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TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 7.

THE SOUTHERN OIL COMPANY.

We have been somewhat tardy in noticing this enterprise, as we were desirous of obtaining the leading facts connected with the company and its labors. We are convinced that it would be difficult to present to the public a more interesting topic of local concern, or one more peculiarly Southern in its aspects, or more deserving of the support of our section of country.

The Southern Oil Company originated in Mobile, where nearly the entire stock is owned. It works under a patent granted in 1856 to Louis T. Reiss, of New York, for the manufacture of oil and other products from rosin, and it embraces the unrestricted and exclusive right of Mr. Rouiss for five of the most valuable States, viz: Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. The machinery of the company has been established at Mobile, and has the capacity of manufacturing one thousand gallons of oil per diem. The capital stock of the company is fixed by the charter at one million of dollars. The affairs are managed by a Board of Directors, of which our esteemed contemporary of the *Bulletin*, Col. I. Cook, is President.

The principal product of the works is a lubricating oil, which has been fully tested on several of our railroads, on steamboats, saw mills, and various descriptions of machinery, and uniformly pronounced admirable for all purposes. By many the superiority of this lubricant is held, and some competent judges are of opinion that it is equal to sperm oil. Perhaps as good a test as may be cited is that of the printing presses of New Orleans, which require the finest oil that can be procured, and are usually lubricated with sperm oil at a cost of from $1.25 to $2 per gallon. The trial of the present lubricant seems the fount of for the past four weeks, with the utmost satisfaction.

Enough is clear of the vast importance of this enterprise, being almost an exclusive Southern monopoly, we will state that, taking the average of the cost of sperm and lard oil, the saving in the machinery, alone, in a year, will be more than $1.25 per gallon. The Southern Oil Company sells its product at 75 cents per gallon. On our railroads alone the annual consumption is between [illegible] and five millions of gallons, and the quantity on all other machinery may be safely estimated at from eight to ten millions. Thus, in the aggregate, our annual consumption of lubricating oil may reach, or exceed, twelve millions of gallons, and all this is exclusive of the consumption of the United States of between twelve and fifteen millions of gallons. Taking the lowest estimate, we have, in round numbers, and say that this should be supplied by the South at the prices established by the Southern Oil Company, we find that the orders of the South would be entitled to the extent of about [illegible] dollars, and that of a saving to consumers of [illegible] dollars. These figures are employed approximately with a view of demonstrating the extreme value of the enterprise to the South, and if the business is conducted with the same energy, zeal, and ability of the capital invested in our cotton and sugar crops, there can be no doubt that in a few years the Southern Oil Company will be [illegible] that in very few years it will rank equal in importance with at least one of the great staples of the South. While we do not profess to be a Phrenologist, we cannot take the place of all other enterprises and the prejudice against every thing new, and the hesitancy to express an opinion in favor of a work have been many years in use—we are decidedly of opinion that the rapid increase of railroads and machinery of every kind, and the consequent imperative increase in the consumption of lubricating oil, will ensure a steady market for all the oil and other products of the Southern Oil Company, if it be under the Southern Oil Company's patent as fast as the oil can be manufactured.

There are other products derived from the distillation of rosin, such as naphtha, a drying oil, paint, and a valuable composition for grease. Of these we have taken no account, although they are used for various purposes, and materially cheapen the process of manufacture. Neither have we made any estimate of the value of the use of the rosin for the purposes, because the company is not prepared for manufacturing in this respect. Experience has proved, however, that the rosin is well adapted, and abundant in the Southern States, and that the demand for the manufacture of soap, for example, is very large. We have not the time, nor the space, to enter into details, but we trust we have sufficiently interested the reader, if we have succeeded in showing that the object of the enterprise is worthy of his attention. The shares are valued at Nos. 72 Camp street, at 1 Pat. Messrs. C. Rouiss & Co., the agents, are now ready to supply the machinery, and all other needful particulars will be furnished by the Secretary, Mr. Pat. Walsh, at the office in Mobile, and manufacturers, and uniformly pronounced adapted for all purposes. By many the idea of a lard lubricator is held, and some competent judges are of opinion that it is equal to sperm oil. Perhaps as good a test as may be cited is that of the printing presses of New Orleans, which require the finest oil that can be procured, and are usually lubricated with sperm oil at a cost of from $1.25 to $2 per gallon. The trial of the present lubricant seems the fount of for the past four weeks, with the utmost satisfaction.

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