

The Kentucky Union Land Co.

Louisville, Ky., 1888.

To

DEAR SIR :—In view of the immediate extension of the Kentucky Union Railway, the undersigned citizens of Kentucky have organized the Kentucky Union Land Company, with plan of organization, assets, policy and prospects as follows :

The Charter, under which we have recently organized, was granted by the Legislature of Kentucky to certain influential citizens of our State in the year 1880. Its provisions are not ordinary. It allows ownership of railroad and lands, town sites and manufacturing sites, mines and manufactories, all in the one corporation.

The Properties, which the corporation owns, include the Kentucky Union Railway, extensive acreage of lands in fee, selected locations for towns and manufactories, and extraordinary mineral wealth, all located in Southeastern Kentucky, which is near the center of the population of the United States as shown by the official maps for census of 1880.

The Natural Wealth recently discovered and uncovered in this locality and on the borders of Virginia is literally incredible, and will prove it to be the richest undeveloped mineral region on this Continent, as it is also the most central.

It is one of the surprises, in the perpetually surprising growth of the United States, that there has been an unknown territory near the center of the Union, rich to a wonderful degree, large enough to make a new State, which has never been penetrated by a railroad, and which is only just open to the knowledge of the public.

The Louisville and Nashville Railroad was built on one side of this region, in the direction of important Southern cities, and the Chesapeake and Ohio, a hundred miles distant on the other, before the Legislature of Kentucky began to realize the character of its own territory and appointed the official geologists, whose recent explorations and publications have made the country known. Recently Professor John R. Proctor and Professor Thos. Egleston, of the New York School of Mines, have made personal investigation of this region, and their striking reports have been published. Several special experts and a number of practical prominent business men of Kentucky have visited this exciting region and all unite in common expression of amazement at the great natural wealth which is everywhere exposed.

Here is **Cannel Coal**, some of which is superior to the Cannel coals in any market of Europe, of extent and value incalculable, not limited to pockets nor in any one seam, but in several seams in the same mountains, fully exposed at many different openings for an area of fifteen miles. All these Cannel coals lie above drainage and can be as cheaply mined here as the commonest coal is mined elsewhere. Imported Cannel, of quality inferior to this, is now selling in New York at retail at \$16.00 a ton, while the cost of this coal delivered in New York should be less than \$6.00. Such enormous deposits of a product of incomparable excellence, in a position to be produced at minimum cost, in quantity not to be exhausted by one railroad in a lifetime, in central location, so as to command the best markets of the East and West, are literally worth more than mines of precious metals. They will yield a princely and permanent income.

The Coking Coal beds of this country commence in Breathett County and extend South more than eighty miles to the Virginia line, covering those counties wherein this company owns several hundred thousand acres of land in fee. The making of coke is a business which commercial depressions do not close up. The required plant is inexpensive, but nothing else gives such continuous profits to the manufacturer and such continuous freight to a railroad.