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Floyd County, Georgia.

A COMPILATION OF FACTS FOR THE INFORMATION OF HOME
SEEKERS, BUSINESS MEN, AND THE
WORLD AT LARGE.

SETTING FORTH THE RESOURCES, ADVANTAGES, LOCATION, BUSINESS
INTERESTS, AND UNEXCELLED FACILITIES.

Published Under the Auspices of the Floyd County Industrial Association.

FLETCHER SMITH, PRINTER, ROME, GA.

Introductory.

This work is published for the purpose of giving to the world a truthful statement of facts relative to Floyd County, Georgia, which has, not inaptly, been styled the "Banner County of the South." The descriptive matter has been carefully prepared, and the information furnished is accurate. The illustrations are from photographs, and are faithful portrayals of natural and architectural scenes of this section. Any person desiring more full or detailed information can obtain the same by addressing the Secretary of the Floyd County Industrial Association, Rome, Georgia.

“FLOYD COUNTY.”

Its Soil and Variety of Products.

There is perhaps no section of country where exists a greater variety of soil or a larger range of products.

Beginning with the alluvial soil of our three great river valleys, fertile with the debris of ages, and capable of producing the finest yields of corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, cow peas, clover, timothy, orchard grass, red top, and in fact all the most useful cereal and hay crops. Besides, the finest grade of upland cotton grown in America is produced on this soil and is known in Liverpool as the best of this variety.

What has been said of our Etowah, Coosa and Oostanaula river lands is also true of our creek bottom or valley lands, and also of our higher or table lands adjacent to those spoken of above, with this exception: Our higher lands are somewhat less fertile, but better adapted to the growing of most fruits, such as pears, peaches, plums, quinces, cherries, etc., as well as all kinds of berries, which require a soil rather better drained. Apples, however, flourish best on our lower lands, where large, magnificent old trees grow to perfection.

Much of our higher mountain soil is very fertile, sometimes loamy and sometimes gravelly.

These mountain tops and slopes are the true home of the vine. All varieties of the grape

grown east of the Rockies flourish in great perfection and abundant yield on these highlands. Here, also, the peach finds conditions and soil best adapted to its perfect development.

Upon these isothermal heights the stinging frost is less apt to kill the bud or nip the bloom. Often, when the valleys have little or no fruit, the hills rear their heads toward the sun and smile in plenty before the season is done.

Almost every vegetable is known to flourish here, and many excel in flavor and yield. In a word, this may be said to be

The climate most congenial to man.

Abundant of harvest, fruitful land.

There crystal springs from out the rock

Gush forth merrily for meadow and flock.

Climate and Healthfulness.

Climate is the most important condition in the environment of a people. It embraces in its scope health and comfort, spirits, brain force, muscular power and vigor; in a word, nearly all our enjoyments and our faculties. It affects profoundly our modes of living and our indoor and outdoor life, and comes home to us in a thousand ways. It is a controlling condition on all vegetation, on trees, grasses and natural products, and not less so on cultivated crops, vegetables and fruits. Equally so on animal life—on its vigor, its diet, its needs and its supply of all food. In no part of the world is it found more suitable to the

genus homo than in this paradise of the Southern States of America.

It has been said by a distinguished authority on climate that a mean annual temperature of 60 degrees is the most conducive to comfort and health. With such a mean the summer extreme is not so great as to be relaxing, nor is the winter temperature so low as to affect even those of feeble constitution. The mean annual temperature of Floyd county, Georgia, is 60.6 degrees, ranging from 59 to 62. The average for winter is 44 and summer 78; spring and fall 61. The range between maximum and minimum of the year is 81 degrees. At St. Paul it is 132, Denver 129, Cincinnati 118, Chicago 116. The daily range of temperature is in spring 18, in

summer, autumn and winter 15, being less than at any of the places just named.

The rains in this latitude are semi-tropical in character. Drizzling weather is of rare occurrence. About two-thirds of the rainfall occurs between dusk of one day and 8 A. M. of the following morning, giving us a high average of cloudless days. Thus, Rome, Georgia, compared with points in Minnesota and Dakota, noted for their cloudless skies, gets twice as much rainfall, but has a greater number of clear days. The yearly average of rainfall ranges from 42 to 58 inches. This rainfall is well distributed throughout the twelve months, so that this section never suffers from drouth. There are generally seven months between the last and first killing frosts of the year.

It would be somewhat superfluous for us to say people enjoy excellent health here. We venture the assertion that in an assemblage of the people of this section you will see a greater proportion of broad-shouldered men and well-rounded women than you ever saw before. At all seasons of the year people can work out of doors, and it is rare that ladies are kept at home on account of the weather. Malaria is unknown here. It is a well-known fact that yellow fever and cholera patients have never been known to infect in this climate. The exemption of the inhabitants of this section from diseases of the respiratory organs is proverbial. This is the purest atmosphere recorded in the medical journals of America.

Allow us to quote the words of a physician of forty years' experience and world-wide reputation: "The exemption from mortality which attends the surgical operations, the wonderful freedom from septic poison and the promptness and kindness attending the healing process are remarkable compared with the mortality attending amputations in other parts North, West and South, that is here nominal. The great discrepancy can not be accounted for but in the extreme purity of the atmosphere."

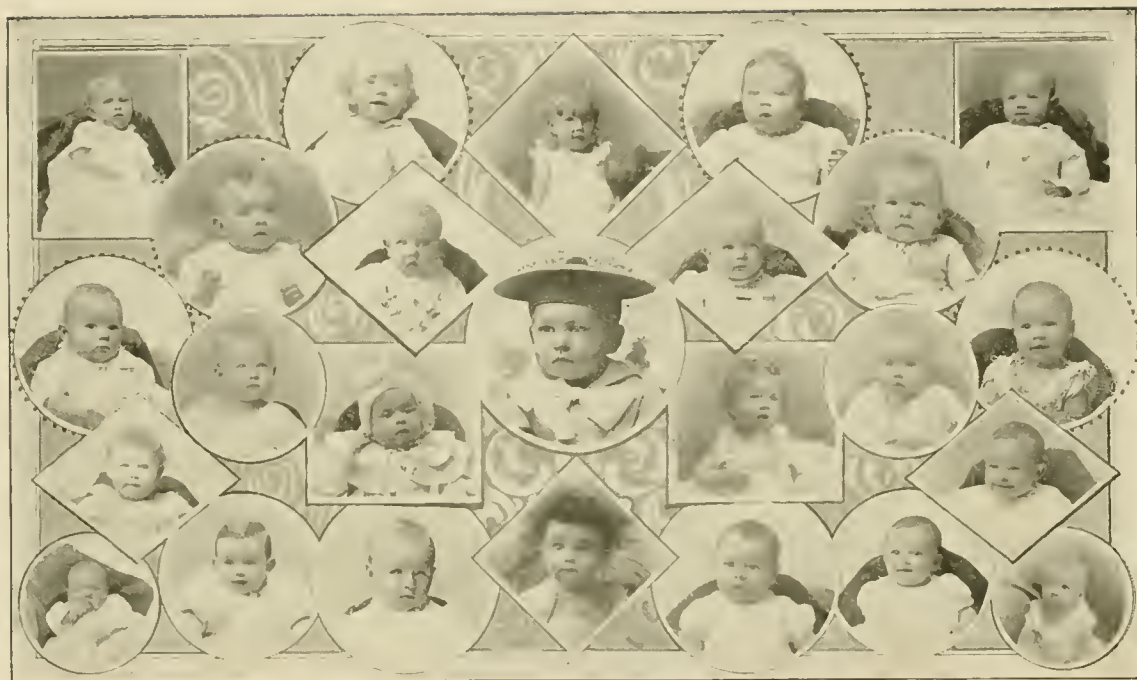
The swift-flowing and numerous rivers drain the land, carrying off all organic growth that would engender fever. Mortuary statistics show that the mortality per thousand of the white population is only 8.4 per annum, which is as

good a record as can be shown by any section in the United States.

No surer test of the healthfulness of any locality can be found than that which is afforded by the physical appearance of its inhabitants, and especially the juvenile element. In this respect Floyd county challenges comparison.

Surely nowhere else can one find a brighter galaxy of beauty than in the cluster of infantile rosebuds given on the opposite page. Only a glance at the chubby features and contented expressions of these dimpled darlings is needed to show that good health reigns supreme with the pretty flock.





SAMPLES OF FLOYD COUNTY'S FINEST PRODUCTS.

The Citizenship of the County.

In point of an honest, law-abiding, God-serving citizenship, no community on the American continent can boast a higher standard than Floyd county, Georgia.

The population of the rural districts is made up of men and women the large majority of whom have felt the influences of education and refinement far above the average in similar conditions of society elsewhere.

There never was a more unutterable fallacy than that which has so frequently been disseminated to our detriment abroad that our people are coarse, ignorant and uncouth, and that the lives and property of Northern people are unsafe

among them. On the very contrary, they are a people who are honest, intelligent, generous and hospitable, and if they err at all it is generally on the other side, in allowing unprincipled people to take advantage of them because of their trustfulness in their fellow-men.

They are a church-going, school-supporting people, quiet and orderly, and the stranger who comes among them is always treated with the utmost kindness, consideration, respect and good-fellowship. A Northern man who has lived here five years, the only way you can distinguish him from a native, is that he is just a little more of an enthusiastic Georgian than those to the manner born.

Nowhere in the Union does the spirit of pure

Americanism prevail to the same extent that it does in the South, and in our own particular community it is prevalent to a degree that can not but be most attractive to all who understand and appreciate the beauty of our free institutions.

Let those who doubt these statements investigate for themselves. We are content to place our people beside any in the world for intelligence, sobriety, honesty and good citizenship.

Minerals.

In addition to the many attractions Floyd county possesses, none commend it more highly than its varied and inexhaustible deposits of minerals. No less than sixteen to twenty varic-

ties have been found. So far only a few have been utilized or the deposits properly prospected and opened up.

The following ores have been found within the county limits: Brown and red iron ores, manganese, bauxite, marble (variegated and black), slate, limestone (extending from Cave Spring entirely across the county), cement rock, lithographic stone, brown stone kaolin, ochre, brick clay, bituminous shale, extensive iron pyrites, gold, silver and lead. The deposits of the brown iron ores begin in the southwestern portion of the county below Cave Spring and extend in a northeastern direction across it. Parallel with these deposits lie the manganese, which at certain intervals comes in contact with the iron ores. Thou-

sands of tons of both iron and manganese ores have been mined and shipped. The analyses of these ores prove that there are none better.

The deposits of marble, both variegated and black, have been prospected and tested, and proven to be inexhaustible. The marble takes a most beautiful polish, and is highly recommended for all ornamental and building purposes.

The bauxite deposits have been opened, and thousands of tons shipped. These deposits bid fair to be the most important of all Floyd county minerals, and furnaces have already been erected for working the ore.

Several of the other minerals exist in great quantities, needing only skill and capital to develop them into paying industries.

These mineral lands can be bought at this time at nominal figures, except where mines have been opened and ores shipped.

Forestry.

Among the twenty-five to thirty varieties of woods grown in the county will be found almost every species known in the Southern States.

The oaks and pines predominate in quantity, and are mostly used in buildings, furniture and manufacturing of farming utensils, wagons, etc. Large quantities of lumber of each of these valuable woods are annually shipped.

There are six varieties of oaks, viz.: Red, white, mountain or chestnut, black, water and

post oak, and two varieties of pine, the long and short leaf.

There are thousands of acres yet of these valuable timbers to be found in the county, and which can be bought at reasonable prices.

In addition to the oaks and pines, are found poplar, ash, beech, chestnut, hickory, elm, maple, walnut, iron wood, sugar berry, sycamore, sweet gum, black gum, dog wood, persimmon, sassafras, willow, wild cherry, redbud, warhoo and cedar. Many of these exist in large quantities, and can be utilized in the manufacture of furniture and hard-wood finish for dwellings.

Nearly all these varieties are easily dressed and take a most beautiful finish.

Stock Raising.

Among the conspicuous industries of this county is that of stock raising. To this profitable business less attention has been paid than is warranted by inducements which the section offers to the intelligent stock grower. Cotton and other staples have attracted the attention of planters to the exclusion of the more profitable crops of the grasses. Near the city of Rome, one planter, a year or two since, cut one field of clover containing forty acres, and the plant was an average of three feet in height, and the field produced two hundred tons of hay. This is an indication of what can be done along this line.

The early springs and late falls are great factors in the production of cheap stock. The grass grows fresh and green until December, and early in March the tender blades begin to offer tempting food for the stock that have been under shelter for the three winter months.

The various native grasses here are numerous and exceedingly well adapted both to the purposes of grazing and of hay-making. Orchard grass may be grazed for eleven months of the year, and the clover crop may be cut three times annually.

Dairying.

Geographically, Floyd county is unsurpassed as a dairy section. It is watered by three rivers

that rise in the heart of the Blue Ridge and Alleghany ranges of mountains. Here are numerous creeks and ever-flowing springs, that mark on the thermometer 58 to 62 degrees, with a mean temperature of 60.4 degrees, any number of indigenous grasses, and lime enough in the soil to grow to perfection the cultivated grasses of the more northern States.

There is an aroma in the butter made here that equals that of the celebrated Genesee Valley, of New York. The cheeses are equal to the best whole creams made at Elgin or elsewhere. The possibilities of successful dairying are commensurate with the amount of energy and enterprise put forth in the business.

As to soiling crops, rye and crimson clover



COOSA FARM HERD OF JERSEY CATTLE, G. AND P. NIXON, PROPRIETORS, ROME, GEORGIA.

sown in September, oats in August, September and October, rye again in October and November, will give a succession of cuttings from first of March until middle of May. Early in March corn can be planted, followed the middle of the month with amber cane, succeeded by more corn and cow peas, golden-top sorghum, patches of orchard grass, meadow oats and red clover. This system, kept up, will carry your herd from March to killing frost. For winter feeding, ensilage, aided by cotton-seed meal, wheat bran and corn meal, cows can be economically fed. Our lands grow the following indigenous grasses, unsurpassed singly or combined: Bermuda, Johnson, crab, perennial paspalum (one of the best), annual or drop-seed paspalum, that comes up in

June and remains green until frost, the brown grass, Japan clover, native red top foxtail, and many others that fill in the season.

Facilities for shipping are unequaled. Systems of railroads and rivers penetrate to all important inland and seaport cities. Ice can be stored in winter, and the winters that are too mild it can be procured in the city of Rome at very low rates for factory purposes.

The popular breeds of dairy cows are: Jerseys and their grades, Ayershires and their grades. These breeds combine all that is necessary for butter and cheese. As to healthfulness of dairy cows, we could not ask more. Tuberculosis, that dread disease, is unknown. Taking everything into consideration, geographically, topographically, temperature, fertility of soil, abundance of

pure water, unequalled facilities for shipping, Floyd county is indeed blessed as are few spots on this earth, and is surely the "Banner County of the Empire State of the South."

Fruit Culture.

The great abundance and variety of wild fruits growing spontaneously and profusely in our forests, fields and roadsides, demonstrate the natural advantages of our county to fruit raising. Within our bounds can be found locations where can be grown successfully every variety of deciduous fruits indigenous to the temperate zone. The unusual size, high coloring and delicious flavor has given the fruits of our section a great

reputation in the markets, and has demonstrated to the world our superior advantages for fruit growing. The fruits grown on the ridges or elevated table lands of our section have been pronounced by the highest authorities to be the most beautiful and highly-colored specimens they have ever seen. One reason for the high coloring of our fruits is the presence of iron in the soil. This series of table lands also enjoy an immunity from spring frosts, and peaches and all other fruits are as sure a crop as anywhere in our country. There are splendid openings for commercial fruit growing for the production of apples, peaches, pears, plums, grapes and small fruits. For early apples we have the markets of the North and West. For later apples we have

the holiday and winter trade in all the cities south of us, in the gulf region, where apples can not be successfully grown. Our early peaches come into market long in advance of the Northern fruits, and always bring remunerative prices. The bulk of our peach crop comes into market after the rush from middle Georgia and before the Delaware crop, and owing to this fact and the superior excellence and beauty of our fruit, always brings the highest prices.

Then, as regards transportation, we are much nearer the central markets than the great peach region of central and southern Georgia, so that we save in time and expense of transportation.

Any one who will take the pains to investigate the adaptation of our section to fruit growing in

all its branches, will be convinced that it is pre-eminently suited to the fruit industry.

Truck Farming.

This is an industry that has sprung up in our section in the past few years, and now has assumed large proportions. Our climate and soil are particularly adapted to it.

We begin to plant in August, sowing onion seed, which are transplanted in October, and the following spring develop into fine onions, or they grow nearly all winter. A good many gardeners plant out early cabbage in October, and they usually stand the winter. Greens of all kinds,

as well as lettuce, are planted in October. Lettuce can be easily forced, in a cold frame, for market by Christmas. Peas are planted in early February, also Irish potatoes, and then follows the other vegetables in regular succession. Potatoes planted in February can be dug in June, sprouted in a trench and then replanted and make a fine second crop in September. Strawberries make a fine yield. Planted in August, they get a firm root before cold weather, and give an abundant yield the following spring. One patch of ten acres yielded and shipped 1,350 crates in a season, all fine fruit. Early cabbage mature in May and reach fine heads. Celery can be grown with success, if irrigated. It can be raised to reach thirty inches. Beans can be

raised in succession every month from March to October, using the matured seed to replant.

Our summers are not hot enough to burn up vegetation, and our rains are usually copious and well distributed through the season.

Roads.

Floyd county is justly noted for her good roads. We have the finest macadamized roads in the State, leading from the city in all directions.

There are now completed more than seventy-six miles of the road, built of hard limestone and marble, of easy grade and thoroughly



STREET SCENE DURING COTTON SEASON.

drained. These roads have been built by convict labor, and are being added to at the rate of one mile per month. The average cost per mile is \$1,000. With this splendid system of macadamized roads, travel and transportation to and from Rome become easy and pleasant at all seasons of the year. It is the policy of the county authorities to continue this system of road-building. They fully appreciate the importance of good roads to a community, and are determined to keep Floyd county in the van of progress and fully abreast of the times on this important subject.



Cost of Living.

In reference to the cost of living it may be safely affirmed that the necessities and luxuries of life are to be obtained here at a rate as low, and in many cases lower, than in any other section of our country. Almost everything for the table is cheap here, for the simple reason that the land produces abundantly almost everything that can be grown in the temperate zone, thus enabling the farmer to make the cost of a well and variously supplied table very small, and the resident of a town or city, by buying judiciously, can live as well here and for less money than in almost any other locality.

Owing to the large supplies of lumber and its

cheapness, and the facility with which brick can be manufactured, buildings of all kinds can be constructed cheaply.

The mildness of the climate also lessens many expenses, such as large supplies of coal for winter. The climate plays an important part in the expenses for wearing apparel. The farmer can work in his shirt sleeves almost the entire year, needing only a coat in the cooler seasons of the year. There is another feature in the cost of living here not generally recognized, but which enters very materially into the question. So far as the farmer is concerned, he is not required to house his stock for six months of the year. Thereby he saves not only the expense of laying in fodder, but the labor of taking care of his

stock during the entire winter months, and in addition to this he does not have the expense of providing a large and costly barn for the comfort of his stock.

Why Desirable for Home Seekers.

As a place for home seekers there is no spot in the country superior to Floyd county. Blest with the purest ozone from the wind-swept hills, ample springs of clear, cool, health-giving water, blue skies and radiant sunshine, it is the ideal home place of the sunny South.

Those in search of picturesque home sites have a varied abundance from which to choose—hill and dale, mountain slope and river side, wood

and field—all spread out like a panorama, inviting the home seeker to stay his wanderings and find rest and repose.

The climate is such that the home may be surrounded by an endless variety of shrubs and flowers, there being only a few weeks in the year when flowers are not blooming in the open air. The temperate winds and regular rainfall insure the growth of ornamental trees, vines and shrubbery.

In the matter of convenience to schools and churches, the county offers the strongest inducements, there being located at short intervals throughout the length and breadth of the county

commodious houses and well-conducted schools and churches with large congregations.

The public roads of the county render intercourse among neighbors an easy and agreeable matter, and the journey to the market town or the railway station is rendered a delight instead of a dread.

The warm-hearted generosity, intelligence, morality and open-handed hospitality add the crowning attraction to Floyd as a place for those in search of homes surrounded by home comforts, and in these particulars this grand old community stands unchallenged.



SCENE AT ROME OIL MILL.

Rome.

Guarded by thy mighty mountains,
Softly toiled by sun and shade,
Watered by thy flowing fountains
Flashing through each glen and glade,
Twined amid thy winding rivers,
Mirrored in their shining foam,
Where thy glowing splendor quivers,
Standest thou, imperial Rome!

Pictured plains and verdant valleys
Flashed with glorious, harvest hopes,
Blithe the balmy breeze that dallies
On thy bloom-embroidered slopes,
Opulent with promise springing
From the freshly-furrowed loam,
Jubilant the joy bells ringing
On thy hills, resplendent Rome!

Other lands may boast their trophies,
Vacuous vagaries of art,
Nature needs no straining strophes
To reveal thy golden heart:
And indelibly recorded
In each love-illuminated tome,
Free from every instinct sordid
Shines thy story, radiant Rome!

Fertile fields and frozzy fallows,
Breezy banks where violets blow,
Fragrant flags and musky mallows
Framed in drowsy deeps below,
Peace and plenty reign around thee,
Potent progress gilds each dome
Where thy stalwart sons have crowned thee
Realm'd in riches, regal Rome!

There may each wayfaring stranger,

Free as falls the summer dew,

Menaced by no dread or danger,

Find a welcome warm and true:

Free to share in all thy treasures

And to find in thee a home,

Peace pursue and plenteous pleasures

In thy precincts, prosperous Rome!

Sturdy sons and star-eyed daughters

Blend their songs of hope and joy.

Sweet as sound of falling waters

Busied with each sweet employ;

Shadowy woodlands, history-haunted,

Where each fancied nymph and gnome

Long thy varied charms have vaunted,

Rome, incomparable Rome!

The City of Rome.

Rome is the capital of Floyd county, and the principal city of Cherokee Georgia. It is the commercial center of the most attractive and progressive section of the industrial South. It has a population of 15,000 souls, and is steadily increasing in wealth, numbers and commercial importance.

The location of Rome is ideal. Nature intended that a great city should rest on the foundations where Rome sits. The soil, climate, minerals, timbers, water and drainage furnished by nature for the situation of Rome, give it advantages that few cities of the United States possess.

The rivers of Rome add much to its beauty and commercial importance. The winding Etowah comes gliding in from the southeast, through fertile valleys and undulating fields, to meet, at the very base of Rome, the rippling Oostanaula, that flows in from the northeast through tangled forests and sloping grass lands; and these two, mingling their waters, make the magnificent Coosa, that moves majestically away to the southwest, carrying on its bosom much of the commerce of this splendid section, and finding its way, through the Alabama, to the Gulf.

On the many picturesque hills that rise and find their way to the water's edge, at the point where the Etowah and Oostanaula unite, modern Rome sits enthroned, compact and beautiful,

progressive and full of energy, gaining surely and steadily every year in population and commercial importance.

As the lines of progress have developed, the peninsula between the rivers has overflowed with people, and the tide of population has swept across these waters, until now, on their opposite banks, but all connected to the city by splendid iron bridges, are the populous suburbs of East Rome, South Rome (now the Fifth ward), and West Rome, all natural feeders to the city and adding constantly to its trade and growth.

Rome is the geographical center of the industrial South. Take a railroad map of the South, and place one end of a compass on Rome as a center and the other upon Birmingham, sweep

the magic circle, and you have almost the full territory of the new industrial South; that section whose magical development, matchless resources and splendid prospects have excited, within the past decade, the attention and admiration of the world.

Within this charmed and charming circle cluster the splendid cities of Knoxville, Cleveland, Chattanooga, Dalton, Gadsden, Birmingham, Selma, Anniston, Macon and Atlanta, and many other growing and aggressive towns, with matchless and unmeasured agricultural and mineral riches and possibilities in every clambering hill and smiling valley in the country that surrounds them.

Of all this splendid region, Rome is the nat-

ural and commercial center, and is in quick and easy touch with every point by rail or river. Whatever of wealth lies in the soil and air and water of these surroundings and tributaries, must necessarily be found in richer quality and greater abundance near this central heart, Rome. And that this is true is attested by indisputable proofs and by the confession of them all. The blue ribbon of superiority has been so freely and so frequently awarded to Rome's own county of Floyd, when in competition with other counties of the State, that further proof or argument is but needless waste of time. A volume might not say more.

It only remains to say that the splendid city of Rome is worthy of such a location and such sur-

roundings. She is rising to her full stature to meet and embrace the opportunities that confront her. She is moving with steady and unfaltering step to the greater prosperity of the near future. Her foundations for success are as sure as the hills about her and on which she so firmly sits. Her people are intelligent, progressive and patriotic; her climate is uniform, temperate and delightful; her society is cultured, refined and hospitable; her health is well-nigh perfect, her schools are the best, and her churches crown almost every hill.

The honest home seeker can find no better land than this. It is such a place as Moses described to the hesitating Israelites in the wilderness, when they were pining for the melons and

flesh pots of Egypt: "A good land; a land of brooks, of waters, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; a land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of oil olive and honey; a land of corn, and wine and oil, that drinketh water of the rain of heaven; a land which God careth for and sendeth the rain in his season; a land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass."

Already the tide is setting this way. Already the South is feeling the throbbings of a new life. Already enterprising capital from the East has found us out, and the splendid plant of the Massachusetts Cotton Mills is rearing its walls in

sight of Rome. Our hills beckon and our valleys smile a welcome. The sunshine falls cheerily on abundant harvests and the over-arching skies give blessing and benediction. The message we send out to the home seeker is, "Come, and we will do you good!"

Rome's Wholesale and Retail Markets.

Rome, the commercial center of Northwest Georgia, ranks among cities of twice her size as a wholesale market. There are a number of reasons why this should be, and it is not strange that we rank so high in the world of trade. Geo-

graphically situated in the center of as magnificent an agricultural center as exists, Rome has for years been the marketing place of the products of the fields. This brings in close touch the merchants in the smaller towns around us, and it is but natural that they should prefer to do business here. And, on a strictly business basis, they find it greatly to their advantage.

Rome has eight shipping outlets, and has as low freight rates as any other city, and buying and manufacturing goods as cheaply as it can be done, it has been found that Rome houses can compete with those of any city. That they do this successfully is proven by the big trade that has been built up over North Georgia and into Tennessee and Alabama. This is done in all lines

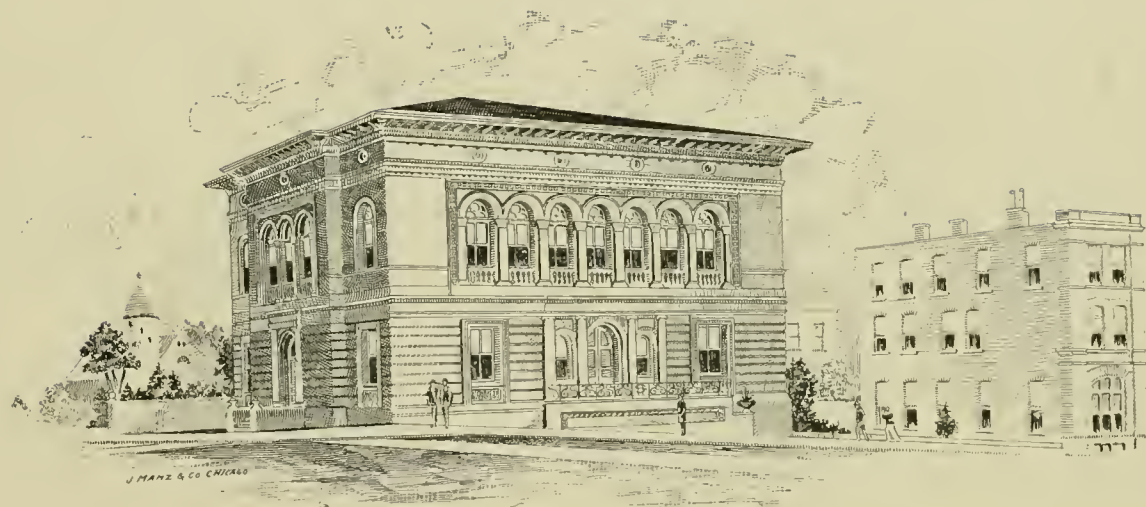
of goods, and some specialties manufactured here find their way all over the country.

As a wholesale market in all lines Rome can not be excelled. Jobbing houses here buy in as large lots as do those of larger cities, and in what is known as Rome's territory, have more reason and incentive to sell at closer profits than houses at a distance. They are better able to do so, as it is less expensive for them to reach the trade.

As a cotton market, Rome has no rival in all this section. From over one hundred miles cotton is brought here in wagons. The planters realize that they get the best market price for their cotton, and, indeed, for all of their products. Then, while our wholesale market is attracting

the merchants, as a retail market no city is superior. Farmers naturally want the highest market price for their products, but want the money they receive to go as far as possible in purchasing what they need. Both of these advantages are found in Rome, and in all lines goods are retailed at prices that can not be lowered by the merchants of any other market.

In addition to this, Rome's merchants have a well-deserved reputation for hospitality and good will. There are no more honest or clever merchants to be found than those of Rome, and it is but natural that their friends and patrons and their territory should continually increase.



NEW POST-OFFICE, ROME, GEORGIA.

Manufactures.

Floyd county presents unusual advantages to manufacturers, there being several undeveloped water powers in the county. The following list of factories in or near Rome give an idea of the development in this line already, and it is well known that it is better to locate new enterprises where others have found conditions favorable and profitable:

J. A. Bale—Guano factory.

Bowie & Terhune—Manufacture stoves, grates, hollow-ware, etc. Employ thirty to forty hands. Pay-roll \$400 to \$600 per week. Ship their products to North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas.

Electric Power Company.

Excelsior Nurseries—Employ from forty to fifty hands. Have 400 salesmen on the road. Trade extends to almost every State in the United States.

Foster's Ginnery and Mill—Have four gins, with a capacity of thirty bales cotton per day.

Garlock Packing Company—Manufacture all kinds of packing for engines. Their shipments cover the entire South.

Georgia Cotton Oil Company, Rome Mill—Manufacture cotton-seed oil meal and hulls, and have capacity to crush ninety tons cotton seed per day. Employ eighty hands during season.

J. A. George Foundry and Machine Works—Employ from twelve to twenty hands. Do a

regular foundry and machine shop business. Their shipments embrace the following States: Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and Texas.

Loeb's Water Mills—Has a capacity of 300 bushels meal and grits per day.

Massachusetts Mills, in Georgia—Capital stock \$600,000, employing 600 operatives. Have 30,000 spindles and 1,036 looms.

O'Neill Manufacturing Company—Manufacture flooring, ceiling, moulding, stairs, mantels, sash, doors and blinds, and ship to Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. Employ sixty to eighty hands manufacturing sash, doors, blinds, flooring, moulding, stairs, etc.

Rome Chemical Company—Employ fifty hands. Capacity 8,000 to 10,000 tons phosphate and ammoniated guano per season. Ship to Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee.

Rome City Mills—Capacity 400 bushels meal per day. Also do custom grinding.

Rome Compress Company—Have eighty-inch cylinder Morse Tyler press. Compress annually 60,000 to 100,000 bales cotton.

Rome Cotton Factory—Manufacture cotton duck and wrapping twine. Ship to almost every State in the Union; also to China, Japan and South America.

Rome Foundry and Machine Works—Manufacture Davis water wheel, and do a general foundry and machine shop business.

Rome Furniture Manufacturing Company—
Make a specialty of fine oak furniture, both
plain and quartered oak. Employ 100 hands.
Ship to every New England State and all South-
ern States. Pay-roll \$650 per week.

Rome Ice Company—Have a Boyles machine
of fifteen-tons capacity.

Rome Iron Company—Manufacture charcoal
pig iron and have a capacity of forty-five tons
per day. Employ fifty hands.

Rome Rolling Mill Company.

Rome Steam Tannery—Capacity 15,000 hides
per year. Employ twenty-five hands. Pay-roll
\$225 per week. Make 600,000 pounds belting
leather annually, grading with the best in the
United States.

Rome Mattress Factory—Capacity twenty-
five mattresses per day.

Standard Scale Company—Manufacture plat-
form, wagon and railroad scales and full line of
trucks. Shipments to all the Southern States.

Towers & Sullivan Manufacturing Company—
Manufacture plows, steel goods and cultivators.
Employ 125 to 150 hands. Weekly pay-roll
\$500 to \$550. Ship to all the Southern States.

Towers Excelsior and Ginning Company—Em-
ploy ten men during ginning season. Capacity
forty bales per day.

Wardlaw Mattress Company—Capacity twenty-
five mattresses per day.

The following are in Floyd county, outside of
Rome: John C. Foster, mill and ginnery; S. S.



ROME STOVE WORKS. BOWIE & TERHUNE, PROPRIETORS. 111

Johnson, mill and ginnery; M. A. Wimpee, flouring mill and ginnery; G. J. Briant, flouring mill and ginnery; Jones' Mill, flouring mill and ginnery; Echols' Mill, flouring mill and ginnery; Rounsaville & Bro., mill and excelsior works; John Rice, mill and ginnery; Barnett's Mill, mill and ginnery; Barnett's Lower Mill, mill and ginnery; Crayton's Mill, flouring mill and ginnery; Chubb's Mill, flouring mill and ginnery; Harper & Carroll, mill and ginnery; J. B. Porter, mill and ginnery; H. C. Johnson, mill and ginnery; Dr. Jeffreys, mill and ginnery; Seaborn Wright, mill and ginnery; A. P. Redmond, mill and ginnery; Abe Redmond, mill and ginnery.

Rome as a Point for Manufacturing.

The city of Rome has advantages for manufacturing second to no city in the South. When we consider its geographical position in the State, its transportation facilities, its mild and healthy climate, its abundance of raw material, its water supply to furnish all kinds of plants what they need and require, its good city government, its well and kindly disposed population—the whites largely predominating—we may say that we are justified in declaring that Rome's advantages and facilities for manufacturing all the great staple products, as well as for the location of the smaller industries, are unsurpassed.

The city of Rome is situated in Floyd county,



SOUTHERN FERTILIZER COMPANY'S WORKS, ROME, GEORGIA.

Georgia, between the Oostanaula and Etowah, and at the confluence of these rivers, seventy miles south of Chattanooga, sixty miles northwest of Atlanta, and sixty miles north of Anniston, Alabama, in the northwestern part of the State, twenty miles from the Alabama line, and at the head of navigation on the Coosa river.

This river is navigable for one hundred and eighty miles, down to Greensport in Alabama, and the work of opening it to navigation is nearly completed to the Ten Island shoals, and will ultimately be entirely completed by the United States government to Wetumpka, Alabama. This will open this stream from Rome to Mobile for the passage of steamers. The Coosa has been navigable since the settlement of the

country by a regular line of boats as far as Greensport, running as regularly the year around as on any river in the South, bringing to Rome the productions of the Coosa valley, consisting of lumber, iron, grain, cotton and all productions of the Coosa valley.

The Oostanaula is navigable one hundred and twenty miles, as far as Carter's landing in Whitfield county. The boats on this river also bring to Rome all the staple productions of the Oostanaula valley. Also large quantities of walnut, poplar and oak lumber.

In the way of railroad transportation, there are eight lines entering and passing through Rome. The Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis comes in from Kingston on the east by



ROME BRICK WORKS.

the old Rome Railroad route, giving a connection to Atlanta on the south by the Western and Atlantic, and by the same to Chattanooga on the north. The Southern Railroad comes through Rome, giving a connection on the north to Chattanooga and all points in the northwest, to East Tennessee and all points northeast, embracing New York, Philadelphia and Washington City.

The Southern Railroad divides at Rome, the Georgia division going to Atlanta, Macon, Brunswick and Savannah and all points in Florida. The Alabama division beginning at Rome connects with lines at Anniston to Montgomery and Mobile, and direct on to Selma, Meridian, Vicksburg, New Orleans and all points south and west.

The Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus con-

nects with the Central of Georgia, giving direct communication with Savannah and all points south and to Florida. It (the Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus) passes through Rome north to Chattanooga, there connecting with all the lines entering from the north and northwest.

The Rome and Decatur (Alabama), now operated by the Southern Railroad, comes up the valley of the Coosa from Attalla and Gadsden, Alabama, bringing all the raw material and products of the country from the north side of the Coosa valley.

On the west side of the city the Rome and Decatur and Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus are parallel for three or four miles.

The Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus and



ROME IRON FURNACE.

the Georgia and Alabama divisions of the Southern are also parallel for the same distance. On the south side, the old Rome Railroad and the Southern are parallel for two miles. This parallel, detailed as to these different lines, gives very superior advantages in the location of manufacturing plants for the securing of convenient transportation and the benefits of competition in freight rates.

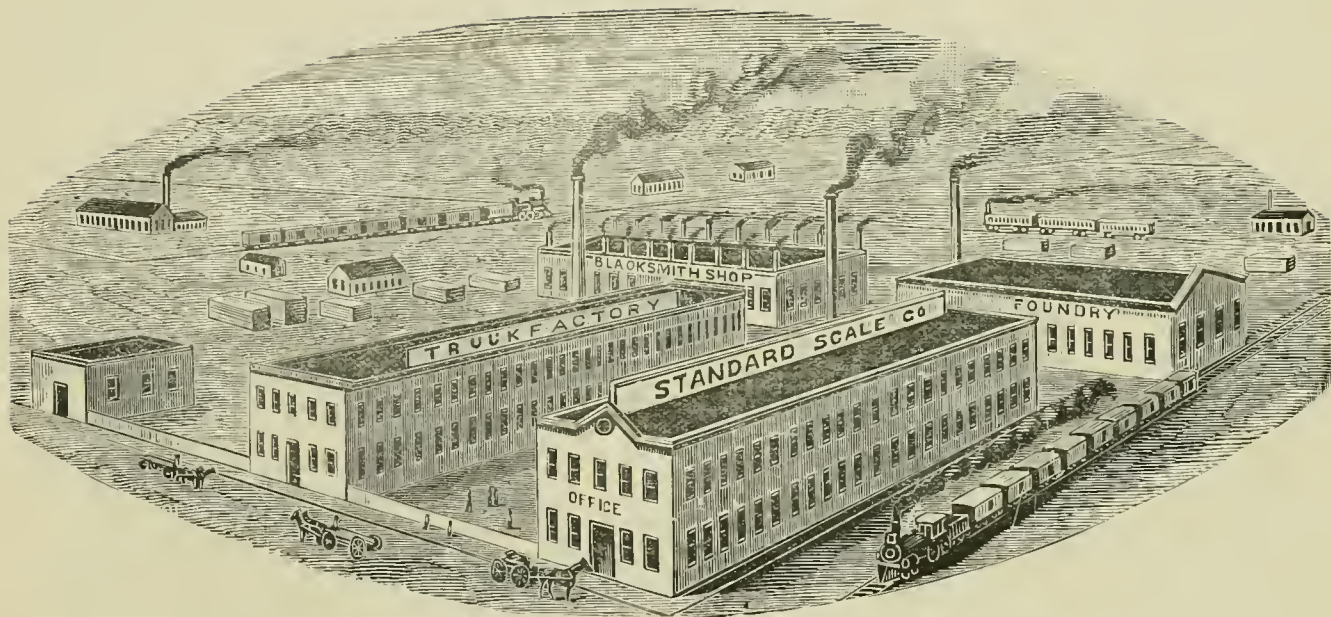
It will be seen that such a statement of transportation advantages is almost unequalled by any one place in the country.

Our climate is mild, healthy and salubrious. No loss of time need be had on account of excessive heat or cold.

The writer can state that Rome is unsurpassed

in the healthfulness of its situation. After a residence of nearly forty years, he is able to give the strongest testimony to the truth of this statement.

In raw material subject to manufacture we have, first, cotton, receiving at this point from eighty to one hundred thousand bales annually, grown within a radius of seventy-five miles from the city of Rome, much of which is produced in the immediate vicinity of Rome, and ginned within the city and suburbs. Cotton mills located at this point have the opportunity to buy cotton in the seed, and where they are engaged in the production of fine fabrics, spinning the cotton directly from the gin located within the mills, thus saving ten or fifteen per cent. in bag-



STANDARD SCALE WORKS, ROME, GEORGIA.

ging and ties, on waste cotton, smeared and caked. This is very advantageous, and has been very profitable to mills located in this vicinity.

The quality of the cotton produced in Floyd and adjoining counties is of superior length and strength of fiber, coming out of a large boll, double the size compared with cotton grown on ordinary uplands, owing to the fertility of our valleys.

Liverpool buyers have been known to make offers in advance at the highest price for such and such a man's crop, grown in the Coosa valley. This indicates the value placed upon the staple grown in this section by spinners abroad.

Numberless sites are available in the suburbs of Rome with the conveniences of transportation

and water supply for the erection of cotton mills with an illimitable number of spindles and looms, particularly for the finer fabrics.

All the mills located in this section have been eminently successful and profitable to all who have invested in them. Labor is cheap, expenses of living as low as anywhere in the United States, everything favorable to the health and happiness of a manufacturing population.

We know of no city in the United States which can offer better advantages and facilities in the manufacture of cotton into all its products than Rome and Floyd county.

In the manufacture of iron and steel we are supplied right at our doors with illimitable beds of iron ore of several varieties, lean in phospho-



SHORTER COLLEGE, ROME, GEORGIA.

rous, limestone close by and along side of the ore for fluxing, charcoal furnished in abundance at five and three-fourth cents per bushel, delivered, for making car-wheel and fine soft bar iron. One large furnace in the suburbs of Rome is in operation, and never stopped during the panic. A number of other furnaces have been in operation off and on for years in our immediate vicinity, so that the very best quality of pig iron is sold in Rome for any purpose as cheap as anywhere in the United States. For the use of large plants in the manufacture of cotton, iron, steel, or for use in any other industry, coal for steam can be and is laid down in Rome at from \$1.50 to \$1.80 per ton; so we are all right, and down with the lowest on cheap fuel.

We have an abundance of all kinds of lumber. Pine from \$5 to \$10 per thousand and oak from \$7 to \$12.

Our furniture factories and planing mills are all doing a fine business. There is no better point for car building than can be found here with us. Bauxite is found in great quantities in Floyd, Polk and Bartow counties—more in these three counties than any section in the United States. This is the place of all others for the manufacture, cheaply, of the new metal aluminum, aluminum steel and the salts of alumina. Too much can not be said of this growing industry, and the profit to our farmers at their leisure time in mining the bauxite and shipping it to distant points. Marble is found in quantities all

over the county of beautiful variegated varieties, as has been proven at our State fairs in the past.

A splendid system of water works, supplied by water pumped from the Oostanaula to the reservoir on the top of Fort Jackson hill gives an abundant supply for all purposes for several miles around. This is one of Rome's boasted advantages, particularly in connection with her splendid fire department.

A fertile soil, cheap living, fine public schools, a kindly disposed, generous, hospitable and easy-to-get-along-with people, all combine to make Rome and its vicinity unsurpassed for the location of the plants and manufactories of small industries too numerous to mention.

The Etowah river, which unites at Rome with

the Oostanaula, forming the Coosa, furnishes immense water power, which can be cheaply utilized, there being plenty of cheap available material for construction. This stream can also be relied upon for constancy of supply throughout the year. There are several shoals within a few miles of Rome, beginning in the incorporate limits of the city, from which a selection could be made. A thoroughly competent and reliable engineer estimates that on any of these shoals, a dam of fifteen feet at lowest water would afford 2,400 horse power, offering extra inducements for any one desiring to invest in anything of this kind.

Scores of ideal sites for manufacturing enterprises of every kind can be found along the val-

ley of Silver Creek, adjacent to the city. On it is already located two flouring mills, an iron furnace, chemical works, steam tannery, and the Massachusetts Cotton Mills, in Georgia. This region is destined, ere long, to be a manufacturing center.

A fairer land the sun never shone upon.

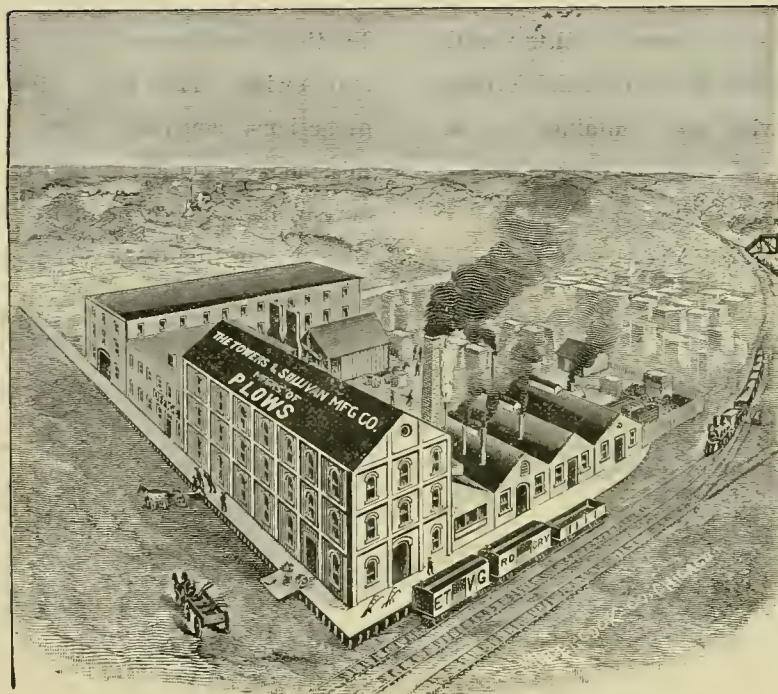
With all these God-given blessings and advantages, we invite any and all who wish to find a living and a home to come hither and see for themselves the proof of these statements.

Floyd County Schools.

There are 10,000 children in Floyd county between the ages of six and eighteen years. Of

this number 8,000 attended school during the year 1894. The city of Rome has a system of nine months' tuition, and employs an able and efficient superintendent and about twenty-five teachers that are up to date in the improved methods of the best city schools of the country. The county also has an experienced superintendent, about one hundred and twenty-five schools and one hundred and fifty teachers, and a system of five months' tuition. There has been a decided improvement in the county system during the last five years, and the present policy is to establish graded schools wherever the population in any sub-district will justify it.

There are also three chartered institutions in the county: Shorter College, with buildings and



TOWERS & SULLIVAN PLOW FACTORY, ROME, GEORGIA.

endowment of \$150,000; Mearn Institute, with endowment and property of \$30,000, and Everett Springs Seminary, with good buildings and no endowment.

Churches.

Rome may be aptly called the "City of Churches." There are sixteen church organizations, white and colored, nearly all of which own houses of worship. A number of the churches are exceptionally fine structures. The statement has been made that fifty per cent. of the population are members of the churches. The societies represented are the Methodist,

Baptist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Roman Catholic and Jewish. They have large, appreciative congregations, flourishing Sunday-schools, various missionary societies, and all the aids of religious development, making Rome a desirable place for residence in this respect. Pastors of ability are employed, and the large church attendance is evidence of the morality and upright character of the citizens.

Public Lighting System.

A gas company for many years has been supplying the city with light. Its pipes permeate every section of Rome's wide area, and a cheap

and excellent system of illumination is furnished its patrons.

More recently the Electric Light Company has aided in the matter of furnishing light to Rome. With modern patents, skillful experts and mechanics, this company contributes largely and very satisfactorily towards turning night into day.

Street Railway.

Among the many claims of substantial progress to be found in Rome, nothing affords Romans more opportunity for city pride than the elegant electric street car system. It penetrates the city to the suburbs with four branches extending

along the cardinal points of the compass. Elegant cars, polite officials, quick schedules and a successful business management of its interests make it a matter of pride to citizens of the town.

Young Men's Library Association.

The Young Men's Library Association was organized in 1879. It has a membership of about 200. There are 4,700 books in the library, including the standard works of fiction, history, travel, biography, etc., besides many valuable books of reference. The beautiful rooms of the association are adorned with maps and pictures, and the library is a useful factor in Rome's literary and educational growth.

Secret Societies.

The various fraternal and beneficiary orders are well represented in Rome. Among the most prominent are the following :

Cherokee Lodge, No. 66, F. and A. M., with 218 members.

Oostanaula Lodge, No. 113, F. and A. M., with 82 members.

Rome Chapter, No. 26, R. A. M., with 100 members.

Rome Council, R. and S. M., with 40 members.

Rome Commandery, No. 8, K. T., with 75 members.

There are two lodges of Knights of Pythias—

Riverside and Mount Alto—with a membership of over 150.

Rome Lodge, No. 40, I. O. O. F., has a membership of about 100.

Hill City Council, Royal Arcanum, has 220 members.

Rome Council, National Union, has 80 members.

Live Oak Camp, Woodmen of the World, has over 100 members.

There are councils and lodges of Knights of Honor, Legion of Honor, National Fraternity, Progressive Endowment Guild, and others, numbering in the aggregate several hundred members.

Banking Facilities.

Two national banks afford the people of the county good banking facilities. The First National, with a large capital, has been in operation for many years. The Merchants National, though younger, is managed by a board of directors who are among the ablest and most prominent business men in the county, and it also has a large capital.

Newspapers.

The city of Rome is well supplied with newspapers. Of the dailies The Tribune is the morning and The Hustler the evening paper. Each

of these publish a weekly, and each has a large circulation in North Georgia. The other weekly papers are The Southern Argus, The Piedmont Farmer and The Rome Georgian. The Masonic Herald is published monthly.

Cave Spring.

Of the different towns and localities in Floyd county that are deserving of special notice, we have only space to refer in a very short notice to Cave Spring, a town of over one thousand inhabitants, located in the southwestern part of the county, on the line of the Alabama division of the Southern Railroad, sixteen miles from Rome.

This town is situated in Vans Valley, one of the most beautiful and fertile valleys in North Georgia. In the side of a well-wooded hill in the southeastern side of the village is a large limestone cave, and bursting forth from the foot of this hill is a gurgling spring of beautiful, clear, mild limestone water, from which the town derives its name, Cave Spring. This spring furnishes several thousand gallons of water per minute, of a uniform temperature of 62 degrees. Cave Spring, with its surroundings, is one of the most picturesque and pleasant spots in the world. In natural attractiveness it is almost without a peer, and some day grand hotels, bath houses, fountains and parks will draw to this spot thousands of guests.

Cave Spring is especially noted for its educational advantages, as here are located Hearn Institute, Hearn Female Seminary, and Wesleyan Institute, all of which are well equipped schools, under the control of highly educated, cultured teachers, conducted after the most approved methods, and enjoying an enviable position among the formost schools of the state. Here is also located the Georgia Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, which is a model institution of its class, and is the peer of any similar institution in the country.

The Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopalians, all have good congregations, commodious houses of worship, and are well attended. They all have flourishing Sunday-schools.

The valley in which Cave Spring is situated is noted for its fertility, yielding immense crops of clover, grass, corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, cotton, vegetables, etc. The hills around the town are also especially adapted for fruit growing.

In the immediate vicinity of Cave Spring on Big Cedar Creek, numerous never-failing water powers can be had, yielding from 75 to 300 horse power each. Very little difference being perceptible in the winter and summer flow of this stream. All of these powers can be utilized at a comparatively small cost for manufacturing purposes. In this locality there is also an abundance of fine timber—different varieties of oak, hickory, pine, ash, poplar and other woods. There is also in this locality a vast amount of mineral wealth,

quantities of iron, manganese and kaolin, all of fine quality and high grade. The iron ores are being shipped daily to different parts of our country. Manganese ores have been shipped to Pittsburgh, Pa., New York, and Liverpool, England. They are the finest to be seen in North Georgia, and of this valuable ore there are vast deposits. There are also vast deposits of marble, principally of the black, black and white variegated, and red varieties, and also lithographic stone of fine quality. Fortunes are awaiting the men who have the means to develop this splendid section.

“To those who desire to live where the temperature has reached 100 only twice, and zero only three times in forty years; breathing the pure air wafted from the mountain tops, drinking the

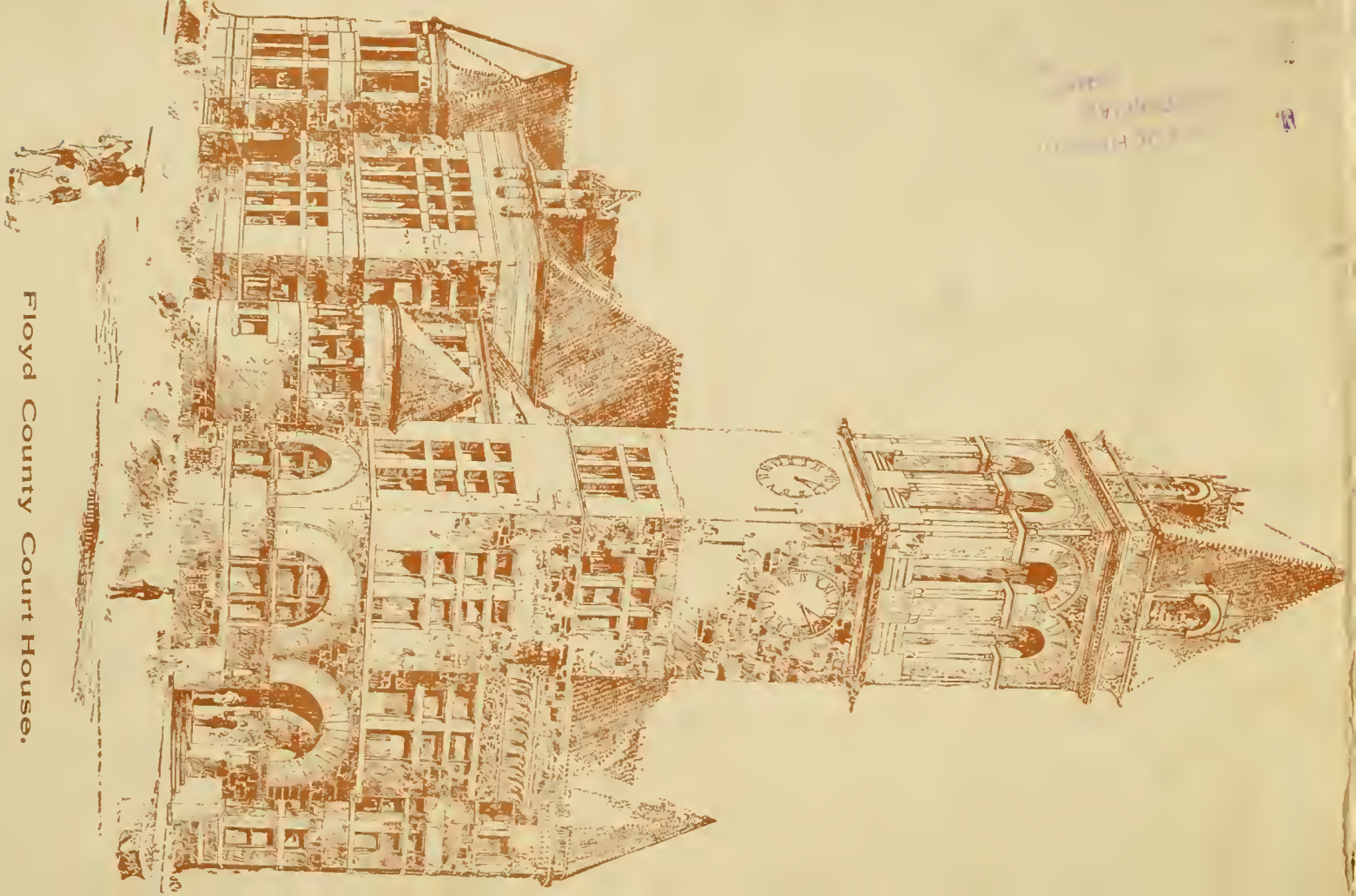
sparkling waters flowing from hundreds of springs at their feet ; surrounded by unsurpassed school and church facilities, and at the same time enjoy generous returns from labor expended in factories, in mines, upon farms, orchards, and vineyards, Cave Spring extends an invitation, and promises a hearty welcome."

If you have any thought of changing your location, or bettering your location, we invite you to visit Floyd County, and investigate for yourself, believing that you will agree with us that like a poem, spreads out our fair land, with its forest crowned hills, protecting fertile valleys, through

which wind crystal brooks, the offspring of clear limped springs gushing from the rocks ; our air laden with ozone, our skies blue, and more cloudless than those of other lands, here you feel it a joy to live.

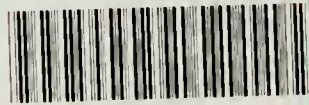
The prolific power of our cereal and textile production, the cattle upon our thousand hills, our wonderful mineral resources, and a thousand other wealth producing elements under the creative energies of American civilization, are the mighty forces which stand as sponsors for our future growth and greatness.





Floyd County Court House.

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