

*The Gold Mines.*—Considering the richness and extent of the mineral region of Georgia, it is matter of some surprise that no greater interest is manifested by speculators and men of capital, in the erection of suitable machinery for the purpose of carrying on mining operations successfully, and also to extend the facilities for trade and intercourse between that wealthy, yet isolated region, and the more commercial part of our state. This negligence and apathy among men of business and enterprise, is we are convinced, the consequence of a want of information as to the real value of the mines, and the surety that they will return a handsome profit for the labor and capital invested in working them. We are pleased to perceive, however, that some attention is beginning to be drawn towards this interesting part of the country, and that there are a few who are disposed to ascertain what it is capable of producing, by taking the proper steps towards its full discovery. When a bank shall have been established in its neighborhood, which will purchase the gold, and thus afford a ready cash exchange for the expense in procuring it, besides the advantages of loans to those individuals who could not otherwise raise sufficient funds, mining operations will acquire a system and extent which have hitherto unfortunately been unprecedented. To this object we would beg leave to call the attention of the people and the Legislature.

An article appeared in a late Augusta Courier, of which an extract is given below, giving some information in relation to the New Potosi, formerly called Shubert mine, in Hall county, which is represented as one of the richest yet discovered. That paper states the tract to contain several veins, "in one of which, rock filled with gold has been found in places from the surface to the water level." The veins are said to consist of quartz, of a crystalline color, invested with oxide of iron, and containing numerous spots of Kaolin or decomposed Felspar. One bushel of this rock has yielded 600 dwts. of fluxed gold. Although no regular system has yet been introduced for working this mine, or machinery erected, pits have been dug preparatory to an extensive operation by steam power, which it is presumed will shortly take effect. Of this region, its wants and its prospects, the Courier goes on to say—

The great inconvenience complained of by the Miners is want of capital to purchase their Gold. They are in a great measure cut off from the rest of the world, and are aliens in point of commercial advantages. They look to the extended stage communication from Athens to Gainesville with great expectations, as facilitating intercourse with this city.—Those, too, most conversant with the inconvenience arising from this cause, suggest the incorporation of a Bank at some suitable spot, or the location of a Branch or Agency of the State Bank in that section of the State. There is a Bill before the Legislature for a Bank at Clarkeville, to be called the "*Mineral Bank.*" They wish the Bank to purchase the gold. ~~Individuals could not raise sufficient funds,~~ and the interest on loans by the Bank would not allow profit—the want of commercial facilities preventing speedy returns. The Legislature should pay early attention to the wants of this interesting portion of Georgia. The incorporation of Companies for mining purposes should not be opposed, and manufacturing establishments, particularly of iron, should be encouraged. This section of the State is rich in iron, an article so essential in all the great operations of life, that its manufacture into useful shapes, should not be neglected by an intelligent Legislature. The immense quantity wanted for machinery in mining and manufacturing operations alone, is astonishing. One gentleman is now receiving from the North, machinery for his mining operations in Habersham, which it will take 20 wagons to haul. The State should not depend on others for what lies in such profusion in its own soil. Nearly all of our agricultural implements we buy from abroad. The miners in Hall and Habersham, while they walk on iron ore, and through forests of the finest timber in the world, buy their spades and shovels of foreign artificers—not the iron parts only, but their wooden handles. Legislators of Georgia, shall these things continue?