

ATLANTA, GA

8/7/14

JE

Mr. Jas. R. Gray,

Editor Atlanta Journal, City.

Dear Sir:

The Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills have been subjected to attack through paid advertisements in your paper.

These articles are calculated to injure us in our trade, and some of them are of a nature that incite unlawful conduct. Of the reader of intelligence little need be feared, but to the ignorant and those who are easily swayed by suggestion, they are fraught with danger.

We have remained silent under these various attacks because we did not desire to attract further attention to the unfriendly attitude to business evidenced by these articles. We did not believe that Atlanta, or the South, could be helped by further publicity of this nature. We have preferred to suffer from the unjust attacks that have been made upon us.

A broader question is now brought into the situation. The deplorable condition in which the South is placed at this time, on account of the cotton situation, is one that

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ought to receive the careful attention of all thoughtful men. England and the Continent will not be able to take cotton this season. The New England Mills are curtailing. The only possibility of full consumption is in the Southern Cotton Mills. With the great effort that is now being made in Congress and by commercial bodies to safeguard this industry, why, may I ask, should any effort be encouraged by the press of the South, whether by paid advertisement or otherwise, that has a tendency to injure the Cotton Mills?

From the articles which have appeared and the onslaught that has been made on the industry, one would be led to believe that the South deprecates the manufacture of Cotton in its midst. The Mills have been described as institutions of horror; the employees of the Mills as being slaves of an industry; every means of discouragement have been used in the attack.

I feel impelled to write you on these lines, believing that upon consideration of the question you will agree that what has been done in the past ought not to be continued in the future.

Very truly yours,

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N.B. This letter is not for publication.