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THE JOURNAL.

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THE PAMLICO SECTION OF EAST ERN NORTH CAROLINA.

General Description.

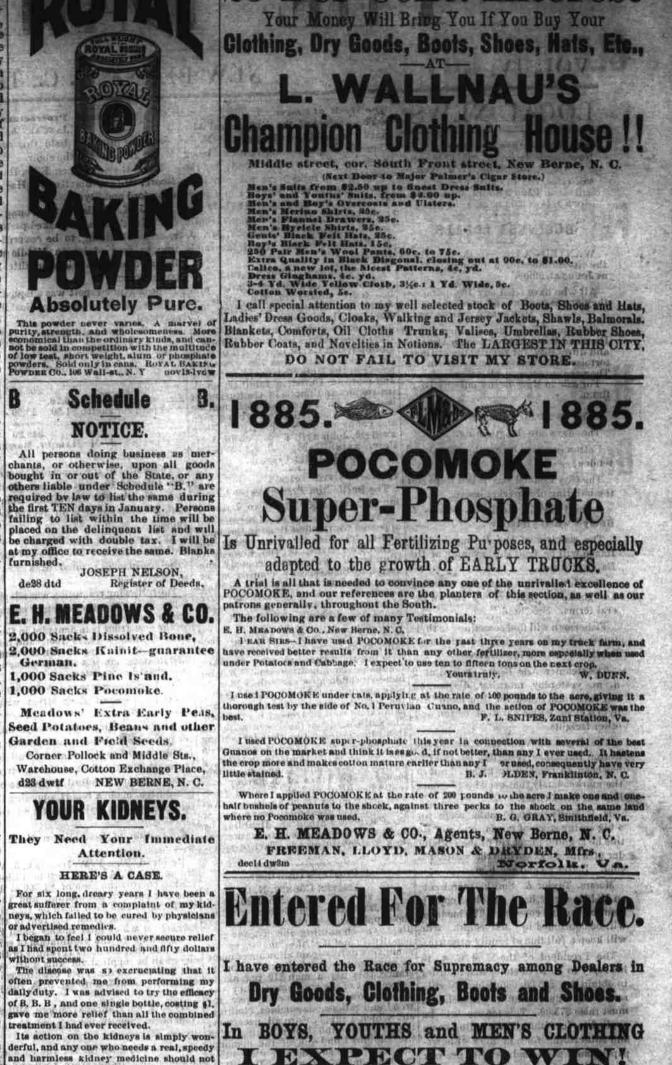
It has been truthfully said that there is no space of territory in any of the original thirteen States of the American Union that is so little known, so little visited and seen by others than its residents, and of which the character and values have been so little noticed or appreciated as Eastern North Carolina, and yet, there is no part of the entire Atlantic sea board that offers as many inducements to emigrants of meaus. With all her wealth of firests, rich in valuable timber, her unm use fisheries, her every variety of soils, some of it the richest on earth, capable of producing all the great staples; her immense oyster beds, as yet comparatively untouched, her unrivalled climate, exempt alike from the chilling blasts of the North and the torried heats of the Gulf States; her extensive navigable rivers, bayons, bays and creeks; the ever swelling tide of emigration has never crossed her borders. The tide has tended North and West until it crossed the con tinent and peopled those vast soli tudes with a race of dauntless energy and great aspiration. New States were formed, cities rose on every hand, school bouses multiplied, steamboats plowed their way upon every river. The continent was spanned with an iron track, and the shrill whistle of the locomotive was heard bearing in his rumbling train the productions of far-off Japan and China. While these wonderful changes were taking place all around us, and all the Nations of the world were gazing in astonishment at the rapid strides to greatness this Republic was making, our people were content to go on as they said, "In the good old paths their fathers trod," and to let well enough alone. They were suddenly awakened from their lethargy by the rude shock of war; all things with them were in chaos, their whole labor system was de-stroyed; their credit gone; they met the chauge with the dauntless courage inherent the Anglo Saxon race, and North Carolina has now taken the foremost rank among the States of the great American Union. That portion of Eastern North Oarolina it is proposed to describe in this phamlet is comprised in the counties of Craven, Pamlico, Hyde, Beaufort, Jones, Onslow, Carteret, Pitt, Lenoir and Dare. These counties in their general features very strikingly resemble middle and southern Florida. They are not rolling or undulating; from the sea coast to the average distance of seventy-five miles west, they are nearly a dead level with an average elevation of about 12 feet above the ocean, with scarcely a swelling or protuberance rising to the digni-ty of a hill. It will be readily seen by referring to the maps, that they are all either penetrated by the wa-ters of the Neuse and Pamlico rivers or their afflaents, or washed by the waters of Pamlico, Core or Bogue the waters of Pamlico, Core or Bogue sounds. Several of them are so well located on navigable streams and sounds as to make them very easy of access from the ocean. There is a very great similarity in the soils of fall of these counties. These soils may be divided into three classes. The upland soil is gener-ally a stiff grayish yellow clay, or an extremely close compact soil and unbsoil, very difficult to reduce, but when subdued it is very valuable for the cultivation of cotton. The light, asndy loams are generally found near navigable streams; they are very easy of tilinge and suscep-tible of high cultivation. The swamp lands, or soils composed of decayed vegetable matter are equal

in fertility to any in the world. comm Through all of this broad extent of are in the Par Through all of this broad extent of country it may be said, that ier-tilizers he at every man's doors; the whole country being underlaid with marl of decomposed shells, and in several of the counties it lies near the sur-face, and on nearly every creek and rivulet it crops in places out of the ground. Decomposed vegetable matter or muck can be found in every uncleared swamp; and pure carbonate of lime (oyster shells) can be had in unlimited quantities with but very little more expense than the cost of transportation. In every

North Carolina Railroad passes largest class of sea-going vessels may be deemed the paradise of truckers. The lands are light and sandy, and owing to their proxim-into the Nense at New Berne, is an ity to the sea coast, are warm very extremely crooked stream, running early in the season, consequently the sprouting of the plant is quick-ened and the growth and maturity are rapid; being thus favored by climate, the truckers are from ten to fifteen days earlier in the North-Canal connects Neuse river with ern markets than the Virginia the waters of Beaufort harbor, and truckers. The lands lying on the will, at an early day, be of sufficient Nense river below the city of New depth to admit sea-going vessels. Berne, also possess the same ad-vantages of climate and soil. In a dredged in this canal and its epword, the entire country bordering trances from Nense river and from on the lower waters of Neuse river, Beaufort harbor, to attain a uniand on Pamilico, Core, and Bogue form depth of thirteen feet at mean sounds would be devoted to truck tide, is sixteen and a half statute ing provided facilities for quick miles; and the maximum distance transportation were more extended, to be dredged in Neuse river to at-The soil of Eastern North Carolina tain the same depth from New is also well adapted to the cultiva- Berne to the entrance of the canal tion of tobacco. The plant is in-digenous. Every variety of the weed can be very successfully and profitably grown. Experiments seen in the waters of the Neuse have demonstrated the correctness river. New river, running through of this assertion. The lands are the center of Onslow county, the best in the State for that pur. is navigable nearly to its head for pose, and more of the weed can be steamers of light draught. White neys, which failed to be cured by physicians raised on an acre, and at less ex. Oak river, the dividing line pense than in Middle and Western between Jones and Onslow counpense than in Middle and Western North Carolina, and only in East-ern North Carolina can be found land upon which a fine quality of smoking tobacco will successfully mature. Eastward the cultivators of tobacco are now wending their way in search of cheaper and bet-for the sector the regards them is headed to tobacco the sector the regards them is headed way in search of cheaper and bet ter tobacco lands. Comparatively but a small portion of the lands of the Pamlico counties are under cul-tivation, not more than the one-tenth part. The population is sparse, and the people are "land poor," they have too much, and there are too few owners. The predominant feature of the Pamlico section of Eastern North Carolina is the heavily timbered swamp lands. They merit particu-lar attention, not only on account of their cheapness and extent, but also on account of their great fer-The attention, not only on account of their great fervises and to the same class that also on account of their great fervises, were seen and to the town of they are invariably higher than the tideleyel of the rivers and water this several miles wide at its mouth the several miles wide at its mouth the tideleyel of the rivers and water the several miles wide at its mouth the largest of its affluents is also naving appear but as spots amid the symparative forest. These timbered swamp differ somewhat in the character of their soils; but they are all exceed ingly rively for fity bushels of corn to the acre can be raised for an indefinite number of years with corn is an exhausting crop, the farmers on the swamp lands have never seen any necessity for any neverseen any necessity for any neverseen any necessity for any neverseen any necessity for any never seen any never seen any necessity for any never seen any necessity for any never seen any ne time. These lands produce excel-lent crops of cotton, rice, oats, peas, corn, rye, potatoes and turnips. They are not so well adapted for trucking as the light sandy lands on account of their coldness in the early spring. Rice has always been a staple in Eastern Carolins, but not until lately cultivated to any extent, only in localities in Hyde extent, only in localities in Hyde county was the enlivation made a specialty. Late experiments have shown that rice has a great area of cultivation; land that was deemed unfit for the cultivation of cotton, unfit for the cultivation of cotton, corn, oats, and rye, has been found to produce good rice crops. It can be successfully cultivated in any part of Eastern Carolina, either on uplands or on swamp lands. The industry has now assumed huge proportions, and the rice raised in the Pamico section finds a market in Wilmington. Charleston, Savan nah, New York and Baltimore, There is no part of the habitable globe where the facilities for water

the cost of transportation. In every the necessity of a land carriage of the cost of transportation. In every portion of this territory, two crops a year can be made, and in those parts accessible to quick transpor-tation, many of the farmers make it a rule to raise a crop of vegetables for early shipment, and follow with a crop of cotton. This system of farming requires heavy manuring and is generally done on light sandy loamy lands. All of the lands are well adapted to the cultivation of all the cereals and cotton, also flax, hemp, jute and sorghum. Nuthemp, jute and sorghum. Nut- Railroad has been built. Neuse bearing trees, not indigenous, are river, which empties into Pamlico now being successfully cultivated, sound, is navigable to New Berne such as the pecan and English wal- forty miles from its mouth by vesnut. Grapes, pears, figs, and plums, sels drawing nine feet of water; and where the cultivation is made a to Kinston in Lenoir county, a disspecialty, arrive at perfection. All tance of sixty miles, for light of the smaller fruits can be success-draught steamers. It is one mile fully raised, and immense quan, wide at New Berne, and ten miles titles of strawberries are cultivated wide at its mouth. It has many for shipment. Those portions of navigable creeks and bayous empty-Craven and Carteret counties ing into it. Several of them through which the Atlantie and are of sufficient depth to admit the

ion are as great as th



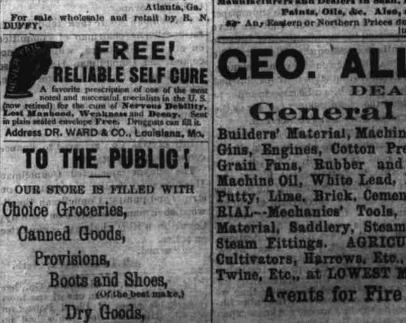
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