

**A SERIOUS MATTER.**

Once more we call upon the thinking men of Laurens County, and especially of the town of Laurens, to stop; look matters squarely in the face and rise to action. The cotton factory to be built at Mountain Shoals is a matter of the greatest concern to this place. As a cotton market alone, we can prosper; but to have the trade of that flourishing section around this factory taken from us, will be felt by every business man. Year by year we are being surrounded by factory towns which are growing prosperous, while they draw their life-blood from this county. Will it ever be thus? Will our men of means, our substantial business men, sit down and allow their property to depreciate, their business to fail and their town to dry up? If we allow the cotton trade to be cut up and distributed to all the towns around us, we must not expect a healthy commerce, or prosperity in any direction. For a few weeks it really seemed that our people had awakened from their stupor and realized the situation and made an effort to master it. One would have thought that the cotton factory for Laurens was an assured fact, but the bubble seems about to burst. It looks as though those who rose with most lusty shouts have been first to fall into silence, and the whole matter now appears to the public as a dream, the child of a sickly imagination or the production of indigestion.

Even now, the growth of factory towns around us can be turned to advantage. We can make these feeders if only we turn our hands towards improving our cotton market. Laurens is favored in location, our railroad facilities are unsurpassed in this section, and all we want is a start in the direction of manufacturing enterprises.

Just think of it! In two weeks **SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS** were subscribed to a factory for Laurens, and yet for want of a leading spirit who had the nerve and pluck to hold on, the enterprise failed to grow to completion! Let us all make a desperate effort—a long pull and a pull altogether—to build this factory, and then the grand possibilities before us will be realized.

Clipped By:



ottg

Fri, Feb 3, 2017