

A MOUNTAIN OF GRANITE

THE NEW MANAGEMENT TAKE CHARGE OF STONE MOUNTAIN.

A Visit to the Mountain of Granite With the New Owners—Brief Description of the Quarries—The Convicts Must Go to Make Room for Free Labor—Other Points of Interest.

Miles & Horn, the capital contractors, have purchased a controlling interest in the Stone Mountain granite and railway company.

This means that some of the splendid granite will be moved away.

Friday afternoon the company held a meeting at the office of Mr. S. M. Inman, and elected officers and a board of directors. Mr. C. D. Horn, president; Mr. W. B. Miles, secretary and treasurer; Messrs. S. M. Inman, R. D. Spaulding, J. A. Alexander and W. B. Miles, directors.

Yesterday morning Messrs. Horn, Miles, Inman and Alexander went down to the mountain for the purpose of taking charge of the business. The gentlemen were accompanied by a representative of THE CONSTITUTION. Upon reaching the company's office ex-President Alexander showed the party through the cutter's yard, which is located

IMMEDIATELY IN THE VILLAGE of Stone Mountain. A number of workmen were chipping and polishing monuments and stepping stones. After a thorough inspection of the yard, the entire party boarded the engine and a flat car, and was soon at the foot of the mountain in the midst of a perfect sea of granite ready for shipment. This immense bed of granite covers an area of five hundred and sixty-three acres. This is the mountain itself, and does not include more than four times that number of acres, upon which are quarries of fine granite as immediately at the mountain. The perpendicular height of the mountain is one thousand three hundred and fifty feet. It contains 7,513,750,050 cubic feet. A cubic foot weighs sixteen pounds, and hence the entire mountain would weigh 1,207,000,152,000 pounds. It is five miles around the base of the mountain. The company owns

SIXTEEN HUNDRED ACRES, including the mountain. Besides, they own the quarrying interest in nearly as much more, some of the ground taking in that upon which houses are built in the village. The people need not be alarmed, however, for it will be something like 800,385,970 years before the granite around the mountain is exhausted, and it will not be necessary to tear away any of the houses.

The company's railroad is now a little more than three miles in length, and in a short while will be extended about an eighth of a mile further in order to reach a point where the granite can be more easily worked—and handled faster.

The company has three blacksmith shops, running eight forges. All the blacksmithing for the company is done in these shops, and it keeps the eight forges busy keeping the tools in shape for the workmen.

Immense derricks are used at the quarries for lifting and loading the

HUGE BLOCKS OF GRANITE.

Nature so made the layers of granite that the blocks can be found from one to ten feet in thickness, the crevices or seams being natural and only requiring a small amount of drilling to get out blocks of any length and thickness desired. The quarry has recently been worked at three places and there is little or no difference in the quality of the granite, and as for the quantity it is simply inexhaustible. The company has now on hand ready for shipment crossings and curbing enough to fill a ten-acre lot.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE WORKMEN.

About one hundred men are now at work at the quarries and in the cutting sheds. The greater part of them are men who learned their trade in the old country. Recently there has been some trouble with the men about the pay they receive. The granite cutters' association did not think the pay large enough, and adopted a schedule of prices. Some of the men quit work and went to other quarries. Yesterday Mr. Horn said to Mr. Quinn, foreman of the cutters, "I wished to talk to the men today, but the bad weather prevented me getting them together. You can say to them that we are perfectly willing to pay them the advance asked for. We want good workmen, and are ready to pay good prices. This I want distinctly understood, however, we expect to treat the men right and shall demand of them good and honest work. Say to each one of them that no one must quit his post of duty during work hours without a good excuse. As long as the men stay sober and do us good work, we will protect their every interest. You can say to them also that the contract with Mr. James expires on the tenth of April, and after that time we will work free labor altogether. If I do not leave the city Monday I will come down and talk to the men."

"Tell me some of your plans," said the reporter to President Horn.

"But few of them are matured," was the reply, "but I can say that I want to leave Monday to visit all the granite properties in the United States and Canada to look up the latest improved machinery. The management will purchase none but the very best."

"What contracts have the company on hand?"

"The contract for the customhouse in Louisville, Kentucky, is not yet filled, and we have been awarded a large contract for furnishing belgian block curbing and crossings for Cincinnati, Ohio. We have a few smaller contracts on hand."

"You are going to—"

"We are going to

BID ON EVERY CONTRACT

in the United States for granite work, and if the finest granite at cheap figures will do the work we will have work for five hundred men."

"What do you think of the quarry?"

"What do I think of it? Well, I have never seen one more easily worked. We could get a million belgian blocks in three weeks, if necessary."

MOVE IT TO ATLANTA.

Move what?

Not Stone mountain, of course, but the cutting yards. The management now have under consideration the advisability of moving the cutting yards to Atlanta. If this is done it will be for several good reasons: In the first place the freight on the granite is extremely heavy, and has been a great drawback to the company when bidding on contracts. The freight on granite in the rough is much less than when dressed. The gentlemen believe they can have it brought to Atlanta in the rough, and that the chips and wastage on a car load will about pay the freight. By bringing the yards to Atlanta the workmen will have advantages which they cannot get at the mountain. Those who have children will get the benefit of the public schools, a very important item to workmen. Mr. Inman is in favor of establishing the yards here and so expressed himself. The board of directors will look into the matter carefully and act as they think best, both for the company and the men in their employ.

MARBLE AND GRANITE CENTER

Atlanta is destined to become a great granite and marble center.

Messrs. Miles and Horn own a very fine marble quarry in Talladega valley, Alabama. The marble is pure white, and the supply is said to be inexhaustible. They have one mile of railroad, and the quarry is worked with steam machinery. They are shipping from four to six cars a day, and will soon add new machinery and turn out double that amount.

"Atlanta is surrounded with granite and marble quarries, and there are millions of dollars to be made from them when they are properly developed," said Mr. Inman. "I am satisfied that Messrs. Miles & Horn are the right men to push the work of developing the immense granite quarries. I was favorably impressed with Mr. Horn's talk to Foreman Quinn. It shows that he is strictly business, but at the same time has consideration for those in his employ."