

Excerpt From The Tennessee Central - 1903

Red River Furnace Co.

Undoubtedly Clarksville's largest industry from every point of view is the Red River Furnace Company, situated at the edge of the town, on a switch from the main line of the Louisville & Nashville railroad. From 250 to 300 men are continually employed by the concern. Mr. Macfarlan is president and H. T. DeBardeleben is superintendent.

The furnace was built in 1893 by Gracey Woodard Iron Company, and was bought by the present owner in 1899. The furnace is 70 feet high by 17 feet Bosh, has fifteen boilers with about 1200 horse power and two blowing engines. There are three stoves, 20 feet by 60 feet. It has also its own machine shop, laboratory, pumping station, etc. The annual produce is about 50,000 tons of foundry and high silicon pig iron.

The Louise mines in Montgomery county, fifteen miles from Clarksville are equipped with a McLanahan ore washer, locomotive, cars, etc., and a village of miners houses. Capacity, 100 tons ore daily. The company owns 3,000 acres of ore land near this point.

The Bear Spring mines, in Stewart county are equipped with a complete McLanahan ore washer and figs steam shovels, locomotives, train, cars, etc. Also a village of miners houses. Daily product 125 tons of ore.

The Brennan mines in Hickman county is just being developed and the equipment will be similar to the Bear Spring mines. The estimated capacity of 125 tons. The company is also building a washer near Cumberland furnace of a capacity of 75 tons daily.

The quarry is situated about half a mile from the furnace and is equipped with two Rand Steam drills. Daily product about 100 tons of limestone for fluxing purposes at the furnace.

