

THE LOWRY BALE.

An Invention That Is Attracting a Great Deal of Attention in the Cotton World.

It Will Work a Revolution in Cotton Packing and Pressing--Saving in Packing and Shipping.

Aims and Objects of the Planters Compress Co., and the Georgia and Carolina Planters Co. Interesting facts.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PLANTERS' COMPRESS COMPANY?

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE GEORGIA AND CAROLINA PLANTERS' COMPANY?

WHAT IS THE NEW PROCESS WHICH THESE COMPANIES OFFER FOR THE COMPRESSING OF COTTON?

In a general way these questions may be answered as follows:

THE PLANTERS' COMPRESS CO. is organized under the laws of West Virginia, and owns the patent covering the machines invented by Mr. George A. Lowry, of Chicago, for the compressing of cotton.

THE GEORGIA AND CAROLINA PLANTERS' COMPANY, under a license from the Planters' Compress Company, is organized for the purpose of introducing the Lowry Press in the States of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, and will be entirely under the management of Southern men, who will handle the matter in the States named.

THE LOWRY PRESS.

The Lowry Press takes its name from the inventor. It turns out a cylindrical bale, 18 inches in diameter, 36 inches long, with an approximately uniform density of 47 pounds to the cubic foot, and therefore each bale will weigh, within a very slight margin (depending upon the moisture in the cotton), 297 pounds.

The essential difference between the mode of packing in the Lowry bale and in the square bale is that while the steam compress works to expel the air from the square bale made at the gin, in the Lowry bale process, the cotton is packed, as it leaves the condenser at the gin. There is, therefore, little or no air, which ever gets into the Lowry bale.

The cotton is laid up from the bottom of the bale to the top in flat, spiral layers, in which there is a lateral expansion, after being released from the compress tube, of from 1/8 to 3/8 of an inch only. The tendency to expansion lengthwise is checked and overcome by four small iron wire ties, smaller than an ordinary telegraph wire. The bale is covered, when thus tied, with a strong cotton cloth, which is slipped over the bale, and tied with a cord at both ends. It can be removed without injury, so that it can be used over and over again, like a meal or grain sack.

The bale can be most readily sampled in any part; ordinarily it is sufficient to untie the bag at one end, and pull down over the bale. A good sample can easily be drawn from the end, and the edges of the layers along the sides are fully exposed to view. The bale cannot be false-packed—and if mixed packed, the fact shows at the edges of the layers. The sampling can likewise, if deemed necessary, be done at the other end of the bale.

The weight of the bale, 297 pounds, as against 500 pounds for the ordinary square bale, has very many advantages which the mills and ships have long sought, and are now quick to appreciate; but it is not only the mill and shipmen who realize and enjoy the advantages; 250 pounds is much more readily handled than 500. A round package is much more readily moved from point to point than a square package. A bale that can be rolled is easier to deal with than a bale which has to be tipped over and over by two men, and the density of Lowry bales, 47 lbs. to the cubic foot, as against twenty-two and a half for the present steam compressed bale, enables twice as much cotton to be stored in a given space. The planter and ginmer, therefore, need no longer leave their bales out on the ground in exposed places, and often lying in the mud, but can readily roll them under shelter. The mill can store twice as much cotton in every bay of the storage warehouse, and storage charges are of course reduced about one-half.

When the Lowry bale is laid on the floor on its side and the wire ties are cut, it begins to creep in length and, left to itself, will gradually elongate and open so as to reach a final length of about 1 1/2 feet. An entire bale can be put at one time into the "picker" at the cotton mill, and the economy thus arising, and otherwise, has led several of the largest mills in New England and in Europe to deduct from the Lowry bale 1 per cent. tare as against 5 per cent. tare exacted from the square bale, making thereby a difference of 5 per cent. in favor of the Lowry bale.

The economies begin at the end of the ginning process and follow the bale into the cloth at the mill. The bagging and ties on each bale weigh about 2 1/2 pounds. The tare is therefore about one per cent. The insurance is reduced, because the grower will have his cotton put in the form in which it will be most valuable, and he will naturally take it to the man who has facilities for making that form of bale.

The machine is continuous in its operation, and by means of a very simple device, the pressure and resistance can be carried, as desired, and when a given resistance is established it will remain fixed and constant until the gauge cock is changed. The head of

the machine is directly under the condenser of the gins, the feed is automatic and requires no tending. Two men below, or a man and a boy, will remove the bale, tie it, and cover it, weigh it and brand it, while another bale is being pressed.

The capacity of each machine is the amount of cotton which can be turned out by three 70-saw gins, and the power required is absolutely constant. COVERING OF THE LOWRY BALE CAUSES AN ADDITIONAL DEMAND FOR COTTON.

The covering of the bale, being strong cotton cloth, will require about 110,000 bales of cotton to make the covering for one year's crop, it will be seen at a glance that this will create an additional demand for cotton. The covering and ties together for the new round bale will cost about 40 cents, as against 51 cents, as the average charge for the rough jute bagging and ties required on the square bale.

It may be suggested that the new process, on account of the change, will deprive growers and ginners of a profit which they are now making, on account of the fact that they pay 75 cents for covering and ties, weighing about 22 pounds, which they sell to the mill in the weighing of the bale, as part of the cotton and at the price of cotton, which, if 5 cents per pound, would be \$1.10; but the man who makes an argument of that kind shows that he has little head for common sense thinking. It might be true that the farmer, ginmer or dealer could make such an unrighteous profit as this selling bagging and ties at the price of cotton, if it were conceivable that the cotton buyers and the mills were not fully

aware of the matter, and quick to realize it; but nobody would suggest that possibility, and if it is not true, it, of course, inevitably follows that the buyers and the mills take the fact that they have to pay cotton price for scrap iron and jute into account, in making the price for the entire bale, and that price is lower by a little more than the difference, as a matter of fact, so that instead of making anything, the farmer and the ginmer lose by the transaction.

WHAT THE LOWRY BALE WILL DO IN SAVING TO THE FARMER. Hester in his statistical reports on receipts at New Orleans last season says: "Of the 1,300,000 bales received last year at that point, 27,600 bales were taken out in sampler, a less to the farmer of (\$3,800,000) eight million, eight hundred thousand dollars. This is an important fact in favor of the Lowry bale."

A well-advised statistician says beyond question that the difference in tare between the Lowry bale and the present badly packed square bale will amount, according to an honest calculation, to a difference of over \$12,000,000 on the present estimated crop.

The two items above alone mean a difference of \$20,000,000 annually to the farmer.

HONORS AT COLUMBIA. The Lowry Bale was exhibited at the South Carolina State Fair on Nov. 17th. Received the blue ribbon and prize for the best method of baling, packing and pressing and compressing cotton.

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.

Terms on Which the Press Can Be Obtained. Making It Easy for Ginners and Farmers to Get One.

The Planters Compress Company, and the Georgia & Carolina Planters Company desire to establish the Lowry bale as the standard bale on the cotton exchanges of New York, Liverpool and Bremen. It would be more to their advantage to sell the press outright, and would be less troublesome; but the Lowry bale has enemies who are fighting its adoption. Naturally the square bale compress men are opposed to it; and so are the various parties through which the present square bale passes on its way to the European mills, and who make a handsome profit out of the various losses, pickings, etc., to which the bale is subjected. Now, if the press was sold to one man, it would have to be sold to any man who came forward with the money. Thus it would soon fall into the hands of its enemies, who

TO REIMBURSE HIMSELF FOR THE \$500, noted above, out of the royalties paid on the first 1,000 bales which he compresses. That is to say, that after the advance payment each lessee will be allowed to retain the royalty, payable on each bale, until he has reimbursed himself for the \$500 paid in advance.

After this has been accomplished the royalty of 50 cents on each bale is then to be paid into the hands of the Georgia and Carolina Planters Company. The Company will make delivery of the press at the railroad station indicated by the lessee.

The Company will furnish a competent mechanic at its expense to superintend the putting up of the machine. Any other expense, including wages or help necessary in putting up the press, is to be borne by the lessee.

It is the purpose of the Planters Compress Company to put in operation through the cotton states 500 of the Lowry presses under the above terms. When these are established, the Company reserves the right of changing the terms under which the presses can then be obtained.

The 500 presses to be first established will be distributed through the cotton states in the ratio of one cotton cross raised in each; and the policy of the Georgia and Carolina Planters Company will be to distribute the presses throughout different portions of their territory. Under the favorable terms offered, and judging from the applications now on hand, the Company expects to have more applications for presses than the numbers which will be allowed them under the

present offer. Notice is therefore given that contracts will be made in the order in which the applications are received; the Company reserving the right of determining how many presses they may locate in any one neighborhood.

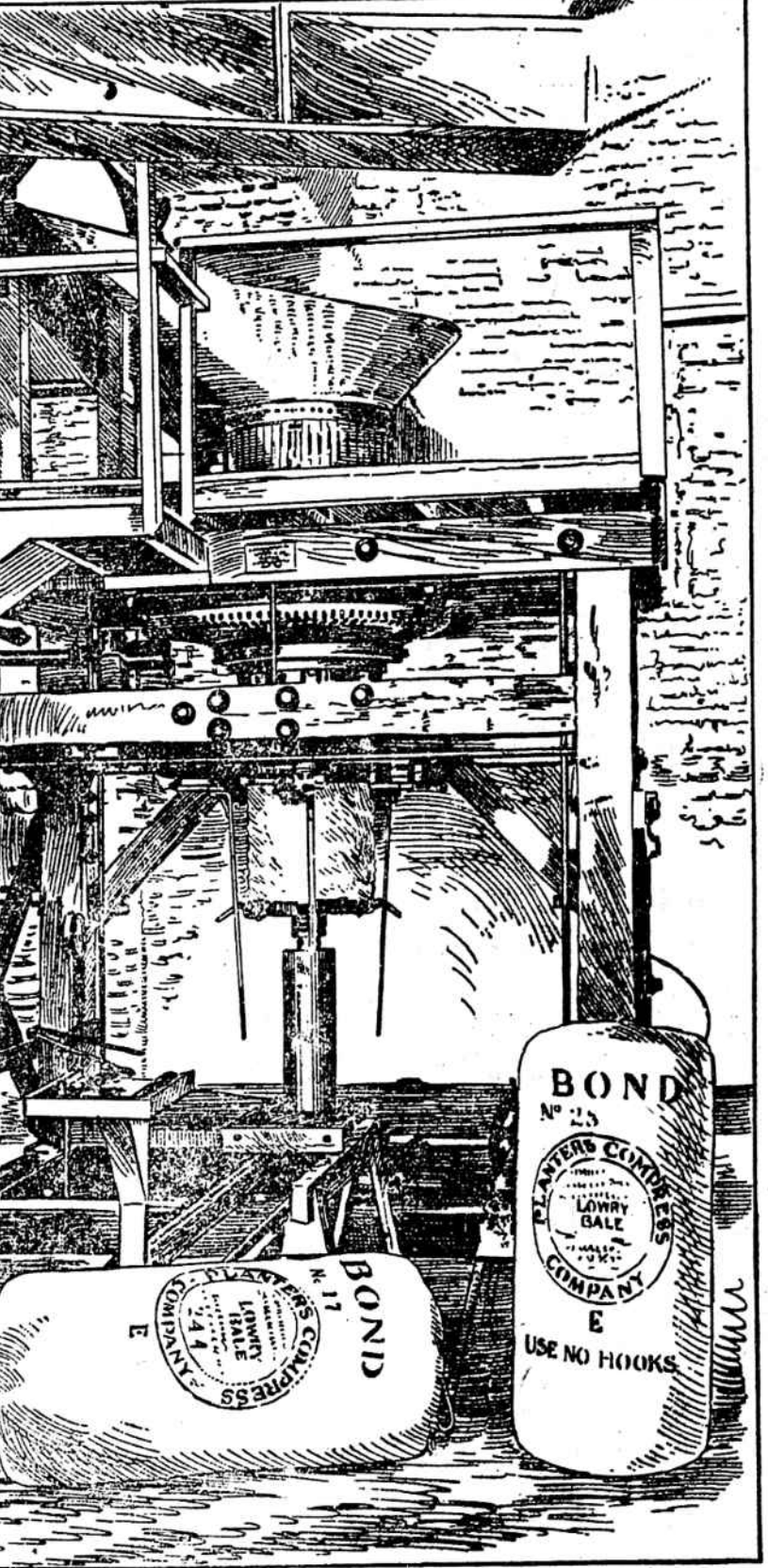
It is only the settled policy of the Planters Company, but it is a part of their written contract that the local companies shall never voluntarily acquire or be interested in any form of cotton.

The only exception to this rule will be in case, probably remote, that the company may have to take a small amount of cotton in settlement of some debt; and that the company may find it necessary to buy seed cotton to gin for the purpose of illustrating the workings of the press, but except for such cases, the Company has got to keep out of the cotton business.

THE LOWRY BALE STOPS THE CITY CROP. There are a great many farmers and ginners who do not appreciate the history of a bale of cotton, and know very little about it after it leaves the gin.

They may have heard of the city crop, but they probably do not realize that in a single year, not long ago, this "city crop" made up of "pickings and stealings" from the bale, made by the different middle men and handlers, amounted in the total to 160,000 bales; and it is stated on good authority that this "pickings and stealings" crop made up of big samples and other more direct robberies, amounted to more than 50,000 bales.

This game has gone on long enough, and the Lowry bale will put a stop to it.



THE LOWRY PRESS AT WORK.

The above cut represents a Lowry Press as attached to any gin plant. The lint is delivered directly from the condenser into a hopper seen above the upper platform, and is automatically fed to the press. A bale is seen below the platform, in the process of being made. When the bale has reached the proper length, the press is stopped, the bale is taken off, the head of the hydraulic ram which regulates this pressure is run up, and the press is started for another bale. The whole operation takes less than 30 seconds.

While a bale is being pressed the two hands tie, cover, weigh and brand the bale last taken off. Dimensions of bale 36 in. long, 18 in. diam. Regular weight 290 pounds, which gives, with above dimensions, a density of 47 pounds to the cubic foot.

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The terms of the lease are: A royalty of 50 cents on each Lowry Bale compressed, \$500.00 of which is to be paid in advance. EACH LESSEE WILL BE ALLOWED

INMAN & CO.'S OFFER OF 45c

A Hundred lbs. More for Cotton Packed in Lowry Bale Than in Square Causes Much Talk in Farming Circles.

NOTICE TO FARMERS AND GINNERS. The following letter is published for information by the Georgia and Carolina Planters' Company:

Augusta, Ga., November 17th, 1898. Planters Compress Company, Stephen M. Weld, Esq., President, Boston, Mass.

We, the undersigned, Inman & Co., cotton buyers, doing business at Augusta, Ga., hereby agree with you, that we will from this date to the first day of September, 1900, bid and pay forty-five cents per 100 pounds more for cotton within the three States (North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia) packed or compressed in the form known as the Lowry Bale, and produced by the patented machine of your company, than at the same time and place for similar cotton packed in the form known as the square, uncompressed bale; it being understood that the Lowry Bale is to be 18 inches in diameter, not over 36 inches in length, to be tied and covered as prescribed by you, and to weigh not less than 250 pounds. You are authorized to announce this offer at your discretion.

(Signed) INMAN & CO.

The Lowry Press, producing the Lowry Bale, is a new process of preparing cotton for market. The press can be attached to any ginmery without change in existing plant. It easily compresses the lint from four 70-saw gins, taking it directly from the condenser, to a density of 47 to 60 pounds to the cubic foot. It is then ready to go directly to any market in the world, without any further expense for compressing or screwing into ships.

The Georgia and Carolina Planters Company under a license from the Planters Compress Company, of Boston, Mass., are introducing these presses in the States of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. The company has just outside of Augusta, Ga., a ginmery plant. Parties interested in the process are invited to inspect for themselves the entire process of ginning and compressing the cotton into Lowry Bales. Any information desired concerning the Lowry Press can be obtained by applying in person, or by letter at the office of the company, 301 Broad street, Augusta, Ga.

ENDORSEMENTS UNSOLICITED

ENDORSEMENTS UNSOLICITED. BIG TALK OF THE LOWRY BALE FROM BREMEN.

AFTER A TRIAL A STRONG ENDORSEMENT OF THE LOWRY BALE.

Georgia and Carolina Planters Co.: Chemnitz, Sept. 23.

After having given the new round bale, which you sent us for experiment a thorough trial, we cannot forbear to express our satisfaction for the new system.

The sampling can easily be done from both sides, without injuring the bale in any way. NO MARK BALES will disappear in future, fraudulent packing can be easily discovered, in our opinion, after taking off the wrapper, and the handling of the bale from the warehouse at the mill into the mixing room is much easier on account of the light weight of the new bales; we even believe that a reduction of the force in the mixing room can be gained with the round bale, which is of some value, especially in old mills.

Besides it is very agreeable, to a spinner especially, to see at last a properly packed bale of American cotton in his mill. The numerous disadvantages, caused mostly by the bad condition of the wrapper from which the spinner had to suffer heretofore—we will not mention certain manipulations of the middle man regarding the heavy patching of the bales, etc.,—will be done away with at once, after introducing the new system of packing. Of course, it is to be expected that certain dealers at the continental ports, who are used to make an extra profit by patching the square bales with heavy wrapper will fight the new round bale, but this ought not to discourage and detain you from introducing all your cotton in the interest of all cotton mills.

Our judgment is that this new round bale will be easily and rapidly introduced; some minor deficiencies, which the new bale may have, will very soon be corrected by practice.

We showed our good opinion of the new round bale by giving your representative a trial order for 100 bales midding or good midding, in your option, November delivery. Yours truly, (Signed) MASCHINENFABRIK GERMANIA, vorm. J. S. Schwabe & Sohn.

ADVANTAGES OF THE LOWRY BALE SUMMED UP.

Many Millions of Dollars Saved Annually.

To sum up, the advantages offered by the Lowry bale are as follows: It will enhance the value of your cotton from \$3.00 to \$3.50 for every 500 pounds of lint cotton.

It will make every station an independent cotton market. It will obviate one entire handling in pressing the old square bale. It saves in bagging and ties. It saves in storage. It saves in insurance.

It consumes a large amount of your raw cotton for a covering that will be made of cotton by cotton mills.

It justifies railroads in reducing freight-rates. You can load, at any station, cars to their full carrying capacity from 50,000 to 60,000 lbs., the law's limit. It will guarantee a reduction in ocean freights, for it will double storage capacity and load ships without the necessity of ballast.

It will guarantee a large reduction in the stevedore charges at port of lading, for the bale will not have to be screwed in, but will load like barrels of flour, and be unloaded with the same ease at the port of discharge.

It will continue to receive, as it has already, the approval of cotton manufacturers as being the best covered and best compressed and least injured of any cotton in the world's markets. It will add prosperity to producers and save the south many millions of dollars annually.

HANDLING COTTON.

The Lowry Bale the Remedy for its Loss and Damage to Which the Crop is Now Subjected.

To the Editor of The News and Courier:—In reading the statement in your issue of October 31, of Mr. James Boyle, United States consul at Liverpool, I was struck with his real want of information. In the first place the seed of cotton does not produce like cotton on different soils, climates and cultivation. To illustrate, I have made a test of the Egyptian cotton here, and it is a complete failure, both as to quality and quantity. Our sea island cotton planted in the pine barrens runs out in a few years and never makes as good as that produced on the sea coast or sea islands. The English Government can import into India the Egyptian seed or the American seed, and it will be confronted with the same failure as we have had from the Egyptian seed here. It is strange that men who pretend to intelligence don't know that soil, climate and location makes the quality of plant production, and every Southern farmer knows that there is a difference of cotton raised on their own farms when there is a difference of soil. No better illustration can be made than the vineyards of the Rhine, for on a single hillside three qualities of wines are made. Upland corn planted in the river swamps becomes flint corn, and flint corn planted on the upland becomes good seed. So this disposes of Mr. Boyle's statements.

The country damaged cotton is absolutely without foundation, for the cotton that leaves the country gin houses is in good order until it reaches the knife of the cotton buyer, merchant or city factor; as soon as it reaches either of them then the slashing of the knife commences, and the profit of plucking grown until it reaches the compress, when the rugged dressing is given to make it look like it was dressed in the rage of pauperism.

The stevedores put on the finishing touch, and when the bale reaches a European port it looks like it has gone through a whirlwind of pillage; and the farmer is to be made to suffer for what he has not done. The cotton crop of New Orleans is a proof of the above statement, as she makes about 37,000 bales out of the receipts of about 1,300,000 bales.

The uniform bale of American cotton of 24 by 54 is not a remedy, but it is the bale that the knife of the slasher wants, for it does not abolish the pillage, town and city crops, or the foreign pillage.

The remedy for all the evils complained of by the farmer or spinner is the Lowry bale, which is packed on the spiral system, making it easy for the spinner to fasten to their bating machines. It abolishes all the country damage (as claimed) and the sale of thirty pounds to the bale. The actual tare as tested by the mills here is 33 3/4 pounds. Why should the farmers be made to pay 6 3/4 pounds tare, when there is no such amount of bagging and ties weight on the bale? It is worse plundering than the country damage claimed.

I consider the Lowry bale a God-send to the Southern planter, for if it does no more than to awaken him to the system of pluckage it will have accomplished good results, but the Lowry bale will put American cotton into the European market in the same condition as the Egyptian cotton is received, and wipe out tare, pluckage and the (claimed) country damage, and assign those who have been living on samples to some other occupation. The salvation of the cotton producer must come from the reduction in the cost of handling the cotton bale, for the wages of labor cannot be reduced any more without causing great suffering.

JAMES BARRETT, Charleston News and Courier, Nov. 5.

HOW TO PRESERVE EGGS.

To each bucket full of water, add two pints of fresh slacked lime, and one pint of common salt; stir well. Put the eggs in the liquor any time after June, and they will keep a year if desired.