capital and employment to labor. It is not amiss, however, to recall some leading facts which have long been household words.

The three coal fields of the State, the Warrior, Coosa and Cahaba, have an aggregate of 8,600 square miles. There are numerous workable seams, and the coal varies in quality, the best grate product being little inferior to anthracite. The coking qualities are the very best, and the coal bears long water transportation. The seams lie near the surface, outcrops are numerous, and mining is easy and cheap.

The principal deposit of iron ore is the great ledge running along Red Mountain for more than a hundred miles and reaching its best perfection at Birmingham. Here the vein is from fifteen to thirty feet thick, and if mined to a depth of only four thousand feet would supply all the furnaces of the State for three hundred and fifty years to come. The general average of metallic iron is, in the hard ores, 37 per cent.; in the soft, 52 per cent.

The brown ores are found in several localities, about Talladega, Anniston, in Blount, Shelby and Franklin counties, and have 51 per cent. of metallic iron.

The limestone and dolomite used for fluxing are in the same locality with the ores and coal, all three being assembled within a radius of five or six miles at the point of greatest advantage. It is the cheapness of mining and the nearness of the materials to each other, that has made of Alabama the center of the cheapest iron pro-



8500,000 CEMENT WORKS, DEMOPOLIS, ALA.

duction in the world, given her the primacy of the Southern States, and made her a rival of Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Other mineral deposits in Alabama, all of which exist in workable quantities and most of which have been more or less developed, are gold, copper, pyrites, graphite, mica, kaolin, magnetite, limestone, bauxite, clays, ochre, marble and phosphate.



SLIMS-SHEFFIELD S. & L. CO'S. COAL MINE AND COKE OVENS.

Developed.—The magnitude of the industry built around this basis of mineral wealth, is shown by the following figures of production, compiled for 1900 by the statistical department of the State geological survey:

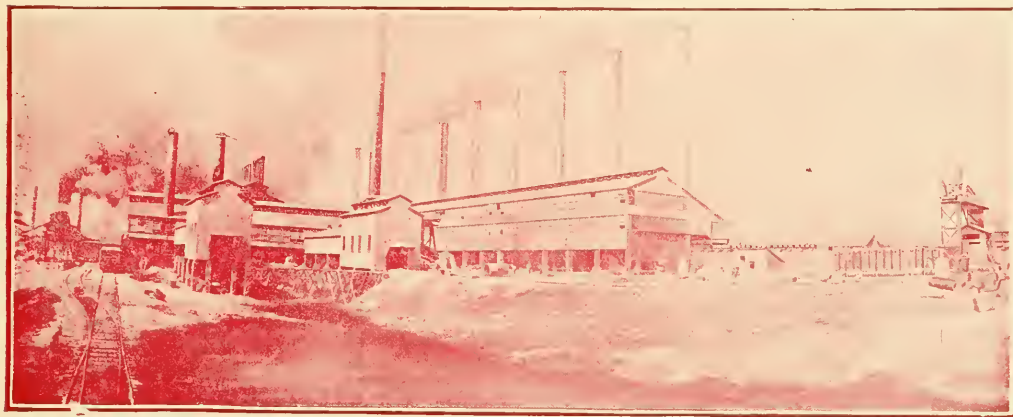
Coal, short tons,	8,504,327
Coke, short tons,	1,992,561
Pig Iron, long tons,	1,155,583
Iron Ore, long tons,	3,095,406
Limestone for Flux, long tons,	534,061
Dolomite for Flux, long tons,	351,934
Building Stone, cubic feet,	216,817
Bauxite, long tons,	650
Ochre, long tons,	62
Lime, in barrels,	650,664
Vitrified or Paving Brick,	7,000,000
Refractory or Fire Brick,	6,760,000
Common Brick,	50,700,000

No mention is here made of the gold output. That industry is being pursued in a small way in several of the counties where

stamp mills are in operation. The mines are not as yet operated scientifically on a large scale, though Alabama has been a gold-producing State for over sixty years.

The emphasis in the above table is found in the comparison with former years, showing the rapid, progressive and substantial character of the development. The gain has been continuous from year to year for more than twenty years.

In 1880 the output of coal was 380,000 tons, in 1890 it was 4,090,409 tons, and in 1900 it was 8,504,327 tons.



STEEL MILL AT ENSLEY--TENNESSEE COAL, IRON & RAILROAD COMPANY.



21

FURNACES AT ANNISTON.

was 23,272, in 1890 it was 88,501, and in 1900 140,000.

The growth of Birmingham from a little city of 4,000 people in 1880 to 38,000 in 1900 (and nearly as many more in suburbs covered by her street railways), is marvelous even in this land of city building.

TIMBER.

In the matter of timber in Alabama we are confronted by a most plentiful lack of statistics as to the quantity available for cut, and its value. Except in the matter of yellow pine, no attempt has been made at estimates. Roughly speaking, two-thirds of the area is still covered by the native forest growth. The wood of chief value is yellow pine. The pine is found principally in two belts, the larger along the gulf coast, though stretching up to the borders of the middle prairies. The other belt occupies the foot hills between the moun-

In 1880 the production of pig iron was 68,925 tons, in 1890 it was 816,911 tons; in 1900 it was 1,155,583 tons.

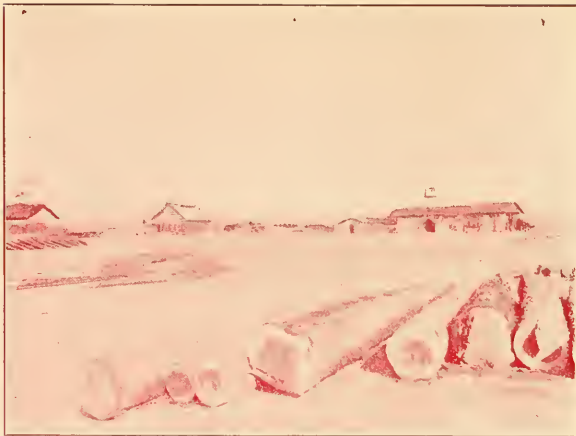
The most important fact connected with this great development, and lighting up the splendid future of the State, is the simple item that in 1900 Alabama exported 238,615 tons of pig iron, mainly to England and the continent of Europe. An industry that in its infancy has the world for its market, cannot be limited or measured in its future growth and expansion. The center of the mineral wealth and development of the State is the city of Birmingham and the county of Jefferson, and the record of their growth stirs the pride of all our citizens. In 1880 the population of Jefferson county



SAW MILL AND LOGGING TRAIN, SOUTHEAST ALABAMA.

tains and the prairies. These pine lands were, not many years ago, obtainable in large quantities at \$2 and \$3 per acre, but have risen much in value with the great increase in the demand for the lumber, both for export and home consumption. The annual cut of yellow pine is now about 700,000,000 feet, and the pine forests also contribute largely to the turpentine supplies of the country.

26 Cypress is abundant along the lower rivers, and five mills near Mobile are engaged in the production of cypress shingles. The principal hardwoods are oak, hickory and ash, the supply of which is well distributed. The principal mills are in the northern part of the State. Local hardwood factories here and there procure local supplies of hickory and oak. Cedar is abundant in some localities, and there are mills in Madison and Butler counties. The hardwood wealth of the State has been hardly touched and is an exceedingly inviting field for development.



LOG FLOATING ON MOBILE BAY. M. & O. R. R.

RAILROADS.

Much might be said of the facilities of railroad transportation in Alabama. This State is the seat of the most important operations of the two greatest southern systems—the Louisville & Nashville and the Southern Railroad. The Central of Georgia, the Plant System, the Seaboard, the K. C., M. & B., and the Illinois Cen-



BLACK CREEK FALLS, GADSDEN, ALA.

tral have also important lines, the first named running as many as four feeders through rich sections of the country. In 1880 the railroad mileage of Alabama was 1,851 miles; in 1890 this had increased to 3,241, and in 1900 to 4,042 miles. Since the opening of the present year nearly 100 additional miles have been completed and put into operation. The large systems are steadily extending their branch lines and feeders.



AN ALABAMA FLOURING MILL.

consume all the available cotton seed. Her fertilizer factories supply the bulk of the 200,000 tons of commercial manure consumed in the State. Her pipe works are six in number and their products go to all parts of the world. The value of the saw mill output of the State is over \$5,000,000. Two steel mills are in operation, with

MANUFACTURES.

If the progress of a people is to be measured by the extent to which they increase the value of their raw material through the various processes of manufacture, Alabama is no laggard in the race. The advance everywhere is one of those industrial marvels which has attracted world-wide attention to the South as the growing and developing section of the United States. If pig iron, usually classed here as a mineral product, be included in manufactures, we have a value in this one item of more than ten millions of dollars. She has over half a million cotton spindles. She manufactures more cotton gins than any State in the Union, the Pratt gin works at Prattville, an illustration of which is given elsewhere, being the most famous in the world. Her oil mills

a combined capacity of 1 160 tons per day. The product of fifty iron furnaces is not all shipped away as raw material. It is being made into steel, wire, engines, sugar mills, boilers, plows, bridges, car wheels, nuts and bolts, stoves, and an ever-increasing variety of the articles of commerce. Her wheat is made into flour, her tobacco into cigars, her lumber into wagons, furniture, sashes and doors and blinds, spokes and handles; her native stones into buildings, her cloth into clothing and mattresses. She has five breweries. She builds more freight cars than are required to haul her increasing products. She manufactures brass into articles of use, her broom-corn into brooms, the waste of her furnaces and coke ovens into by-products. She makes crackers and candies, corrugated iron and cement, barrels and powder.

She manufactures her own ice, turns her oehres into paint, knits stockings and makes trunks. She tans the hides of her cattle, and is beginning to spin the wool of her sheep. The increasing variety of her industries and their magnitude is nowhere better shown than in the great portland cement works now about to go into operation at Demopolis, where a half million dollars is invested. This developing industry is confined to no section of the State. The impulse is among all the people. In the southeast, where the railroads have but lately come and where agriculture, going hand in hand with lumber mills and cotton factories and fertilizer works, combines to give the greatest increase to population known in the history of the State. In the Tennessee valley, where cotton spinning has its principle seat at Huntsville and iron a leading place at Sheffield and Flor-

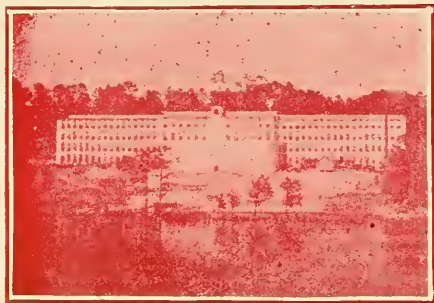


PRATT GIN WORKS, PRATTVILLE, ALA.

ence and machine shops at Decatur. In the mountains, where coal, iron and steel combine with varied manufactures to give pre-eminence to Birmingham, Anniston, Talladega, Gadsden and Tuscaloosa. In middle Alabama, where Montgomery, Eufaula, Union Springs, Opelika, Troy, Selma, Prattville, Demopolis and Greensboro are spinning cotton, grinding cotton seed, making fertilizers, and varying their manufactures year by year. On the gulf coast, where the rising commerce of Mobile is accompanied by the spirit of manufacturing industry. Everywhere the thoughts of the people are on the future and their hands are busy in the present.

Cotton Factories.—Alabama has done her share in the development of the cotton mill industry, and the building of new mills goes on apace. It is the one manufacturing industry which is distributed throughout the State, one locality being as well adapted to it as another. Nor does the supply of labor—as good as any in the world and the most tractable—seem greater at one point than another. That the advantages of labor, raw material,

fuel and climate are on the side of Alabama, is witnessed by the fact that some of the largest mills have been built by eastern capital and some of these have doubled their original capacity. Many of the mills have from time to time enlarged their size out of their own profits. The number of cotton factories in Alabama in 1899 was 38, with 367,874 spindles and 7,298 looms. The number in the beginning of 1900 was 44, the spindles 566,778 and the looms 12,892. The number at the present, including those being built, is about 50. This is a great and rapid growth, and one of its most gratifying features is in the small mills being built by small communities with money subscribed by their own citizens in proportion to their means. The superb advantages of every section of Alabama for profitable cloth-making has awakened our people to a knowledge of their possibilities.



TALLASSEE COTTON MILL.



ALABAMA RIVER BRIDGE AT SELMA.

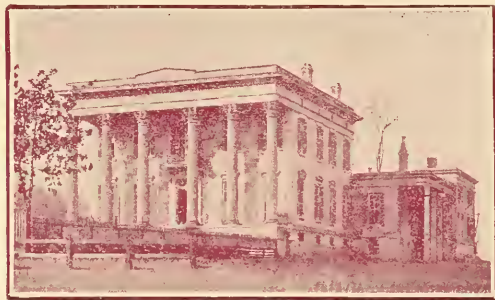
EDUCATION.

The handsome illustrations of the four leading colleges in Alabama leave no room for doubt that in the higher department of education, Alabama is abreast with the most progressive States. The State University at Tuscaloosa, the Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute at Auburn, and the Girls' Industrial School at Montevallo, afford the very best modern facilities for the highest and most complete literary and industrial training. The illustrations of the Normal Institute at Tuskegee, the famous school of Booker T. Washington, are selected to show the practical work which has placed the institution so far at the front of all the plans and work of negro education.

Besides these, the State maintains a medical college at Mobile, four normal schools for whites and three for negroes, all of which are flourishing institutions. The State also maintains an agricultural high school in each

congressional district. The Southern University at Greensboro and the Owenton College near Birmingham are higher institutions maintained by the Methodists, and the Howard College at East Lake, near Birmingham, is sustained by the Baptists. There are many colleges for young ladies, some of them private enterprises and others under the care of the religious denominations. The Catholics sustain most excellent colleges at Cullman and Mobile. At Birmingham are medical and dental colleges, both being private enterprises.

Common Schools.—The department of education of most general interest is the common school. Within the last few years there has been a great awakening upon this subject in Alabama and the State has come



OLD SOUTHERN MANSION.



STATE UNIVERSITY, TUSCALOOSA.

up to a leading place among the Southern sisterhood. The people have come to share liberally with education the increased wealth and prosperity of farm, forge and mine. The enlightened appreciation of the common school is not confined to any class, but the growing appropriations are the spontaneous answer to a universal willingness to be taxed for this one purpose to whatever extent may be necessary. In all the larger cities and towns, modern and well equipped school houses have been and are being built, the money being generally derived from the sale of municipal bonds. Many of these buildings are very handsome and imposing and some have cost as high as \$50,000. All of the incorporated towns contribute out of municipal taxes to the school fund. Thus while the State Treasury contributes \$1,100,000 per annum to the common schools, this by no means measures the whole amount of the fund derived from taxation. The growth of public education in Alabama is well shown by the following comparisons of amounts drawn from the State and municipal treasuries: In 1880, \$650,000; in 1890, \$775,000; in 1900, \$1,500,000.

Under positive law in Alabama, every township must maintain a common school for five months of each year, and thus is education guaranteed to the children of the remotest community.



MILLINERY ROOM, TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE.

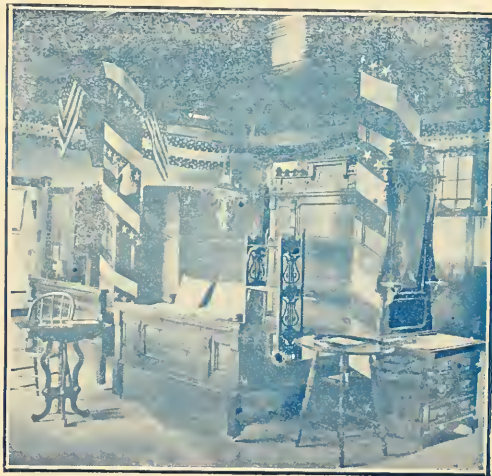
The school funds are divided among the races in proportion to children of school age.

Benevolence.—If the highest civilization of a people is manifested in the care bestowed by the government on the unfortunates, Alabama has no cause to blush. Upon the education of the deaf and the dumb and the blind, she expended in 1900 the sum of \$60,611.86. This is not a fixed amount, but the appropriation is so much per pupil, and every little unfortunate in the State can go, without money and without price, and learn all that modern science and expert teaching permits them to know.

Under the same head may be put the expenditure of \$152,178.00 for the Insane Hospital, one of the leading and most progressive institutions of the kind in America. Here, too, the generous policy is pursued of appropriations per capita, so that the door is never shut on any applicant because the money is exhausted. The main hospital is at Tuscaloosa, with a branch for colored insane at Mount Vernon, in Mobile county.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Alabama has a single seaport—Mobile. Her trade with foreign countries, however, is by no means to be estimated by what goes through that single gateway. Her cotton and iron are well distributed to all the gulf and South Atlantic ports, while Pensacola is the rival of Mobile in the exportation of Alabama



STUDENT-MADE FURNITURE, TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE.

coal and lumber. Thus in determining the volume of the total exports, we are reduced to estimates based on known value of the leading articles. Cotton raw, manufactured and in oil and meal from the seed, figures at over \$50,000,000. Mr. E. E. England, Secretary of the Mobile Chamber of Commerce, our highest authority on the subject, estimates the total foreign trade of the State at over \$100,000,000. With the increasing export of pig iron and steel, and the increase in value of cotton sent abroad in the manufactured state, Alabama's contribution to the foreign trade of the country will in the near future exceed the above gratifying estimate. The building of an isthmian canal will give to the mines of Alabama an unprecedented development, the coal of this State being the nearest in distance and the least in price of any deposits in the world. It is now laid down in Mobile at a freight rate of \$1.25 per ton, and the test of the panic in the early nineties showed that the mines could live and put their output on board the cars at less than \$1.00 per ton. The greatness of the future of the State, when work shall once begin on the water way between the oceans, cannot be measured by the estimates of her most sanguine citizens, for the stimulus will affect every interest in her borders. Mobile has already a great trade with the countries and states around the gulf, some glimpse of which is given in the picture of a banana warehouse on another page. Her trade in this fruit is larger than that of any city in the country, and the whole country is supplied by the long train loads that leave her wharves. Coal from the Birmingham fields goes through her gates to supply the railroads and factories of Mexico. With Cuba, Mobile does a larger business than any city in the country except New York, the commerce of the West showing a steady drift our way for an outlet.



MODERN SOUTHERN MANSION.



INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, MONTEVALLO, ALA.

POPULATION BY COUNTIES.

COUNTIES.	1880	1890	1900	COUNTIES.	1880	1890	1900
Total	1,262,505	1,513,017	1,828,697				
Autauga	13,108	13,330	17,915	Henry	18,761	24,847	36,147
Baldwin	8,603	8,941	13,194	Jackson	25,114	28,023	30,508
Barbour	33,979	34,898	35,152	Jefferson	23,272	88,501	140,420
Bibb	9,487	13,824	18,498	Lamar	12,142	14,187	16,084
Blount	15,369	21,927	23,119	Lauderdale	21,035	23,739	26,559
Bullock	29,066	27,063	31,944	Lawrence	21,392	20,725	20,124
Butler	19,649	21,641	25,761	Lee	27,262	28,694	31,826
Calhoun	19,591	33,835	34,874	Limestone	21,600	21,201	22,837
Chambers	23,440	26,319	32,554	Lowndes	31,176	31,550	35,651
Cherokee	19,108	20,459	21,066	Macon	17,371	18,439	23,123
Chilton	10,793	14,549	16,522	Madison	37,625	38,119	43,702
Choctaw	15,731	17,526	18,136	Marengo	30,890	33,095	38,315
Clarke	17,806	22,624	27,790	Marion	9,364	11,347	14,494
Clay	12,938	15,765	17,099	Marshall	14,585	18,935	23,289
Cleburne	10,976	13,218	13,203	Mobile	48,653	51,587	62,740
Coffee	8,119	12,170	20,972	Monroe	17,091	18,990	23,666
Colbert	16,153	20,189	22,341	Montgomery	52,356	56,172	72,047
Conecuh	12,605	14,594	17,514	Morgan	16,428	24,089	28,820
Coosa	15,113	15,903	16,144	Perry	30,741	29,332	31,783
Covington	5,639	7,536	15,316	Pickens	21,479	22,470	24,402
Crenshaw	11,726	15,425	19,668	Pike	20,640	24,423	29,172
Cullman	6,355	13,439	17,849	Randolph	16,575	17,219	21,647
Dale	12,677	17,225	21,189	Russell	24,837	24,063	27,083
Dallas	48,433	49,350	54,657	St. Clair	14,462	17,333	19,425
DeKalb	12,675	21,166	23,558	Shelby	17,236	20,884	23,684
Elmore	17,502	21,732	26,099	Sumter	28,728	29,574	32,710
Escambia	5,719	8,666	11,320	Talladega	23,360	29,346	35,773
Etowah	15,398	21,923	27,361	Tallapoosa	23,401	25,460	29,675
Fayette	10,135	12,823	14,132	Tuscaloosa	24,957	30,352	36,147
Franklin	9,155	10,681	16,511	Walker	9,479	16,078	25,162
Geneva	4,342	10,690	19,096	Washington	4,588	7,935	11,134
Greene	21,931	22,007	24,182	Wilcox	31,828	30,816	35,631
Hale	26,553	27,501	31,011	Winston	4,233	6,552	9,554



SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, TALLADEGA.

WATER POWER.

Whatever may be the rank of Alabama among her sister States in the extent and variety of her resources and her products, we believe she holds the first place in the number, length and volume of her streams that afford power for moving machinery. These are not confined to creeks or even the smaller rivers, but to streams of such note as the Tennessee, the Coosa and the Warrior. The long falls and rapids of the Coosa above Wetumpka, even should they be made navigable by locks, would yet supply power enough with the surplus waters, to turn all the machinery now in the State. The project to utilize the vast volume of water that flows

around the locks on the Tennessee, is an old one, and will yet be carried out when industrial development in that valley has gained more strength. The Warrior is a river of falls and high banks. The Sipsev and other tributaries of the Warrior are large enough to be dignified with the names of rivers. The Tallapoosa, above the head of navigation, turns 60,000 spindles with hardly an impression on its capacity. The same stream has been utilized to bring an unlimited supply of electric power to Montgomery, a distance of forty miles. The great power of the Chattahoochee, which turns the spindles at Columbus, Ga., is the line between the States, and some of the mills are on the Alabama side. The Conecuh, the Choctawhatchie and the Pea are long rivers of Southeast Alabama, navigable far down, but capable above the head of navigation of supplying power to spin all the cotton raised in the State. Outside the prairie levels,



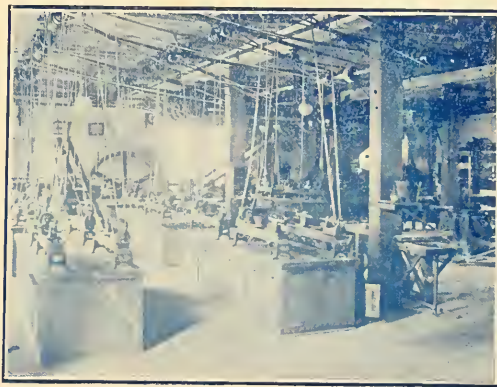
MECHANICAL ROOM, ALABAMA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE.

there is hardly a neighborhood without water power to grind its corn and gin its cotton. A hundred creeks run from the hills with power to operate the largest cotton mills of the country. Coming long distances through the wooded hills and mountains, the streams of Alabama do not go dry in summer, and reserve reservoirs have not been found necessary. These could be made to increase the water power of the State to an indefinite and limitless amount.

If it be true that the long tendency to give steam the preference over water, has about run its course, and that nature's power is coming into its own again, then Alabama is the most inviting of all the States for manufacturing in which cheap power is a consideration. If it be true that cotton mills do best when off somewhat to themselves, the numerous sites by the rivers of Alabama invite the mill builder's attention, sites reached by a few miles of branch railroad.

IMMIGRATION.

Alabama has a cordial welcome for the home-seeker. The object of this pamphlet is not merely to call the attention of capital to the resources and to the profitable use being made of money in this State. Investment in commercial and industrial enterprises is sought and encouraged. It benefits all the people. All the people welcome it, and there is no disposition by any influential section of public opinion to deny to capital the most liberal encouragement. But the Agricultural Department of the State, by which this pamphlet is issued and by which all displays are made at expositions, is primarily concerned with the



MECHANICAL ROOM, TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE.

home seeker, the man who will come and be one of the people and till the soil and help build up the rural wealth and social life of the State.

Thousands of good citizens have already come. The people are anxious for more. The time has long gone by when the northern man or the foreigner had any prejudice to encounter. He stands among his neighbors on his merits. Many have come singly, others in colonies. They have found comfort, a fruitful soil, a generous climate, a hospitable people.

Is there objection to coming among the negroes? Over half the State is without any. The whites in the districts where the negroes are mainly congregated, do not wish to part with them. The white sections do not seek their coming. In the black belt, land-owning is as profitable as land-working. The negro is a profitable tenant. The investment is inviting. But if the home-seeker wants a home among the whites, over half the State holds out the invitation. The soil, climate and products and conditions of life are as they have been described. The growth of mines, factories, railroads and commerce, gives assurance that markets will increase and wealth increase and the State grow in power and ability to do more and more for the education, the protection and the encouragement of her people.

The people of Alabama are religious and moral. All churches are strong and contend with each other on a liberal plane. Church and school-house go side by side, separate and independent, but offering a joint invitation to men regardful of their posterity.



PHYSICAL LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY.



A. & M. COLLEGE AND POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, AUBURN.

CITIES OF OVER 1,000 POPULATION.

	1890	1900		1890	1900
Alabama City		2,276	Jacksonville	1,237	1,176
Alexander City	679	1,061	Jasper	780	1,661
Anniston	9,998	9,695	LaFayette	1,369	1,629
Athens	940	1,010	Lanette	777	2,909
Attalla	1,254	1,692	Marion	1,982	1,698
Auburn	1,440	1,447	Mobile	31,076	38,469
Avondale	1,642	3,060	Montgomery	21,883	30,346
Bessemer	4,544	6,358	New Decatur	3,565	4,437
Birmingham	26,178	38,415	Opelika	3,703	4,245
Brewton	1,115	1,382	Oxanna	748	1,184
Bridgeport		1,247	Oxford	1,473	1,372
Columbiana	654	1,075	Ozark	1,195	1,570
Cullman	1,017	1,255	Pho-nix City	3,700	4,163
Dadeville	873	1,136	Piedmont	711	1,745
Decatur	2,765	3,114	Pratt City	1,946	3,485
Demopolis	1,898	2,606	Prattville	724	1,929
Dothan	247	3,275	Roanoke	631	1,155
Ensley City		2,100	Russellville	920	1,602
Eufaula	4,394	4,532	Scottsboro	959	1,014
Eutaw	1,115	884	Selma	7,622	8,713
Evergreen	1,783	2,458	Sheffield	2,731	3,333
Florence	6,012	6,478	Shaladega	2,063	5,056
Ft. Deposit	518	1,078	Troy	3,449	4,097
Ft. Payne	2,698	1,037	Tuscaloosa	4,215	5,094
Gadsden	2,901	4,282	Tusculumbia	2,401	2,348
Geneva	637	1,032	Tuskegee	1,803	2,170
Girard		3,840	Union Springs	2,049	2,634
Greensboro	1,759	2,416	Uniontown	854	1,047
Greenville	2,806	3,162	Warrior		1,018
Huntsville	7,995	8,068	Wilsonville		1,095
Jackson		1,039	Woodlawn	1,506	2,848



THE ALABAMA WHEAT HARVEST.

CITY GROWTH.

In these days, it is common to attach great importance to the growth of cities as the better index to the growth and progress of States. The reason of this is self evident. Since the settlement of the West, the race of development has been in the line of manufactures, and more manufactures means more cities and larger cities. Hence the value of the table on another page, showing the population of the cities of Alabama at the beginning and the end of the last decade. The few cases of loss are due to boom figures in 1890. There are a few cases,

too, where no figures are given for 1890, of towns not then in existence or not then incorporated. Notable among these are Girard and Alabama City, both of which are built up around cotton factories of recent construction.

Birmingham is the most noteworthy, as it is the best known example of city building not only in Alabama, but in the Southern States, being without a rival south of the Ohio river. Her growth is partly due to commerce and partly to manufactures. Dothan has grown faster than any city in the history of Alabama, and nearly all of it is commercial. Railroads and the settling up of Southeast Alabama by small white farmers have made it a center of growth.

Mobile and Montgomery both show rapid growth, for which manufactures are largely responsible. Other cities and towns showing remarkable progress are Talladega, Piedmont and Russellville, the result of mining or manufacturing. In Southeast Alabama



CHEMICAL LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY.

all the towns have grown, mainly from commerce with saw mills and new settlers.

The growth of Greensboro and Demopolis indicates the progress of the black belt, and proves that the presence of the negro is not a bar to the upbuilding of the country.

The growth of the cities of the State shows that all sections have their advantages and are vying with each other. There is growth in the mountains, in the prairies, among the pines and on the gulf. Nature has done her part in Alabama. At every point, her newly awakened and enterprising men are doing theirs.

SCENERY.

A word in conclusion about the natural scenery in Alabama, for it is worth attention from lovers of the beautiful. We haven't any towering mountains, but the gentle slopes and far perspectives that characterize the feet of the Alleghenies, are none the less beautiful for want of grandeur. Even the latter quality is here in some measure among the broken ledges, which please where they do not awe. There are river scenes in Alabama which rival the Hudson, notable among them being stretches of the Tennessee between Chattanooga and Decatur, famous in the old steamboat days. The Black Creek falls, near Gadsden, a picture of which adorns another page, is one of the most beautiful in the world, and it is not by itself in appealing to the lover of nature. The traveler nowhere sees a more varied and picturesque series of landscapes than greet his eyes from the decks of an Alabama river steamer. At Mobile and in the surrounding country, the peculiar foliage and wide-stretching forests of the gulf are seen to the best advantage, and the increasing flow of Southern tourists is every winter spreading their fame.



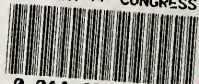
CONFEDERATE MONUMENT, MONTGOMERY, ALA.



ALFALFA HARVEST—FARM OF JNO. C. WEBB, MARENGO COUNTY.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 497 214 4



ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY
MONTGOMERY