

the sun shines upon. Rich cotton, corn, wheat, oats, barley, tobacco, sugar, rice, fruits, vegetables, timber mineral and grazing lands are all dressed and perfumed in nature's icest robes, and each saying to the Son of Industry: "Come

and dwell with us and enjoy peace and plenty." Five hundred miles of sea bathe her shores and commission their breezes to rock in the cradle of health and comfort those who may accept the invitation. How her promises have been fulfilled to the 2,235,523 inhabitants who have enrolled under her banner, and the wisdom with which they are improving their opportunities, is the subject matter to which we invite the atten-tion of those who are seeking to improve their condition by immi-

England gave to Freedom, Magna Charta and the writ of Habeas Corpus; the United States to Civilization, Constitutional Government—consisting of co-ordinate, legislative, executive and judicial departments; **TEXAS** to the **Family**, the **Homestead**. And after a test of 61 years the revised statutes of the State now leclare (Article 2335) the following property shall be reserved 'to every family, exempt from attachment or execution, and every other species of forced sale for the payment of debts:

#### Texas Shields the Family.

The homestead of the family.
All household and kitchen furniture.
Any lot or lots in a cemetery held for the purpose of

All implements of husbandry.

5. All tools, apparatus and books belonging to any trade or

The family library and all family portraits and pictures.

Five milch cows and their calves. Two yoke of work oxen, with necessary yokes and chains.

Two horses and one wagon.

10. One carriage or buggy. 11. One gun.

Twenty hogs.
Twenty head of sheep.

14. All saddles, bridles and harness necessary for the use of

the family. 15. All provisions and forage on hand for home consumption 16. All current wages for personal services.

ARTICLE 2636. The homestead of a family, not in a town of y, shall consist of not more than two hundred acres of land, nich may be in one or more parcels, with the improvements ereon: the homestead in a city, town or village, consisting of a t or lots, not to exceed in value five thousand dollars at the time f of lots, not to exceed in varie invertious and utility at the time f their designation as the homestead, without reference to the alue of the improvements thereon; provided, that the same shall be used for the purposes of a home, or as a place to exercise the alling or business of the head of a family; provided, also, that ny temporary renting of the homestead shall not change the haracter of the same where no other homestead has been acquired.

ART. 2341. The exemption of the homestead provided for in is chapter shall not apply when the debt is due: 1. For the purchase money of such homestead or a part of such

hase money. . For taxes due thereon. 3. For work and material used in constructing improven ereon; but in this last case such work and material must have been contracted for in writing, and the consent of the wife, if there be one, must have been given in the same manner as is by law required in making a sale and conveyance of the homestead.

eding grounds for the Mallard, Red Head, Spike Tail and other varieties of Duck. The prairies at times are alive with Plover and Snipe. Deer are plentiful in the Pine woods of Southeastern Texas. And Antelope in numbers are found on the Western plains Prairie Chickens, Turkeys, Quails and Squirrels are found almost all over the State. Squirrels are more plentiful on the Trinity River than elsewhere in the State. Bears are found in portions of ne Colorado, Brazos, Trinity, San Jacinto and Sabine River bottoms.

HORSES.-Were horses as necessary now to man's prowess gress and comfort as they were in the past ages, Texas would some as noted for her horses as Arabia. For there is no better rse country than portions of Texas. In 1893 Lena Hill, a two ar old Texas-bred colt reduced the world's record as a pacer, in e two year old class. Rilma, a Texas-bred mare met many of the best pacing horses of the country, and her winnings for the season of 1897, aggregate more than \$28,000. These are only tokens of what will be done by Texas horses in other classes.

HOGS are healthy all over the State, and are susceptible of the hest degree of improvement. Texas-bred hogs at the Dallas tate Fair in the fall of 1896, took first premium in competition with Missouri, Kansas and Iowa bred hogs. The testimony of titizens of Fort Bend County is that they do not have Cholera ere. (See testimonials as to Fort Bend County).

IRRIGATION .- The Rio Grande, Pecos, Nueces, Leona, Frio, Guadalupe, Comal, San Marcos, Colorado, Concho, Llano, San Saba, Wichita, Upper Brazos and Canadian rivers and valleys present eloped fields for irrigation enterprises. And some of them present exceptionally favorable conditions for successful

LANDS.-Choice unimproved agricultural lands in from one-



CO VILSI There has been by law set apart about 30,000,000 acres of land

212,592 604,218 818,579 1,591,749 2,235,525

Texans Have Less Debt and More Elbow Room than Other Citizens of the Union

Texas has but 8.5 people to the square mile of her territory, while the average of population for the United States is 21.3. The State, county, municipal and school district debt of Texas, amounts to but \$9.02 per capita of population, while the average debt per capita of the United States is \$18.13; so that it appears that a citizen of Texas has  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as many acres of land out of which to secure a home, and is burdened with less than half of the debt of the average citizen of the Union.

#### What is the Result? The Deaf, Dumb, Blind and Insane Asylums are all endowed With all these favorable conditions it is not surprising that its

population should record the following growth: Educates the Taste of Her People. OPULATION OF TEXAS. YEAR In 1850 it was In 1860 it was In 1870 it was In 1880 it was In 1880 it was In 1890 it was The State Capitol building, the largest and most expensive structure in the Union (with the exception of the Capitol building at Washington, and the Capitol building of New York State), was paid for with a land grant.

The population in 1890 by races was: White, 1,741,190; Colored, 492,837; Indian, 766; Chinese, 727; Japanese, 3. ABTICLE 3, Section 50 of the State Constitution declares that:

An Unequaled Record in the World's History of The Legislature shall have no power to give or to lend, or to authorize the giving or lending of the credit of the State, in aid of Industrial Development. or to any person, association or corporation, whether municipal o or to pledge the credit of the State in any manner whatso-Texas Lands in Cultivation Vield a Greater Profit ever, for the payment of the liabilities, present or prospective, of any individual, association of individuals, municipal or other than Those of Any State in the Union.

Time!?

Sec. 51. The Legislature shall have no power to make any grant, Average value per acre of the following crops for the four or authorize the making of any grant of public money to any in-dividual, association of individuals, municipal or other corporation whatsoever; provided, that this shall not be so construed as to consecutive years 1887 1888 1889 \$20 17 8 10 8 45 6 82 10 56 9 38 12 06 60 00 69 68 15 17 6 89 96 47 \$16 20 8 08 8 92 8 49 13 42 8 76 . \$13 66 prevent the granting of aid in case of public calamity. Sec. 52. The Legislature shall have no power to authorize any Corn ... Wheat. county, city, town, or other political corporation, or subdivision of the State to lend its credit or to grant any public money or thing of value, in aid of or to any individual, association or corporation whatsoever; or to become a stockholder in such corporation, asso-Sweet Potatoes. Irish Potatoes. Cultivated Hay Prairie Hay.... 64 06 65 73 With the public schools liberally provided for, and the State, counties, cities and towns prohibited from voting donations or lending their credit to private corporations, they will never become

See report of United States Secretary of Agriculture for 1891-2, involved in debt as many of the States of the Union have, and the report of the Agricultural Bureau of Texas for 1890-1.

in Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, and can be

placed on the market that much earlier than similar grains from

those States, and thus compete with grains that have been carried for eight to nine months and paid storage, interest, insurance, and suffered shrinkage to the great advantage of the Texas producer.

Again, as Texas fronts on the Gulf its transportation charges on all of the commodities it both imports and exports are much less

han such charges are on similar exports and imports of that section

vival of the Fittest, Keeping Step in the March of

direct competition with one another, through the extension of cable, telegraph and telephone lines; the extension and improve-

ments of railway and water transportation facilities, and the in-

troduction of improved machinery into India, China, Japan and elsewhere, under the management of European and American

skilled labor. This competition is going to grow in intensity with

the advance of time. And therefore, if a man reasonably expects himself and his descendants to remain and prosper in obedience to

the laws of the survival of the fittest he will study to secure for

himself and them as many of the natural advantages as possible

Texas is Rich in Minerals.

The inhabitants of the earth are yearly being brought into more

one sowing, the four last crops coming up voluntarily from the seed threshed off in harvesting. **ONIONS** produce from 100 to 500 bushels to the acre, and sell

whose laws have not provided these wise safeguards.

1 ....

4. One horse, saddle and bridle.

an endowment.

with land grants.

corporation whatsoever.

ciation or company

5. Current wages for personal services.

Provides for Enlightened Citizenship.

as a donation to the public free school fund. Enough of these lands has been sold on deferred payments, and other funds acquired

and invested in interest bearing securities, to now amount to abou

\$20,000,000. Lands belonging to this fund are being leased for

grazing purposes that pay an annual income of \$250,000 to \$400,000, and when the remainder of these lands has been sold or leased,

and the proceeds invested in interest bearing bonds, they should

and probably will create a fund, the interest or which will furnish every child in Texas an opportunity for nine months' schooling annually, without a cent's cost to the parent. There has been set apart to each county 17,712 acres of land with which to endow a high school. To the State University, 2,000,000 acres of land as an ordownent

Cares for the Afflicted.

Keeps Down Taxation.

for 50 cents to \$1.00 per bushel. **OILS.**—Both illuminating and lubricating oils are being found in paying quantities at a number of points in Texas, and to develop and refine them give promise of becoming large and profitable

of the Union which have to pass through it to reach tide water. Therefore, the Texas producer has the advantage. And these are **OYSTERS** exist in large quantities in the vicinities of Galveston, Port Lavaca, Rockport, and at other points on the coast. And Mr. M. L. Shepard, President of the Sportman's Club of the natural advantages that, other things being equal, no amount of industry or enterprise can remove or overcome. To possess them State of Illinois, says in speaking of the quality of those at Galyou must come to them. veston: "The Galveston Bay cultivated oyster is the best flavored I have ever tasted, and I speak from world-wide observation." See Galveston News, December 10th, 1895. Shall You and Yours be Found Among the Sur-

RICE produces 8 to 20 barrels to the acre, and sells for \$1.50 o \$3.25 per barrel.

RESORTS.—Boerne, San Antonio, Rockport, Galveston, La Porte, Port Lavaca, Sour Lake, Wooten Wells, Marlin, Franklin, Waco, Lampasas, Mineral Wells and Hughes' Springs, are the most noted health and pleasure resorts of the State, and collectively possess mineral waters that are specifics for most all of the ailments o which humanity is heir.

SHEEP are a large and growing industry in Texas. The same favorable conditions exist to make it the largest and most profitable mutton and wool producing section of the Union, that make it the most profitable beef producing State. (See Cattle and Deep Water Ports.

TOBACCO.-Texas produces a cigar leaf tobacco which, when operly cured and presented to the tobacco experts of Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago, New York, Hartford and Boston, withou ing them to know where it was grown, was pronounced by them to be Cuban tobacco. It more nearly approaches the Cuban tobacco than that produced elsewhere in the United States. The crops average about 800 pounds to the acre, and without having made the reputation to which the quality of the tobacco entitles it, now sells for 15 to 50 cents per pound. The United States an-nually imports about 17,000,000 pounds of cigar leaf tobacco. And there is no doubt but its production in Texas, to-day, presents one of the most remunerative fields to agricultural labor that can be found in the country. TAXES are lower in Texas than any other State of the Union, and owing to the vast area of the State, the immense land grants to its educational and other public institutions; and to the fact that neither the State, cities nor counties can lend their credit to or make donations to, or take stock in corporations, they should ways remain the lowest. TRANSPORTATION.-Texas has about 10,000 miles of railad; 500 miles of gulf coast and some navigable rivers. (See

# Timber. Texas has 35,537,967 acres of which 25,000,000 acres are long

and short leaved pine, capable of cutting 64,587,420,000 feet of merchantable lumber. The principal other varieties of timber are Ash, Cypress, Hickory, Walnut, cottonwood, Linn, Sycamore, Birch, Maple, Elm, White Oak, Red Oak, Black Oak, Post Oak, Live Oak, Pin Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Black Gum, Sweet Gum, Magnolia, Holly, Mulberry, Hackberry Sassafras, Pecan, Cedar, Mesquite, Bois de Arc and Mahogany.

### Fruits, Nuts and Melons.

More than 20 Per Cent Annual Increase in Taxable

Wealth for Fourteen Consecutive Years.

TAXABLE VALUES OF TEXAS

\$303,202,424 311,470,736 419,925,476 603,060,917 630,525,123 856,526,600

Cent in Taxable Values in

14 Years, or an Annual In-

crease of More than 20 Per

Cent. What Must be the

**Chances for Private Invest-**

ment Where Taxable Values

Strong Points of Texas

Animal life of all kinds is healthy, vigorous and prolific. **BEES** do well all over the State, and produce the best honey the vicinity of Uvalde to be had in the United States.

COTTON .-- Texas produces one-fifth of the world's crop, and it

orized more highly by spinners than that produced elsewhere.

CATTLE are as healthy and more prolific in Texas than in any

other section of the Union, and owing to the variety and nutri-tiousness of the grasses upon which they can feed the year 'round,

without other food; the general availability of water; the low

prices at which lands can be bought or leased, on which to graze

them; the cheapness, abundance, and fat-producing qualities of

cotton seed meal and hulls, on which to stall-feed them; the mild

climate that permits them to continuously put on flesh while being fed; the exceptionally good transportation facilities that

so Rapidly Increase?

An Increase of 282 Per

\$8,268,312 108,454,740 183,135,441 27,464,206 226,001,477

Apples, Apricots, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Prunes, Persimmons, Oranges, Dates, Limes, Figs, Bananas, Almonds, Pomegranates, Quinces, Blackberries, Dewberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Hackberries, Mulberries, Gooseberries, Huckleberries, Currants, Muscadines, Grapes, Pecans, Hickory Nuts, Walnuts, Chinkapins, Acorns, Gubers, Watermelons, Muskmelons, Citrons, Pumpkins, Squashes, Cucumbers.

#### Vegetables.

Asparagus, Artichokes, Beans, Beets, Blackeyed Peas, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Cow Peas, Cushaws, English Peas, Eggplant, Horse Radish, Irish Potatoes, Kohlrabi, Kale, Lettuce, Leek, Mustard, Onions, Okra, Oysterplant, Parsnips, Parsley, Pepper, Pumpkins, Rutabagoes, Radishes, Rhubarb, Sweet Potatoes, Sweet Corn, Spinach, Squash, Sage, Sweet Marjoram, Sweet Bay Leaves, Sweet Fennel, Tomatoes, Turnips, Thyme and Water Cress.

Fish.

enables them to be placed in both foreign and domestic markets at the lowest cost-makes Texas, in fact and in possibilities, pre eminently the beef-producing section of the earth. (See deep water ports)

**CANNING FACTORIES.**—Owing to the fact that vegetables, melons and fruits, in portions of the State, can be gathered in abundance from the farms, gardens and orchards, for nine months or more in the year, such localities are favored spots for canning

DAIRYING.—Gov. H. C. Wheeler who was a large dairyman, and the largest farmer in Iowa, and who has spent much of his life in that State, Illinois and California, after spending a year in inestigating Texas, has sold his Iowa farm and bought more than 8000 acres in Texas, and is starting the largest dairy in the world

DEEP WATER PORTS.-Removing the bars at Galveston and Sabine Pass, has placed the commerce of Texas, and of all that section of the Union west of the Mississippi River, in the most direct connection through these ports, with the world's markets. It has caused the Hamburg-American Steamship Co. to put on a line of steamships between Hamburg and Galveston; and the North German Lloyd Co., a line between Bremen and Galveston, and the Harrisons and others to put on lines of steamers between Liverpool and Galveston, and between Sabine Pass and South American Ports. The Hamburg-American and North German Lloyd Companies are now making an immigrant rate between hose ports and Galveston, that is only \$7.00 more per immigran in the rate is between those ports and New York. And are vorking for business. These conditions are going to cause an im nense European immigration to Texas, and furnish an abundanc eliable labor with which to work her fertile lands Deepening hese harbors and establishing these lines of steamers have placed he Agricultural, Grazing, Mineral and Lumber industries of Texas in direct and most favorable connection with the markets of Great Britain, Ireland, the Continent of Europe, the West India Islands, Mexico, Africa, Central and South America, and as results, large ipments of beeves on foot, have been successfully made to Cuba and the English markets. The exports of grain and minerals are increasing rapidly. And the demand for Texas lumber is cotensive with the tides of the Atlantic.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES .- Texas has a State Uniersity that is rapidly taking position among the leading educa-ional institutions of the country. A fund has been provided to stablish a free high school in each county in the State; and the public school fund, in proportion to scholastic population, is the largest in the world.

GARDENING in the coast country continues practically the year 'round. (See Testimonials as to Fort Bend County).

GRAPES .- France does not excel Texas in the quantity quality and varieties of Grapes she is capable of producing. Texas took the first prize at the Chicago World's Fair, and when the phyloxera had played havoc with the vineyards of France, large antities of grape stocks were shipped from Texas to France for he purpose of restoring their vineyards with the most hardy times. At El Paso, Texas, is produced the best table Grape grown

GRASSES .- The Mesquite and Gramma Grasses, on the western plains of Texas, furnish most nutritious food for cattle, horses and sheep the year round. Bermuda is as nutritious and more vigorous than Blue Grass, and is green and abundant over the Coast Country from March 1st to January 1st. Johnson Grass and Alfalfa will make from two to six tons of excellent hay per acre per annum. Millet, Hungarian and Blue Stem Grasses do well. And in the coast country Japanese and White Clover grow all through the winter.

GAME .- The waters of the coast region, in the fall, winter and spring abound with Ducks, Geese, Brant, Cranes, Swan, etc. The wild celery beds of certain localities furnishing unexce'ed

1000

Justicia, Rosea and Sanguinea. Justicia, Rosea and Sanguinea. Meyenia Erecta, Purple Gloxiana Shaped Flowers. Alba, White Gloxiana Shaped Flowers.

Mignionette, Sweet Scented. Pansies, German Fancy, French Trimardeau, American Diamond and

Inglish Large. Petunia, Double Fringed. Oleander, Double, White and Pink. Oxalis, Floribunda Pink, Basket Plant. Plumbago, Capensis, Lavender Blue. ""Alba, White. "Cochineal, Red. Poinse tia Pulcherrima, Scarlet Bracts a Foot in Diameter. Ruellia Macrantha, Rose Colored Gloxiana Shaped Flowers. Dahlias, all Kinds.

ahlias, all Kinds. Insselia Juncea, Rush-like Foliage, Scarlet Flowers. Ityinia Leavis, White Flowers followed by Scarlet Berries. ulvia, Red and White. iaxifraga Sarmenrosa, Strawberry Geranium. Stephanotis Floribunda, Pure White Waxy Flowers Stephanotis Ploribunda, Pure White Marie Louise D. Blue.

Tabernæmontana Coronaria, Beautiful Pure White Flower.

grant. Ampelposis Vetchil, Miniature Virginia Creeper. Rynsosperum Jasminoides, East India Jessamin. Solanum Jasminoides, Potato Jessamin Green in Winter. Jasminom Officinalis, Small Star Jessamin. Jonicera, Honeysuckles, Golden Netted, White and Varied, Iedara Helix, Euglish Ivy. Jematis Coceinea. Scarket Clematic

FOLIAGE PLANTS.

Achyranthus, Red and Variegated. Agave, Century Plants, Plain and Variegated. Aloysia, Lemon Verbena. Alternanthera, Variegated Foliage. Bananas, all Size Foliage. Geranium, Apple Rose, Nutmeg, Oak Leaved, Ivy Leaved, etc. Centaurea. Dusty Miller.

onia. Abutilion Thompsoni, Mottled Leaves like Mosaic Work. Phœnix Daclytiffera, Date Palm, Hardy Plant. Pilea Muscosa, Artillery Plant. Palms in Great Variety. Ferns in Great Variety.

ning Shrubs in Great Variety.

Geranium, Apple Rose, Nutmeg, Oak Leaved, Ivy Leaved, etc. Centaurea, Dusty Miller. Colous, all Shades and Markings. Crotoms of Various Markings. Cryperse Papyrus, Umbrella Plant. Eynoimus Radicans, Foliage Green and White and Glossy. Dracena, Dragon Tree. Ficus Elastica, India Rubber Tree. Ivy, English and Kenilworth. Ferns, Maiden Hair and other Bouquet Ferns. Sanseveria Longfloria, Variegated Aloe. Tradescantia, Wandering Jew, Variegated, White, Green and Purple. Jissus Discolor, Tropical Climber with Leaves Colored like a Fancy mia.

Hedera Heitx, English Ivy. Clematis Coccinea, Scarlet Clematis. Thunbergia and Maurandia, Pretty Basket Vines. Impomea Noctipython, Moon Flowers. Impomea Palmata, Mexican Morning Glory. Passiflora, Constance Elliot, Pure White and Hardy. Manettia Cordifolia, Coral Vine. Autigoston Leptotus, Mountain Rose Vine of Mexico. Smilax, Glossy Foliage, Slow to Wilt. Physianthus Albens, Cruel Plant. Gelsimum, Wild Jessamin.

CLIMBING PLANTS.

Wisteria, Blue and White. Akebia Quinata, Leaves Clover Shaped, Flowers Claret Colored and

AGRICULTURAL LAND **BUY YOUR TICKET** IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR LEASE TO **RANCH LANDS** CHMOND YOU WANT PINE LANDS OR STUMPAGE YOU WANT TO BUY OR LEASE MINERAL LANDS Is the County Site. IF YOU WANT LANDS FOR COLONIES Has the County Records. C IF YOU WANT TO SELL OR Is the Only Banking Town in the County. LEASE LAND OF ANY KIND IN ANY PART OF TEXAS H Is Headquarters for Fort Bend County Land. IF YOU WANT TAXES PAID IN ANY PART Has the Immigrant Home. M BUYS AND SELLS MORE GOODS THAN PLACE THEM IN THE HANDS OF, OR ALL THE OTHER TOWNS IN THE COUNTY COMBINED. 0 Has as Many Railroads as Any Town in the SEE N County and WILL HAVE MORE. J. S. DAUGHERTY. See RICHMOND! D HOUSTON, TEXAS. FORT Louis Hennick BEND Collection COUNTY

29/22

GOING

TO

FORT BEND COUNTY

TEXAS?

Was created in 1837, and takes its name from a large bend in the Brazos River where the Spaniards at an early date had a fort. The site of the fort is now occupied by the town of Richmond. The county contains 889 square miles of territory. The population in 1890, numbered 10,586. The value of its farm products in that year was \$1,413,611, or \$133.53 for each man, woman and child in the county, while and black—to say nothing of its live stock and other industries. Its taxable values in 1897 are \$5,367,747. Its bonded indebtedness is \$93,500. Rate of taxation is 98 cents on the \$100 valuation. There are 123 miles of railroad in the county, located as shown on the map. The average duration of the Public Schools in the different districts of the county for the scholastic

year 1896-97, was 5<sup>4</sup> months. The Brazos River with a valley

varying in width from five to ten miles and unsurpassed in fertility

Rainfall in Inches over the Texas Coast Country for the Last Twenty-five Years. Dec. 2.80 3.8.07 7.2.9.80 7.7.07 7.7.07 7.7.07 7.7.07 3.8.08 3.76 5.09 3.77 7.7.62 3.77 7.7.62 3.77 7.7.62 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.63 3.77 7.7.7 3.77 7.7.7 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7 7.7.94 7.7.7.7 7.7

SEE

J. S. DAUGHERTY,

HOUSTON, TEXAS.

IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR LEASE

uly 0 00 0 une 9.97 9.97 2.98 3.92 2.98 3.92 5.54 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5.54 5.55 5. May 3.622.866 8.2068 8.2068 8.2155 5.156 4.066 4.06 6.038 8.208 8. 1.32 1.32 1.32 1.32 1.32 1.32 1.24 1.24 1.35 1.1.1.35 1.1. an... 44,72 22,46 22,46 22,46 22,58 44,77 24,77 25,58 22,84 24,27 7,09 25,59 25,59 25,51 11,114 22,72 22,84 11,114 22,72 22,84 11,1150 11,1150 25,559 Lowest Temperature over the Texas Coast Country for the Past Twenty Years. Highest Temperature for the Past Twenty Years.



\$6.00 to \$15.00 per acre. Good agricultural lands within the same mits for \$4.00 to \$8.00 per acre. If improved or partially improved add to the above prices the present value of the improve-ments. Choice grazing lands sell for \$2.50 to \$5.00 per acre. Good grazing lands sell for 75 cents to \$2.50 per acre, and can be leased, nced and watered for ten to twenty-five cents per acre. Choice timbered land on and near transportation that will cut on an average of 10,000 feet of merchantable lumber to the acre can be ought for \$5.00 to \$10 00 per acre. Good choice timber lands remote from present transportation lines can be bought for \$2.50 to \$5.00 per acre. Mineral lands can be bought for \$1.50 to \$30.00 per acre. Sugar lands for \$10.00 to \$30.00. Rice lands for \$5.00 to \$10.00 per acre. Tobacco lands for \$3.00 to \$10.00 per acre.

LUMBER INDUSTRY is exceptionally well circumstan n addition to the Texas demand, it supplies Oklahoma, Indian erritory, and ships large quantities to Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, owa, Nebraska, Colorado, and to all of our Atlantic seaports north of Charleston. And exports to the West India Islands, Mexico, Central and South America, South Africa, and to all European ports. This wide market frees the Texas lumbermen from local nditions, and stamps their industry with the promise of con-

MULES.—Texas-bred mules do not undergo acclimation when shipped to other Southern States and the West India Islands, and on this account, other things being equal, are worth ten to twenty er cent more than Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee bred mules re for those markets.

MANUFACTORIES.-(See Houston).

NUTS.-J. Boudat, Richmond, Texas, sold the Pecans grown one tree in a single crop for \$44.00.

Bei

to Points

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OAT the t the cou portion In the C

So int of Co e no	L.—To uther ry. 'the ast Co ot kil	a single crop for \$44 exas Rust Proof Oa n States than those They are successfully State, and yield fror ountry they furnish led by freezing. J. ve successive crops 6	ts are in better grown in any of grown all over t n 30 to 100 bush good grazing thro H. P. Davis, Banl	ther portion he agricultu- els to the ac- ugh the win ker, Richmo	of aral cre. ater nd,	fru pla thu an	CLIM CLIM nits and aced on ree wee y other	hat can ATIC l veget the r ks ear r section	a be made to fur <b>CONDITION</b> ables can be main narket, at highly lier than they can on of the Union on one to two mo	nish abunda <b>S.</b> —Owing t tured in port remunerati be brought . Wheat, O	nt water po to these, m tions of the ve prices, f into the ma Dats, Rye,
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WHEAT.—The flour made from Texas wheat has taken the first premium at the St. Louis Fair. And when shipped to the West India Islands and Central and South America, keeps better than that produced from wheat grown in the other States of the

**WATER.**—Good pure wholesome water in abundant supply can be found in most any locality in Texas, at a depth of 15 to 150 feet, and over a large portion of the State, flowing wells can be made by boring 150 to 800 feet. WATER POWER.-See irrigation for the names of the

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Salt Water.-Red. Blue, White, Trout, Croakers, Sheephea Brim, Mullet, Pike, Sailor's Choice, Sargent Jack, Mackerel, Snapper, Pompano, Needle, Eels, Flounders, Shrimp, Crabs, Clams, Oysters, Tarpon and Turtles. Fresh Water. — Black and Striped Bass, Speckled Trout, Yellow and Blue Cat, Buffalo, Perch of a dozen varieties, Gas-

## pergou, Drum, Eel, Cotton, German Carp and Green Trout.

#### Flowers. EVERGREENS.

Magnolia, Cape Jessamin, Live Oak, Golden Arbor Vitæ, Sweet Myrtle, Pittorsporum, Wild Peach, Sweet Bay, Holly, Pyramidal Cypress, Sweet Olive, Retinispora, Cedar, Double White Oleander, Box Tree, Magnolia Fuscata, etc.

#### EVERGREEN SHRUBS FOR HEDGES. Japan Privet and Eyonimus.

LARGE OUT DOOR ROSES. Marechal Neil, Niphetos, Reine Marie Henrietta, Marie Guillot

Catherina Mermit, S. de Malmaison, Archduke Charles, Safrano General Jacqueminot, Marie Van Houtte, Hermosa, La Reine Isabella Sprunt. Louis Phillip, La France, Madam Charles Wood, Bella, Madam Bravy, Lamarque, Louis Richards, Lady Banks, Madam Damazin, Lettie Coles, Madam Trifle, Marie Bauman, Pierre Guillot, Sunset, Etoile de Lyons, Perle des Jardins, Mde. de Waterville, Madam Margottin, Duke de Cazes, American Beauty Reve d'Or, Estella Pradell, Bride, Madam Welsh, Meteor, Princess Beatrice, Papa Gontier, etc. BULBS AND BULBOUS ROOTS.

Hyacinths, red, white and blue, Freesia, Double Jonquils, Bermuda Lily, Calla Lily and Narcissus.

#### DBY BULBS. Calla Lily, Easter Lily, Hyacinths.

BLOOMING POT PLANTS.

Abutilon, Chinese Bell Flower. Achania, Wild Fuchsia. Alyssum, Sweet for Massing in Bouquets.

better health here than any place we have ever lived. My land

To Whom it May Concern:

one-half of section 66, H. & T. C. R'y Co. block, Fort Bend County, Texas, where I have resided with my family, consisting of wife and five children, for about eight years. I am a native of Missis-sippi, and came to Red River County, Texas, in 1869, and lived there and in Lamar County for about 15 years. I moved from Lamar to Fort Bend County, and considered it a very healthy country—the most healthy in which I have ever lived. My land is of the black sandy prairie variety, and I have never made less than one-quarter of a bale of cotton to the acre on old land, and as much as  $1\frac{1}{4}$  bales to the acre. An average crop is about threequarters of a bale on old land, and one-half bale on sod land. I have made as little as ten bushels of corn to the acre, and one year as much as fifty-five bushels to the acre; an rage corn crop with me is about thirty-five bushels per acre Oats do about as well here as in North Texas. They make forty to sixty bushels to the acre. If you sow them in the fall you can egin to harvest them the first of May. I make a spring and a fall crop of Irish potatoes on the same ground, without fertilizing and get an average of about 100 bushels per acre on each crop All other kinds of vegetables and melons, common to this cli do well here. Grapes, Keifer and Leconte pears, and all of the varieties of Japanese plums, peaches and persimmons, do well here; figs do well; also blackberries, dewberries, strawberries and raspberries do exceptionally well. Cattle, horses, sheep, hogs and all kinds of fowls are healthy and do well here. I have five wells on my place and all furnish an abundant supply of good water, and the deepest one is but sixteen feet. Yours very truly

### P. F. WARD.

#### NEEDVILLE, TEXAS, September 30, 1897. To Whom it May Concern:

This is to bear witness that I own and live upon section 36, H. A T. C. Ry. Co. Block, Fort Bend County, Texas. I am a native of Germany, and have lived in Washington and Fayette Counties, Texas, from 1859 until about six years ago, when I moved to my present home in Fort Bend County.' I have a family of eight children, and I believe Fort Bend County to be fully as healthy as Washington or Fayette County, Texas. I am farming and raising sheep. My sheep are healthy and do well. And my neighbor, Theodore Armstrong, has a flock of seven or eight hundred head, and they are healthy and do well. I also raise cattle and they do well. My land is of the black sandy and black hogwallow varieties I cultivate them both in corn and cotton. I make an average of three-quarters of a bale of cotton to the acre, and my corn crops average me thirty to forty bushels to the acre. The black sandy is my favorite soil, for the reason it stands the wet weather better than the hogwallow land, and the dry weather as well, and it is better for fruits and vegetables. Last year I had vegetables, such as cabbage, turnips, radishes, peas, lettuce, onions, etc., all through the winter, and all through the summer. Yours truly,

## CHAS. ABENDROTH.

NEEDVILLE, TEXAS, September 30, 1897. To Whom it May Concern: This is to bear witness that I am doing a general merchandise varying in width from five to ten miles and unsurpassed in fertility, occupies the central portion of the county. Oyster Creek lies in the valley of the Brazos, east of and parallels it. The San Bernard River with a valley from one-fourth to five miles in width and of great fertility, bounds the county on the west. Big Creek, Coon, Cottonwood, Cow, Snake, Deer, Turkey, Bee, Mound, Fairchilds, Jones, Buffalo Bayou, and Stafford Creeks, are admirably dis-tributed throughout the county. They furnish timber, water and could driver fecilities. There is an excellent body of prairie land good drainage facilities. There is an excellent body of prairie land from ten to fifteen miles in width, with black hogwallow, black rom ten to inteen miles in width, with black hogwallow, black sandy and chocolate sandy soils, lying between the timbers of the Brazos and San Bernard valleys. And again from five to ten miles east of the Brazos River and parelleling the Brazos bottom, is a large prairie extending beyond the north and east lines of the counties, vith black hogwallow, black sandy and chocolate sandy soils. Good water in abundant supply can be found any where in the county, out of the Brazos valley, at a depth of 15 to 60 feet. There s no such thing as a failure to get good water in the county. In the Brazos valley an abundance of water is found at 20 to 40 feet But to get good water it is necessary to go down 130 to 250 feet The principal timbers in the county are Oak, Ash, Elm, Cotton-wood, Sycamore, Pecan, Hackberry, Mulberry, Walnut and Cedar. There is an abundance of fine Ash in the San Bernard and Brazos valleys, and in the San Bernard valley there is a fine Cedar brake, where fencing posts can be had for a cent a piece if the purchaser will cut and haul them. Excepting apples, every species of fruit, ornamental tree, shrub, flower, or vegetable that grows elsewhere in Texas will grow to perfection in Fort Bend County. The follow-ing tables of rainfall and temperature are copied from the United tates signal service reports as compiled by Dr. Cline of the United States signal service of Galveston, and are obtained by taking the reported results at the stations of Galveston, Houston, Orange, Brazoria and New Ulm, and averaging them. Fort Bend County lies within the boundaries of these stations, and note it, there has not been a calendar month in twenty-five years when it did not rain, or when the thermometer registered more than 100, or came within eight degrees of zero. 11

Ordinarily the corn crops run from twenty-five to forty bushels to

never seen nor heard of a case of hog cholera here. German people all raise and cure their own meat in this community. The people

of this entire section of the county have exceptionally good health.

This is to bear witness that I own and live upon my farm of 200

es, fronting on the Brazos river and lying about one mile east of

acre an average spring crop, but have made as many as 300 bush-

els to the acre as a spring crop. I plant the same ground in Irish potatoes again in August and dig potatoes the last of November,

and get from 75 to 100 bushels per acre as a fall crop. My spring

strong are the second s

average me 50 cents per bushel. We make two crops a year of cabbage on the same ground. Set out in January it can all be taken off by the 1st of May. The heads will average about 10

pounds each. The largest will weigh as much as 22 pounds. Set

out the second crop in September and it is ready to take off in De-

cember. The weight of the fall crop runs about the same as the spring crop. I have sold them all the way from \$1,35 to \$4.00 per

crate of 150 pounds. Onion seed should be sown in November, the onions transplanted in January and are ready for market in

May. 100 bushels per acre is an average crop though under ex-

ceptionally favorable conditions I have made as many as 400 hush-els per acre. Their price runs from 75 cents to \$1.50 per bushel

After the onions are off a full crop of Irish or sweet potatoes or

cabbage can be made in the same year on the same ground. English peas are planted from October till March, and are gathered from December till May. We get from 60 to 75 bushels per acre, and they sell for \$1.00 to \$3.00 per bushel. It is only

about every other year that new peas can be had in December. The frost kills the bloom but not the vine, and as soon as warm

weather comes they begin to grow, bloom and bear. I never have seen the vine killed by a freeze here. I plant snap and wax beans the last of February and they are ready for market from April 15th

to May 1st. And the same vines continue to bear till about June 15th. And by planting from time to time you can have beans all the year except the winter months. Mine has averaged me about

\$1.00 per bushel. Lettuce is planted any time from November

till April and grows all through the winter, taking cold to 18 degrees above zero to kill it. Lettuce brings about 20c per dozen.

phone exchange, and a long distance telephone exchange, two cot-ton gins, and grist mills, good churches, schools and hotels. It

is the home of a number of very wealthy people. And its white

The Brazos River was formerly navigated to Richmond and an

propriation has been made by Congress looking to again render

Fort Bend County, under existing conditions, is capable of

supporting in comfortable circumstances, a farm population of 71,-120. And by adopting intensified farming as is being done, can easily support an agricultural population of 150,000. With these

Richmond will become a city of 15,000 to 25,000 inhabitants.

Richmond is now an excellent location for sugar mill and refinery

paper mill, cotton mill, cotton compress, cotton seed oil mill, cattle feeding pens, merchant mill, marble works, creamery, box factory,

population generally are cultivated and hospitable.

ing it navigable.

In fruits I have planted peaches, apples, pears, Japanese per-

Yours truly. AUGUST SCHINDELL.

RICHMOND, TEXAS, November 5, 1897.

00	BHELY IOI FHE A GOL A HOLEY ACHINI							Phy a more a memory a control					
14	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	April	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	
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1874.	32	41	58	46	48	40	37	91	95	98	99	92	
1875		32	32	46	54	45	38	94	98	99	98	95	
1876	40	32	34	52	49	37	24	91	96	99	95	94	
1877	28	44	37	52	47	28	33	92	94	99	98	95	
1878	32	36	50	54	48	53	27	90	94	98	95	90	
1879	21	37	42	51	59	41	.22	92	96	95	94	92	
1880 .	45	38	35	44	50	27	16	91	94	95	98	93	
1881	. 26	30	44	45	57	35	41	92	97	97	98	94	
1882 .		44	42	51	57	37	32	88	90	92	94	91	
1883	18	28	40	57	52	41	39	86	92	96	96	91	
1884		25	27	44	54	37	27	86	93	98	94	92	
1885.	21	26	39	60	56	44	30	90	94	97	95	93	
1886	. 9	28	36	40	46	31	22	92	96	98	99	92	
1887	20	37	44	47	46	32	28	91	- 92	96	96	94	
1888		41	33	52	52	36	35	88	92	92	96	90	
1889.	30	34	44	55	44	32	42	-90	91	95	94	90	
1890		28	27	46	48	38	29	92	96	97	95	92	
1891		29	32	40	46	31	28	89	95	96	95	92	
1892.		45	28	50	44	35	21	88	95	93	95	90	

HOUSTON AND GALVESTON are the markets that will vern the prices of all commodities produced and consumed he people of the Coast Country for all time. And will govern the cotton markets for the entire State. And I desire to draw a contrast in the advantages that Fort Bend County now has, and the the relative advantages she must continue to possess in freight rates, owing to its position with reference to the markets over th points named in other parts of the State. Richmond being the county site of the county, I take it to give the freights to and from it, in contrast with the other points named in the tables. 12

third year they bore a full crop. They ripen from May 10th till October. I have planted six or seven varieties of apples and they have been a complete failure. I set out Leconte pear trees one year old and the fourth year after they are out they begin to bear. The fruit is ready to market by the middle of June and continues till September. I have also planted the Garber pear. It is doing well. Its fruit is ready for market by July 20th and continues through August. I also set out one year old Keifer pears, and some of them bore as much as one bushel of pears to the tree the fourth year. They are marketable from September 15th till November 1st.

Japanese persimmons bear the second year and do remarkabl Figs bear the first year, and ripen from June till December I planted about 20 varieties of grapes, but the Herbemont is the only variety I can recommend. They ripen in July and I have some two year old vines that I believe bore 50 pounds each this year. I do not fertilize my land for any of the crops. The wild blackberries and dewberries are so plentiful I have never cultivated them. The wild ones ripen from April till June. Pecans do remarkable well. They make a heavy crop every other year. I have one tree on my place that the pecans of one crop brought me \$44. I have gathered as many as ten bushels of 44 pounds each off one tree, and the prices range, for different years, from 4 o 10c per pound.

Hog and poultry raising is very profitable here. I have never heard of a case of hog cholera in this county. I kill and cure my own meat. My fowls have never had the cholera but once in nine ars, and I did not lose more than 50 per cent of them then. The health of my family has been good. Yours very truly

### J. BAUDAT

## SIMONTON, TEXAS, November 12, 1897.

J. S. DAUGHERTY, ESQ., Houston, Texas: Dear Sir — Replying to yours of recent date concerning the health in this locality, will say: The prevailing impression is, and for years has been that the Brazos bottom is unhealthy. Our experience, however, has been the reverse. We came from the igh prairies of Central Missouri to this point in the Brazos botin February, 1895, and with us came thirty of our neighbors who had spent the greater part of their lives in Central Missouri. Since that time there have been no less than sixty others from the same locality in Missouri. Among this number there has been very little serious sickness and only five fatalities, none of them traceable to climatic or local causes. We are five miles from the earest doctor and none of the people have had heavy doctors ills to pay. We find we are no more liable to sickness of any kind than the people living on prairie land in this section of the south, and not nearly so liable to sickness of any kind as those living in the river bottom districts of Missouri and Illinois. here is no good reason why it should be unhealthy here as our il is porous and water sinks rapidly after each rain, so that in n hours after a good rain the surface is free from water. Our ctors who live on the edge of the prairie adjoining, and who do the practice both on prairie and bottom, say that they have no bre trouble with malaria in the bottoms than on the prairies. e people who lived here in the earlier days used nothing but l water, and lived in houses which were poorly built and let both wind and rain. They had very little variety in their d, and we believe their exposure, habits of living, etc., were cause of the sickness they suffered, and that the people who ne to this country and live in good houses, regulate their habits. I diet as intelligent people should do, will have no more sicks here than at any place in the South. Yours very truly, R. W. WARREN & SONS.

## VOLMER, HARRIS CO., TEXAS, December 18, 1897.

To Whom it May Concern:

from Fort Bend County to the markets, on all commodities the farmers have to sell, than it is from any point in the State, north or west of it; and that the freight rate on all commodities the farmers have to buy is less from the markets to Fort Bend County than it is to any point in the State, north and west of it. The freight rate is a two-edged sword that cuts both The freight rate is a two-edged sword that cuts both ways in favor of Fort Bend County. To illustrate, let us take cotton for example: At 10 cents per hundred the freight rate on a 500-pound bale would be 50 cents from Richmond; from Victoria to Houston it would be \$2.30—a difference of \$1.80 per bale in favor of Richmond. Assuming cotton to be worth 6 cents a pound, the difference in freight would be 6 per cent of the value of the cotton in favor of Fort Bend County, or if an average of one-half bale was made to the acre, it would be a difference of 90 cents per acre annually in favor of the earning power of the lands of Fort Bend County on what is sold off of them. Now, let us suppose that the farmer invests the \$15.00 he receives for the half bale of cotton in lumber—and that the lumber weighs 3000 pounds—then the difference in freight on it

it into pig iron; stones, out of which monuments and edifices can

From the foregoing tables, taken from the freight rate sheets now in force (Dec. 18, 1897), it appears that the freight rate is less

Barley and be constructed, presenting as great varieties in colors as are dis-ar grains do played by the flowers on the prairies.

lumber weighs 3000 pounds—then the difference in freight on it between Beaumont (the lumber market) and Richmond, and be-tween said market and Victoria, is 5 cents per hundred pounds or \$1.50 per thousand feet of lumber. That is, the farmer of Victoria County pays 90 cents per acre more freight on what he raises on an acre of land, and \$1.50 per acre more freight on what he buys with the proceeds of the acre of land, than does the farmer of Fort Bend County—a difference of \$2.40 per acre, annually, in the net returns to him. This would be a fair rent on the land, or

8 per cent on \$30 per acre. And this is not for a day or a year, but for all time. And what is true of lumber and cotton is rela-tively true of every other commodity. Can a man be sensible and casonable and fail to recognize the importance of these facts? Refuse to recognize them and the folly of the father will be visited upon his children for all generations to come.

## Sugar Lands.

Fort Bend and Brazoria counties contain more choice sugar lands than all of the Hawaiian Islands combined. For what said islands possess, see Encyclopædia Britanica and U. S. Consular Reports, Vol. LVI. And you can then realize the immense field in this line that is here presented for profitable development. The chocolate soil is the best variety for cane culture, and of a dry year will produce an average of fifteen tons to the acre, and of good seasons an average of twenty-five tons to the acre. There are two varieties of the cane; the purple and the striped. The purple is considered the best. It takes from three to five tons of cane to plant an acre. The shorter the joints the less the quantity re-quired. Cane should be planted either in the fall or early winter. f the drainage is good it is better to plant in October or November In the cultivation of cane you first bar it off and then use stubble diggers, and after it begins to joint turn the soil to it. One hand should cultivate about forty acres in cotton, corn and cane; onethird of each. On old land in Fort Bend County, cane will make three crops from one planting, and on fresh land four or five. This is better than it does in any part of the United States outside of Texas. The first crop is generally the best. Fort Bend County cane is never troubled with bores, which are its enemy in other ions of the country. The cane stubble is protected from the cold in winter by throwing light furrows over them. There is no such thing known in Fort Bend County as a failure in the cane rop. And as yet comparatively no fertilizers have been used. Cotton seed meal or commercial fertilizers are good. Harvest begins about the first of October, and in Fort Bend County lasts about eighty days. Cane yields from 11 to 13 per cent of sugar. The blades make excellent forage for stock, and the stalks, after

the juice is pressed from them furnish material from which to

ke the best varieties of wrapping paper, and paper bags. Water

good drinking water that rises within ten feet of the top of the ground, at 250 feet. Flowing wells at 600 to 900 feet. The water from these wells is pronounced by the chemist of the Texas Agri-cultural and Mechanical College, to be the purest yet discovered in the State, and do not require filtering to refine sugar.

Lignite Coal is laid down in Fort Bend County at \$1.50 to \$2.00 per ton, and wood at \$2.00 to \$3.00 per cord. The price of cane is governed by the price of sugar. If brown sugar of a certain quality is selling for four cents per pound in the markets, Col. E. H. Cunningham would pay 90 per cent of the price, or \$3.60 per ton for case at his mill. Fort Bend County, Torge for its the best fold in the United States to heat form Texas, furnishes the best field in the United States to locate from ten to thirty sugar manufacturing plants, and with enough of these to create competition for the cane, there is no better agricultural industry for the small farmer than to produce the cane. And now is the time to secure the land.

#### What the Citizens of Fort Bend County Say of It.

#### FRUIT LAND STOCK FARM. H. H. AYLOR, PROPRIETOR.

#### ORCHARD, Fort Bend County, Texas, November 4, 1897. To Whom it May Concern:

I want to write a few facts about Fort Bend County, Texas. I am located at Orchard in one of the best neighborhoods, and in one of the best counties in the State. Here we have fine land and the best of water. Cotton, corn and oats do fine, and I have seen s fine gardens here as I ever saw in Virginia or Missouri, where I formerly lived. This country is sure of from one-half to one bale of cotton per acre, and from forty to sixty bushels of corn per acre. One of my neighbors sowed fifteen bushels of oats, and harvested 350. And others are well satisfied with their yield Live Stock do well here. My horses and cattle go through the winter in good condition without any feeding, and I have fat beef cattle all winter. And this I consider far ahead of the north. I have been over this country to some extent, and find the people doing as well here as any where I have ever been. And the best of all is this, I find those who have their homes paid for are satisfied and living easy. And I find that land is rapidly increasing in value. As to health—I came to Orchard in February, 1893, from South-western Missouri, and find this about the healthiest place I ever saw. Before coming here different members of my family were frequently sick. My wife suffered much from rheumatism, but nce coming here she has scarcely been bothered at all with it. My father-in-law came here from Missouri three years ago, and was very badly afflicted with the asthma. He soon got well, and has been well ever since, and I know others who have gained thei health by coming here. Our churches and schools are just what we make them. And I think those who contemplate seeking new omes can't miss it by coming to Fort Bend County, Texas. With best wishes to all, I am yours very respectfully, H. H. AYLOR.

#### RICHMOND, TEXAS, September 30, 1897. To Whom it May Concern:

This is to bear witness that I own and reside upon the northeast quarter of section 54, H. & T. C. R'y Co. block, Fort Bend County, Texas, where I have been, and in this vicinity, for the past nine years; my family numbers seven, and during that time I have not had a doctor to see any member of it. I came from the prairie section of Madison County, Illinois, about 20 years ago to Collin County, Texas. Was there about two years. From there I moved to Kaufman County, Texas, and remained about two years. From there I moved to Shelby County, Texas, where I lived till 1

Years Creek in Washington County, Texas, about four miles from Brenham, and lived in that county until about five years ago, when I moved to Fort Bend County. The population of the territory is of the black hogwallow variety, and I have never made less than an average of one-half bale of cotton to the acre, and as much as  $1\frac{1}{4}$  bales to the acre. I have never made a failure in a corn around here, for about ten miles southeast and east, and for a mil rop; my yield of it has run from 25 to 40 bushels per acre. west and six miles north is about half German and German descent have never seen nor heard of a case of hog cholera in the county, and I have raised and cured most of my meat, and have had no and the other half Americans. I have seen as little as fifteen bushels of corn made here to the acre, and as much as forty trouble to keep it from spoiling. Yours very respectf the acre, and cotton from one-half to one bale to the acre. Cattle. JOHN B. PADON. horses, hogs and sheep are healthy and do well. Some of the big Kansas horses brought in here do not do so well, but it seems to be more for want of proper care of them than anything else. I have

NEEDVILLE, TEXAS, September 30, 1897. This is to bear witness that I own and reside on the northeas

To Whom it May Concern: the town of Richmond. I am a native of France. I immigrated to Parker County, Texas, in 1831 and lived there until the later part of 1885. From there I moved to Waco, Texas, and remained a year, and came to Fort Bend County in 1887 and located on the farm where I now reside. And since I have been here I have been principally engaged in growing truck, such as Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, cabbage, onions, lettuce, English peas, snap and wax beans. I plant Irish potatoes in January and dig them from the 15th of April to the 1st of June. I consider 150 bushels to the

Richmond Wharbon Wharbon Edna.... Victoria... Victoria... San Anton Brenham-Manor... Manor... Manor... Maror... Maror... Maror... Maror... Vaylor... Paylor... Paylor Vaylor... Paylor Parls... San Angel Brenham-Maror... Varlor Marchine Varlor San Angel San Angel San Angel

County, both by home seekers and real estate gamblers I have concluded to take this plan of answering them all at once. First-Health is about as good as any where in this part of the State. Men have no business to get sick if they observe the rules of health and do not put their dwellings on the bank of some old, stagnant lake for the convenience it affords for water to wash and drink, then get sick and pay the doctor every year two and three imes the sum it would cost them to secure a first-class well or cistern or both. I am personally acquainted with a number of old families who have been living in the county for fifty years or more who have never lost a member only by accidentally running against some other old settler with just as good health and as big a gun, and a bottle on the inside of him, and through a friendl exchange of bullets one or both may have remained on the field, but this, however, is diminishing rapidly, as there is no money in t. Fort Bend County seems better adapted to money-making than to blood-letting. The negroes of Fort Bend County are more polite than those of any other county I know. When you meet ne on the road he invariably doffs his hat to you and says 'Howdy," whether he is on his way to work, to the store or to hurch. They all go to church on Sunday

So much for health and society. As to the productiveness of soil and particularly of the Brazos bottom (let me take a breath) you can raise anything that the climate permits, even mortgages and if you consider that the thermometer hardly ever goes up t 100 or below 35 it is certainly possible to raise a more diversified crop than any one man is able to keep run of. I am a truck gardener of Harris County, live and have lived continuously for about fifty years within nine miles of Houston and certainly do not want to cry down my old home. I have land to sell in Harris County but none in Fort Bend, yet I have said many and many a time in I could put only 10 or 20 acres of Brazos bottom land adjoining my home I would willingly give 100 acres of my best land, and claim to have as good as there is in Harris County, for I have tried all kinds of vegetables in Fort Bend County and know what I am talking about. I can not produce as much nor as good truck with the best of fertilizers in Harris County as I can in Fort Bend without fertilizers and with much less work fighting weeds and insects. THEO. W. HILLENDAHL.

#### What the Farmers' Wives say of Fort Bend County.

In my search for information, I called at the home of Mr Robert Marshall who owns and lives upon the northwest quar of section 60 of the H. & T. C. Ry. Co. block. Mr. Marshall was from home, but I found visiting Mrs. Marshall, whose postoffice is Hanson, Fort Bend County, Texas, Mrs. S. J. Rowland and Mrs. E. C. Rowland, whose postoffice is Needville, Fort Bend County, Texas. They are all bright, hopeful and courageous women. S I thought I would see what they thought of Fort Bend County

And substantially the following conversation ensued. "Ladies, I am looking for reliable information as to the re-sources and advantages of Fort Bend County. What is it that makes a country attractive to a lady?"

Mrs. R.-"A healthy climate, good society, churches and schools and rich productive land."

Mrs. M.—"We came from Mississippi to Ellis County, Texas, in 1885, and lived there three years, then moved to Brazoria County, Texas, where we lived one year, and came from there to our present home. When we came here there was no one living on the prairie as far as you could see. It was six miles to our nearest neighbor Now just look at the houses. The first thing you know you won't have elbow room here.

Mrs. R.—"Yes, there will be a big road on every side." Mrs. M.—"We, my husband, self, and five children, have had

excellent health. The best we ever had any where." Mrs. R.—"Our family of four have had very good health. Mrs. M.—"I heard Dr. W. L. Lowery say, that he was raised in east Tennessee, and that it was reckoned a healthy country, but this is a healthier country than that."

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"What about your society?" Mrs. R.—"Well, I think, we have good society. But there was a lady visiting us the other day and she said we were away behind in social matters." Mrs. M.—"Oh, she don't count! She don't live here. What does she know about us? I just tell you I never lived among better people than I have found here. If you were church some time you would think they were all kinfolks. It ist looks like they are so glad to see you, you can't get away from hem. We have church every Sunday. We have a good school. It runs six to eight months in the year. And they are going to have ten months school in Big Creek neighborhood this year. Cutting off the new district cut off some of our school fund. We ave school just as long as the working children can go. They ad to quit school last year and go to work.'

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How do your gardens do? Mrs. R.-"Very well, indeed. We have beans, peas, tomatoes, sweet and Irish potatoes, cabbage, cucumbers, lettuce, melons of various kinds, squashes, onions, okra, turnips, tobacco, as high

as my head. Mrs M -" Tobacco! You can't find anybody about my place who uses tobacco. I just plant my garden full of everything from side to side, and it all grows and does well."

"Will English peas grow well this dry weather?" Mrs. M.-" If you don't believe they grow well in dry weather Mrs. M.just go and see." (pointing to the garden)

What is the dark side of the picture? Mrs. R.-" We don't intend to tell you that.' "Has the country no weak points?" Mrs. R.-" Well, I don't want to tell any stories.' Mrs. M.-" We are telling no stories. We are just giving the facts. The country is a little too level. And too far from a market now. In wet weather the children have to ride to school And when we came here there was no shade. But I never saw trees grow better in my life. Those trees (cottonwood, six inches

in diameter) by the gate there, are only three years old." 'Have you no yard grass?' Mrs. M.-"Yes, Bermuda grass grows fine in old man Arm-

strong's yard, it is matted." What about butter and milk?"

Mrs. M.—" Well, we can have plenty of butter and milk. Those who have Jerseys and other good milk stock just have worlds of butter and milk. Mrs. R.-" Yes, people can have plenty of butter and milk.

If you want to get a puff for the country, go to Mr. Chapman. He came here about three years ago, with some fine cattle, and two rabbity mules. He managed to get up a little house. And he carried butter and milk to Rosenberg every day, rain or shine. Now he has paid out his place (160 acres) and has a nice house and plenty of everything. My son, Orr, says he has the finest corn of

Mrs. M.—"There has been a number of years we have made as much as 40 and 50 bushels of corn to the acre, as much depends on the man as on the country."

Mrs. R.-" Yes, you might place some people in the garden of Eden and they would be too lazy to gather the fruit." "How about fruit-how does it do?

Mrs. M.-"Pears, peaches, plums, figs and grapes do nicely. Blackberries and dewberries just grow wild. It ain't far down yonder to where you can get worlds of dewberries, in their season. you can just take the wagon and wash tubs and gather them full.

#### Noteable Facts Connected with the History of Fort Bend County.

Randal Jones, the first American who made his home in the territory now known as Texas, settled in 1812 on the east bank of the Brazos River, about two miles above the town of Rich-mond. And the land he then improved has been in cultivation continuously for 85 years, without having been fertilized, and with

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proper cultivation will to-day produce one bale of cotton, or 60 bushels of corn to the acre. Deaf Smith, Gen. Sam Houston's noted scout, selected his

home in Fort Bend County and lived and died there. Mirabeau B. Lamar, the third president of the Republic of Texas, had his home and plantation on the Brazos River near the town of Richmond, where he lived and died.

Gail Borden, the inventor of condensed milk, had his home on the Brazos River in Fort Bend County, and spent many of the best days of his life there.

The State, in seeking the most fertile land on which to locate its largest and most profitable plantation, on which to work con-victs, selected the Brazos bottom lands of Fort Bend County. Col. E. H. Cunningham, of Sugarland, Fort Bend County,

Texas, has the largest sugarcane plantation and sugar refinery, combined there is in the world. If the Coast Country of Texas is as good a country as it is claimed to be, why has it not been sooner developed? is the most puzzling question that a contemplating investor on homeseeker has to satisfactorily answer to himself. He looks at it, and his eyes and judgment tell him that it is good. Most every one with whom he talks tells him that it is good. He can satisfy himself that the climate is mild and healthful, and the rainfal reliable; the markets good and transportation facilities unexcelled He says to himself, in any other portion of the United States a country possessing the advantages this seems to would have been a solid farm a generation ago. And here I see miles upon miles of comparatively unoccupied land. Why is this? he again asks him-Some people have told him that it has been the cattlemen who prevented the settlement of the country. Then if he is well-informed he will reflect to himself that the men with the hoe have driven the cattleman off the good agricultural land of North Texas, Kansas and Nebraska and have possessed themselves of it, and there is a prosperous home on every 160 acres. And the settle ment of those sections began long after the Coast Country of Texas was first settled. Others have told him that the large land owners have retarded the development of the country by refusing to subde their lands and place them on the market. Again he reects upon conditions in other sections, and there he found the ge land owner always ready to take satisfactory profits and ally anxious to convert his tax-eating, non-revenue producwild lands into income-producing farms. Hence he properly aks, "Unless human nature has changed, and I don't think it has," these big land owners and cattlemen stories, while they possess the coloring of truth and some of its attributes, yet are not sufficient to account for conditions, if the country is really a good agricultural section. About this time some loquacious burn, who had inherited

About this time some loquacious bum, who had inherited enough property to enable him as yet to present a fairly respect-able appearance, while carrying many of the marks of dissipation on him, and who is opposed to work and to progress and develop-ment, because they require the time and attention of people, and do not permit those who desire such things to stand on the street corners and around the saloons, and idle their time away in cheap talk with him, and spend their money with him. This bum's mixing with the world has given him a keen insight into certain phases of human nature. He sees the stranger is in a quandary, and that there is a chance for talk and possibly drinks. up and engages him in conversation, invites him to take a drink, and pays for it; tells of the large properties his grandfather and father owned, etc. The stranger is pleased with his generous and affable manners, and feels complimented to be in the company of one who has such distinguished progenitors. He applies the pump and asks his new-found acquaintance many questions concerning the country and he volubly answers them, and winds up by telling him that "the country ain't worth a damn," for had it

been, he should have been as great a man as his father and grand father. But he is not. On the contrary, he is walking on the border-edge of bankrupcy, and the conclusion in the mind of every one knowing the start he had must be, that either the

country is not worth a damn or he is not worth a damn; and such men are never ready to condemn themselves, therefore it must be the country. The stranger is more rattled than ever. He has received a letter from his wife stating that the children have bad colds, and that the diphtheria is in their commun and that she is not feeling well, and expressing the hope that he may come home soon. He takes the next train for home without ever learning the real truth as to what has retarded the development of the country, or buying any of the exceptionally good bargains that have been offered him. He may live to return ten years hence and see lands selling readily for three times their present prices. They will be so selling whether he returns or not. But what are the real causes why the country has not sooner developed?

The fact that the rich valleys of Oyster Creek, the Brazos, San mard, Colorado and Old Caney Rivers, sold before the war for \$25 to \$60 per acre, and that the same plantations were not in de-mand from 1873 to 1883, and did not find ready buyers when offered for \$4 to \$7 per acre, must furnish the key to the truth. Before the war there were comparatively no railroads in the State. And planters gathered along the valleys of said streams for their transportation facilities. The soil was exceedingly fertile and easy of cultivation, and the drainage good. The climate mild, and all of the conditions favorable to slave labor, which they exlusively used. Their labor was reliable, the territory accessible to navigable water limited, and the competition for it was active and advanced its selling values to the prices named, and placed it beyond the ability of the small farmer to buy. The prairie lands required drainage, and many of them without fertilizers are not productive, and the small farmers who came to Texas in those days were not educated in the science of drainage, and they did not like to be in a section where there were but the two classes-rich planters and negroes. And they could at that day buy the rich rolling lands of Central and North Texas cheaper than they could buy the level prairie lands of the coast, and they went to them for the double reason that they did not require drainage and society congenial to them. And there was an abundance of territory to supply them till the war came on. The war suspended all development. When it was over the negroes were free. The white people of the coast country were disfranchised and the negro was enfranchised. He was the political power of the section, and either held the offices himself or placed white men in office who would put themselves on a level with him. The negro was sustained in his position by county officers, State nilitia, United States marshals and the United States army. Power made him insolent. And the white men who had directed nim as a slave were not willing to submit to his insolence. The result was that there were many conflicts between them, in which the negro was generally killed. Then the officers would either run the white man out of the country, or arrest him and hound him with long and expensive litigation, their object being to get all the money they could out of him in the way of bribes or fees. The whites were so largely in the minority that matters reached such a climax with them that they must either go into the towns, emigrate, or every day carry their lives in their hands. Under these conditions most of them abandoned their plantations and moved into Galveston or Houston or North Texas, or to some other State, and devoted their energies to their development. The country, left to the negro, rapidly underwent disintegration, and in a few years the lovely homes and massive sugar and gin houses were crumbling to decay. The fences were rotting and the bushes and briars were overrunning the fields where once magnificent crops of cotton and cane grew. Things went from bad to worse until in 1879, 1880 and 1881

here were on the market numbers of these estates at \$4 to \$7 per acre that found no buyers. In 1873 the Democratic party cam into power in the State and put an end to State militia support-ing negro supremacy, but they still had the support of the United States government. In 1884 Cleveland was elected president and appointed U. S. Marshals in sympathy with the whites and the 23

began the work of reclamation. It took them till about 1888 to fully possess themselves of the County offices and establish econom-ical, efficient county governments, and the development that has taken place practically dates from that time. Mark you, the identical land that before the war with reliable labor under good government sold for \$25 to \$60 per acre could not find a buyer in 1880 with unreliable labor and bad government at \$4 to \$7 per acre, and if the most productive improved land in the county went begging at \$4 to \$7 per acre, what could be expected of the less desirable unimproved land? What does it show? That good soil, reliable seasons, healthy climate and good transportation facilities, in the absence of good government will not give value to land for they were practically the same when the land sold for \$25 to \$60 per acre and could not later find a buyer at \$4 to \$7 per acre, when in fact the population of the State was much larger and the transportation facilities much better.

"Our Heroes, H. H. Frost, L. E. Gibson, J. M. Shamblin. These brave and noble sons of Fort Bend County, whose names are here enshrined gave their lives in order that the people of this county might have a just and capable county government, and their fellow citizens have reared this monument to their memory and as a promise to them that their principles shall be maintained for all time to come.

tions and pledges therein made, and require their county and State officers to impartially execute justice and equity to all, without fear or favor, the descendants of both factions will live to honor the deeds that have perpetuated to them so many blessings. No, it has not been the cattle nor the large land owners who have seriously retarded the growth of the country. It was first negro slavery, next negro domination. But these are both gone, and "Let the dead past bury its dead." Our faces are to the future, radiant with the light of Hope. We have good government, numerous railroads; the bars have been removed from our seaports, so that the largest vessels can enter; immigration is pouring in on us from both home and abroad, so as to give us abundant and reliable labor, and there is no more doubt that the value of the Coast Country lands will rapidly enhance under existing conditions, than that the sun shines. Look along the south line of the right of way of the Galveston, Harrisburg San Antonio Railway on the accompanying map of Fort Bend County, about six miles west of Richmond, and you will see "S. P. R. R. Co. Ptd." The railroad was there in 1886, as it is to-day, and this tract of land was sold then by one of the leading land firms of the State, who owned it, for \$1 per acre. I sold it a short time since for \$12.50 per acre, and the purchasers took it as the best bargain they could find. An advance in price of 1250 per cent in less than twelve years. Where \$640 was invested, \$8000 was realized. Why talk of Klondyke? Come to Fort Bend County. All of the conditions are ripe. Come and select your home. In vest your money. Buy you a lot in the cemetery, and decide to live and die here. Lay out your yard and garden. Plant your trees, fruits, vegetables, shrubs and flowers. Supply yourself with an abundance of water, and I challenge you to find a place in the United States where the investment of a given amount of money will return you such handsome profits with as many comforts and pleasures.

simmons, figs and grapes. I planted out budded peach tre for steam producing purposes is found at 38 feet, at Sugarland; came to Fort Bend County-and myself and family have had business here, and own and operate a gin. I was born on New year old, and the second year they bore scattering fruit, and the

of the health, society and productiveness of soil of Fort Bend

needs them, he is neither acquainted at the bank nor knows or has credit with the merchants who otherwise might accommodate him. For the want of a little forethought in the line above indicated he has placed himself at a great disadvantage. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

If you are coming to Fort Bend County, bill your car to Richmond, and buy your ticket to Richmond. If you have business in Fort Bend County, buy your ticket to Richmond. It is the county site. It has the county records. It is the headquarters for land in the coast country. It has as many trains and express accommodations as any point in the county. It is the only bank-ing town in the county. It has good hotels and a livery stable If you have money to invest visit Richmond. Every \$100 properl invested there now will return \$1000 in ten years.

## Beasley

Is a new town site, just laid out-January 1, 1898. It is situated eleven miles west of Richmond, on the New York, Texas & Mexican Railroad, in the heart of a vast tract of very rich black hogwallow and black sandy prairie land. About 10,000 acres of these lands surrounding the town site have been subdivided into tracts to suit purchasers, and are now being offered at the low price of \$12.50 per acre, \$2.50 per acre cash, and the remainder in one two, three, four and five years time, with 8 per cent annual interest. The first to buy will be able to secure land immediately adjoining the town site. Beasley needs 1000 families to mak themselves comfortable and prosperous by buying and intelli-gently cultivating the surrounding lands. It needs everything that goes to make up a first-class country town of 2000 popul tion. Business lots are 30x110 feet and a 20-foot alley. The first 100 lots will be sold at \$25 each cash. Come and make your selection, or send in your order accompanied with bank exchange for \$25 per lot, and I will make the best selection for you I can, and cause deed to be executed to you, recorded and mailed to you.

### Garibaldi

Will be located about 25 miles east of south of Richmond, at the junction of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway with the Guadalupe Valley Railroad. There are some things that should be put on paper before they are placed on the ground. So it is with Garibaldi. Tributary to the point designated on the map as Garibaldi is 100,000 acres of exceptionally well drained and fertile land. Within a radius of ten miles can be found good chocolate sandy soil, rich black sandy soil, richer black hogwallow land, and richest Brazos bottom land. Good water in unlimited supply can be found anywhere in the territory at 15 to 80 feet There is an abundance of timber conveniently distributed. There are beautiful live oak parks, in nature's own robes, unsurpassed in their fresh, cool, inviting beauty. Refreshing and health giv-ing gulf breezes, genial climate, reliable rainfall, there is no more doubt but these lands will be occupied with a dense and pros perous population than that time continues. I, propose starting the movement by subdividing into 40-acre tracts 12,000 acres of land surrounding this point and putting it on the market, in tracts to suit purchasers, on exceptionally favorable terms. These 12,000 acres will include about 6000 acres of choice Brazos bottom land, 1500 acres of it in cultivation. And the prairie will consist o chocolate sandy, black sandy and black hogwallow soil." can pay your money and take your choice." The Guadalupe Valley Railroad has been surveyed, and the work of construction, with ample capital behind it, is being pressed on the western end Lose no time in seeing the country around Garibaldi. In ten years there will be a town of 5000 people there.

For further particulars call on or correspond with

J. S. DAUGHERTY, HOUSTON, TEXAS. ROOMS 506-507-508 KIAM BUILDING,

"Go, stranger, and to the Jay Birds tell, That for their Country's freedom they fell." If the people of Fort Bend County are faithful to the declara-

burg, Germany, and other European ports is but 25 cents per hundred. Now is the accepted time to buy Texas pine lands.

whites, then no longer fearing Federal interference in local affairs, **RICHMOND, TEXAS** Is the county site of Fort Bend County, and is situated on the

But these unfortunate conditions happily are gone. To remove them cost the lives, in numerous instances, of good and brave men and clouded the good name of more than one county in the State. Fort Bend County was a sufferer in this respect in what was known as the Jay Bird and Woodpecker War. There now stands in the court house yard at Richmond a beautiful granite monument erected by the victorious Jay Birds, on which is the following in-

barrel factory, wood working factory, saw mill, packing house, tannery, tile factory, brick yard, and a mattress factory, an elm hoop factory; a County Fair Association, a German Volksfest ground; truck farms, orchards, canneries and dairies. Within one and a half miles of the court house in Richmond, there are falls in the Brazos River of eight feet in a distance of § of a mile where a twenty foot dam, not more than six hundred feet long and a race § of a mile long would furnish 3000 horse power during the lowest stages of water. To utilize this water and generate elec tricity so as to furnish power for the above mentioned and desired factories for Richmond would prove a permanent and most profitable investment. Immigrant Home. The enterprising citizens of Richmond have established and expect to maintain as long as is necessary, an immigrant home in Richmond, where any one who has bought land in Fort Bend County, or who deposits in bank \$500 to be expended on a home in said County, can have house rent free for himself and family for a month to give them protection while securing a home on building a house. And they cordially invite all such to avail themselves of it. Some of the advantages to the immigrant in shipping his goods and buying his ticket to Richmond are It is there that the immigrant home is located

Richmond is the headquarters for land in Fort Bend County, 3. The merchants of Richmond carry larger stocks of goods and are better able to make advances to farmers than those of any other town in the county. The newcomer spends his money with them while he has it, makes their acquaintance and establishe his credit with them, and is in a position to ask and receive credit should he need it in the future. He deposits his money in the bank, becomes acquainted with its managment. They then know the amount of money he brought with him and how he has in-vested it. And he has placed himself in the most favorable pos-tion he candid the accurace machine to be here if he readed place tion he could to secure accommodations at bank if he needs them in future. But should he move into the county and pay out his

The freight rate from the sawmills of Southeast Texas to Hammoney for land and buy his goods while he has cash from mer chants who are unable to extend to him accommodations when he

west bank of the Brazos River, 33 miles west of Houston. It has a population of about 1500, waterworks, an electric light plant, a nk, three railroads, two of which are trunk lines. And there will be three more railroads built from Richmond, one occupying the territory between the Brazos and San Bernard Rivers, one occupying the territory between the San Bernard and Colorado Rivers, and one the territory between the Colorado River and the N. Y. T. & M. R. R., the richest local territory in the State for some short lines of railroad. All three of these branches can use one line from Richmond to Houston. Richmond has a local tele