

DR. E. M. LONG
DENTIST

Over White & Burchard's Drug
Store, Union City, Tenn.
Telephones—
Office 144-2, Residence 144-3

THE COMMERCIAL

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UNION CITY, TENN.

The South---The Eldorado Of American Adventure

By Richard H. Edmonds
Editor Manufacturers' Record.

The sixteen Southern States have a population of 33,000,000. In 1880 the United States had a population of 50,000,000. At that time, and very justly so, the United States was regarded as one of the greatest and richest nations of the world. The South of today, with 33,000,000 people, is in many respects very far ahead of the United States of 1880, with 50,000,000.

The people of the South have \$200,000,000 more in individual deposits in the banks and trust companies of this section than the people of the United States had in similar institutions in 1880.

The South is mining almost twice as much coal as the United States then mined. It is producing four times as much petroleum, its output last year having been 100,000,000 barrels, against 26,000,000 barrels for the United States in 1880.

The South has \$700,000,000 more capital invested in manufacturing than the United States had in 1880, and the value of its agricultural output exceeds by some hundreds of millions of dollars the total agricultural output of the United States in 1880.

The South has far more capital invested in cotton manufacturing than the United States then had, and is consuming in its own mills about twice as much cotton as was then consumed in the mills of the country.

The value of exports from Southern ports is only a few million dollars less than the total export trade of the United States in 1880.

The South expended last year upon the maintenance of its public schools \$90,000,000, or \$12,000,000 more than the United States with its 50,000,000 people expended upon public education in 1880.

Comparisons of this kind showing how far ahead the South is in many respects of the United States in 1880 could be given almost without limit. These are sufficient to indicate the general situation. It is a little difficult for us sometimes to quite grasp the fact that in bank deposits, in industrial pursuits and in agriculture as well as in public education the South of today ranks so far ahead of the United States in 1880. The total wealth of the South to-day is less than that of the United States in 1880, because the South has not yet had time to accumulate vast wealth out of its achievements in industry and agriculture of recent years. It is, however, rapidly piling up wealth which, within the next few years, will amaze the country by its magnitude.

In studying the future of the South and planning for financial and railroad operations in connection therewith, it would be well for these facts to be borne in mind. But these statistics, amazing as they are, are not half so interesting for the story they tell of what has been done as for the light they throw upon the future. Every careful student of the material resources and development of the South knows that this section, notwithstanding the progress made, has scarcely begun its development when compared with the growth which will be seen within the next ten or fifteen years. All that has been done has been really merely the clearing of the land and the sowing of the seed for the great harvest which this section is now preparing to reap.

The South has only begun to utilize its raw materials. It has only here and there opened up its coal mines, its marble and granite quarries, and its iron-making resources. It has only commenced in the last few years to get back to the agricultural condition which existed prior to the war, when there was a well-rounded agricultural diversity. It is only within the last few years that the Central South, from Maryland to the Mississippi River, has been raising as much corn and live stock as it did in 1860, when the population of this section was only one-third of what it now is.

For forty years or more the South was passing through a wilderness. Its people had lost by virtue of the war the ability to carry on the well-rounded diversified agriculture which existed prior to 1860. The capital was

lacking for reviving the industrial activities which between 1850 and 1860 caused a more rapid percentage of growth in every line of manufacturing in the South than in the rest of the country. The amazing agricultural and industrial progress of the decade ended with 1860 as indicated in the fact that during that period the increase in the wealth of the South exceeded by more than one billion dollars the aggregate increase of wealth of the New England and Middle States.

The engineering and industrial traits, which from Colonial days down to the time when the invention of the cotton gin fastened slavery around the necks of the people of the South, were beginning to reassert themselves between 1850 and 1860. This industrial and engineering trend of the people of the South has again during the last twenty-five years been reasserting itself, and it is to the rebirth of this inherited trait of character that the tremendous momentum of this section is due.

The statement sometimes heard that the great development of the last twenty-five years is mainly due to an infusion of outside blood and capital seriously misrepresents the facts. No man who has that impression can rightly forecast the progress of the coming years, because he is viewing the situation from an erroneous standpoint.

Since 1865 the Central South has sent beyond its borders by emigration into other sections more than 3,500,000 of its white people and more than 1,500,000 into Texas and Oklahoma. The comparatively few persons from other sections who have come into the South, when given the fullest measure of credit for what they have achieved, cannot in the smallest degree offset the tremendous loss of energy and power of the 5,000,000 people that went out of the Central South by reason of the poverty of opportunity following the war and the days of reconstruction.

Now the trend is back to the South. Men who have made a success in other sections are hearing the "come-home" call of their native land and many of them are returning. Many from other sections are beginning their southward march in order to share in the amazing development which they see is to come about in this section. They want to be a part and parcel of it and to reap some of the harvest. Thus the whole condition has completely changed. And instead of having to make a heroic effort to keep its own people at home and to draw men and money from other sections, as was the case for twenty-five or thirty years, the South now finds abundant employment at home for its own people. It finds tens of thousands from the North and West annually moving southward, and it finds that the capitalist is searching out in every direction opportunities for investment in the South. The promoter seeking capital for a new enterprise no longer has to argue with the capitalist that the South is a good place in which to invest money. All that he has to do is to prove that his own particular enterprise is a good one. The outside capitalist is fully impressed with the fact that this is the most richly endowed section of the world and that it is "the coming Eldorado of American adventure."

Those who would study the future of the South with a view to ascertaining something of the rapidity of its development should fully understand what the old South was doing in material activities before 1860, what it lost by the war and the poverty following it and what the South has achieved since then; and to these facts should be added a knowledge of the uniqueness of the South's resources for the support of a dense population. Not until they have done this will they be able to form even a slight conception of the rapidity of material development and wealth accumulation throughout the South during the next ten or fifteen years.

The support of the Knights of Pythias to the Bryan peace policy was pledged by the Supreme Chancellor at the convention of the Supreme Council in Washington.

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UNION CITY, TENN.

CONFEDERACY IN FLORIDA

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 23.—The State of Florida pays out more money per capita for the support of dependent ex-Confederate soldiers than any other Southern State. This fact should be sufficient to convince ex-Confederates everywhere that when they, and their descendants, visit Jacksonville on the occasion of the 24th annual Reunion of the United Confederate Veterans' Association that they will be in the hands of their friends. The reunion will be held May 6, 7, 8.

The handsome total of \$60,000 per annum is being paid by the State for support of ex-Confederate pensioners. The average yearly amount paid to each person on the pension list, according to the latest report of the State Board of pensions, is \$121.21, while the average paid to the old soldiers is \$122.80. Widows of Confederate soldiers draw an average of \$120 per annum. Since the report from which these figures are taken was made, the legislature has passed a still more liberal pension law, which will authorize additional payments of approximately \$150,000 a year, making the total \$750,000 per annum paid to Confederate pensioners by the State.

There are 2,633 soldier pensioners on the rolls of the State and 2,227 widows of Confederates, making a total of 4,860. The fund to support this pension roll is raised by a tax of four mills on the assessed property of the taxpayer.

Florida is not only caring for the living but the memory of the dead is also kept green. Throughout the State handsome Confederate monuments have been erected by both public and private means. All told there are twenty, or possibly more, handsome Confederate monuments in the State, and others are yet to be erected. A home for ex-Confederate soldiers is maintained at Jacksonville. Last year the State appropriated \$5,000 to the Confederate soldiers' home in this city. Two Confederate monuments have been erected here, and a monument will be dedicated to the Women of the Confederacy during the coming reunion. This monument is a companion to the handsome State Memorial unveiled last May on the battlefield of Chickamauga during the Confederate reunion at Chattanooga. It is located in a beautiful park and will be ready for the unveiling ceremonies by the date of the reunion.

This brief exposition of the work that Florida is doing for the ex-Confederate soldiers, living and dead, is proof that the people of the State will extend a warm and generous welcome to the old soldiers and their friends on the occasion of the Jacksonville reunion. Florida, while situated far South of the great theater of war of 1861-5, felt the shock of the conflict. Jacksonville was occupied four different times by the federals. The purposes of this occupancy, according to official reports on file in

archives of the war department, were to keep the St. Johns River open from its mouth to the head of navigation and to arm the negroes for service in the union army. The small Confederate force in East Florida in 1863 was commanded by Gen. Joseph Finegan. On March 13, 1863, Gen. Finegan issued a proclamation here in which he said:

"I feel it my duty as brigadier-general commanding this district to inform the people of the district and of the State that our unscrupulous enemy has landed a large force of negroes, under command of white officers, at Jacksonville, under cover of gunboats. He is attempting to fortify the place so as to make it secure against attacks. The purpose of this movement is obvious and need not be mentioned in direct terms. It is sufficient to inspire the whole body of people with a renewed and sterner purpose of resistance. I, therefore, call on such of the citizens as can possibly leave their homes to arm and organize themselves into companies without delay and report to me."

Gen. R. Saxton (U. S. A.) in a report to the war department dated March 14, 1863, says: "The object of this expedition was to occupy Jacksonville and make it the base of operations for the arming of negroes and securing in this way possession of the entire State of Florida. It is my belief that scarcely an incident in this war has caused a greater panic throughout the whole southern coast than this raid of the colored troops in Florida."

During this occupation, Jacksonville was burned by Federal troops. A correspondent of the New York Tribune wrote a graphic description of the fire, which was probably overdrawn, from the deck of the transport Boston, then lying in the harbor. He charged the crime of burning the city to the Eighth Maine and Sixth Connecticut regiments, and declared that the negro troops had nothing to do with it.

Big Improvement for Tiptonville.

Tiptonville, Tenn., Feb. 21.—It only remains a matter of a short time before Tiptonville will have a complete water-works and sewerage system. The bonds have been sold and it only remains to have them printed for the money to be forthcoming. A trade with the Tiptonville Ice & Light Company has about been made to furnish the water, and Mayor G. W. Haynes has several contractors figuring on the laying of the mains.

Radical changes in the parole law are provided in the Helm bill that passed the Senate 29 to 1. Action on the Glenn bill goes over until Tuesday. The House adopted a joint resolution calling upon the Department of Justice to investigate alleged conspiracies and combinations of fire insurance companies operating in Kentucky.

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