

No. 3, General Manufactures; No. 4, Agriculture; No. 5, Forestry; No. 6, Minerals; No. 7, Cotton Manufactures; No. 8, Household and Art, with artistic reception room in the center. The whole, wall surface and overhead especially, was beautifully and artistically decorated with lint cotton and hulls, yellow, white and red corn, sheafs of oats, wheat, rice, etc., the lettering on the wall being done with lint cotton on a blue background. On this wall were many beautiful legends which attracted general attention. Many large and beautiful pictures and photographs illustrative of the exhibit adorned the departments.

In Division No. 1, devoted to Education and Religion, were shown elaborate exhibits by Wofford, Converse and Reidville colleges and the city graded and county public schools. On the walls was the legend, "We will educate you morally and intellectually—225 schools, 15,000 pupils, 150 churches, 25,000 members."

In other departments similarly adorned were shown large quantities of granite, iron ores, building stone, gold, etc.; the products of soap, broom, cotton seed oil, apiary, reed and loom harness, fertilizers, etc.; 105 varieties of wood, and every conceivable work of woman's hands. A large flag bearing the inscription, "Winners of first prize, \$1,000," won in competition with the other counties of the State, adorned the whole.

**The Pacolet Flood** Spartanburg farmers suffered from the disastrous flood of June 6, 1903, as did the cotton manufacturers; yet the tax books in the fall—after the assessment of the cotton mills had been reduced \$600,000—showed an increased valuation over the preceding year of more than a million dollars. At the June term of court in 1904, the grand jury presentment said: "The agricultural interests of the county are in an excellent condition, and our county has almost recovered from the disaster of last June and now we once more take the lead in manufacture of cotton goods."

The flood of 1903 is usually called the Pacolet flood because of the heavy losses it caused in lives and property along that stream, but it caused heavy damage also in the Tyger and Enoree basins. Five days of almost constant gentle rains preceded a heavy rainfall of June 6. At midnight the machinist at Clifton Mill No. 3 noted, but not with any sense of alarm, that the Pacolet was eight feet higher than its normal level. At half-past three he became alarmed at the rapidity of the rise. By six o'clock the entire mill had been swept downstream. Shops, boilerhouses, wheel room, operatives' cottages—all went. The stream dashed this wreckage against Clifton No. 1, and

soon it too was wrecked. Many operatives refused to heed the warning to leave their homes, and as the water spread over the valley in which many of them lived, harrowing scenes were enacted. More than fifty persons were drowned, most of them women and children. Numbers of people escaped by floating down on the debris or taking refuge in trees, as they were carried close to them by the flood. Bales of cloth, masses of machinery, trees, timbers, animals, people—all were swept along, and the horror-stricken bystanders were helpless.

The loss of property—but not of life—was nearly as heavy at the Pacolet Mills Nos. 1, 2, and 3. No other mills suffered to such an extent as Clifton and Pacolet. Bridges on railways and highways were washed away, traffic was interrupted, and many industries had to be suspended. Wires and communications were out. Congressman J. T. Johnson set out on foot to establish communications with the country and ask for relief. The monetary loss alone to mill owners, farmers, and public carriers was estimated at three and a half million dollars.

**"Facts About Spartanburg"** In September 1906, the *Spartanburg Journal* issued an "Industrial Edition," in which were tabulated "facts" culled from recent census reports, such as: "The assessed valuation of Spartanburg County farm lands was the largest of the counties of the State; its eleven cotton seed mills gave it first place in this industry in the entire United States, and the county as a whole was second in wealth only to Charleston. With 165 school buildings, 301 teachers, and 16,232 pupils in the public schools of the county, Spartanburg County led the State on all three counts."

In 1910 the county had 2,657 farm owners, and their lands were valued at more than \$21,000,000. However, in that year there were 5,076 tenant farmers. Of the more than 7,000 farms in the county, there were eleven of three acres or less, 232 of from three to nine acres, 1,186 of from ten to nineteen acres. More than half—4,033 to be exact—contained from twenty to forty-nine acres. The number of farms containing from fifty through ninety-nine acres was 1,966. Fifty-six farms contained from 260 to 499 acres. Eleven had from 500 to 999 acres. There were three farms of a thousand or more acres in the county.

**Restored Harmony** Thirty years after the accession of B. R. Tillman to his position of agrarian leadership, these improved conditions and an increasing realization of the mutual interdependence of farm-

# A History of Spartanburg County

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