

THE KENTUCKY RIVER

In its Relation to the Development

—OF THE—

EASTERN KENTUCKY COAL FIELD.

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There are two Coal Fields in Kentucky—the Western, comprising about 4,000 square miles, which lies about 70 miles south-west of Louisville, and is bisected by the Green river, which is navigable by slack-water throughout its limits. It is also penetrated by several railroads—the Huntington system, which traverses it from east to west, in its route from Louisville to Memphis, the Louisville & Nashville, which crosses it from north to south with two lines, one from Henderson and the other from Owensboro, the Ohio Valley Railroad from Henderson to Marion, in Crittenden county, and the Louisville, St. Louis, and Texas, now in course of construction along the Ohio river, from the mouth of Salt river, looking to a connection with the Ohio Valley road at Henderson. The topography of the country which it embraces, not being mountainous, is favorable for the construction of railroads, and, with those already in operation or projected, it will soon, in conjunction with the navigation of Green river, when made free of tolls, have ample transportation for the development of its resources in coal, iron, and timber. The coal of this field is chiefly a soft bituminous, good for grate and