

TEXAS. "Lone Star State." Indian, "Tachies"-signifies "friends."

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Historical.—Upper Rio Grande visited by Spaniards, 1530-33; various Spanish missions established among the Indians, 1533-1794. First white settlement made by French under La Salle at Lavaca, 1685. Country formed part of the Spanish province of Mexico. Declared its independence of Spain and with Coahulia formed a state of Mexico, 1827. Seceeded from Mexico, March 2, 1836. Battle of San Jacinto fought April 21, 1836. Independent-republic 1836 to 1845, when it was annexed to the United States and admitted to the Union. The fifteenth State in order of admission. Seceeded, February, 1861; re-admitted, 1870. Present Constitution adopted, 1876.

Area.—Largest State in the Union; total area, 265,780 square miles or 167,865,600 acres; land, 262,290 square miles; water, 3,490; extreme breadth, 825 miles; length, 740. Counties, 246.

Physical Features.—Surface slopes from northwest to southeast and is exceedingly varied. State comprises a mountainous region west of the Pecos River; high, treeless plains—including the Liano Estacado (Staked Plains)—of the northwest; a central hilly region; the prairie country; and the low coast region. Greatest altitude, Chanalis and Gandelupe Mountains, 7,500 to 9,000 feet. Coast line along Gulf of Mexico about 400 miles. Principal rivers, Rio Grande, Red, Sabine, Colorado, Trinity, Brazos, and Canadian.

Colorado, Trinity, Brazos, and Camadan.

Forests.—Eastern Texas a great timber belt. Its extensive forests of pine and oak an important source of wealth. Estimated forest area, 64,000 square miles. Among Southern States Texas ranks next to Arkansas in value of output of immber and shingles. Shipments to foreign ports, 1896, 23,183,656 feet, value \$262,911. Coastwips shipments, 8,368,072 feet. Yellow pine cut first six months, 1898, 129,338,635 feet.

Climate mild and healthful except occasionally in low-lands along the coast. Texas most healthful of the States bordering the Guif. Summers long; continuous heat tem-pered by cool breezes from the Guif. Winters genial; occa-sional "Northers" bring severe weather; cold of short dura-tion; numerous winter health resorts due to delightful winter season. Coast, central, and eastern sections well watered; western section extremely dry. Mean annual rainfall at San Antonio, 29.7 inches; mean annual temperature, 68.8 deg.; high-est, 108 deg.; lowest, 6 deg. above.

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Agriculture the principal pursuit; cotton the leading crop Texas surpassing all other States in production. Other staples form and wheat. Sugar cane cultivated successfully, plantations chiefly on Brazos River; area under culture, 1897-8, 5,000 acres. Tobacco-growing a profitable pursuit; special attention given to cigar leaf tobacco; acreage increased from 600 acres in 1897, to 4,000 acres in 1898. Area devoted to market-gardening in Pecos Valley and along the Gulf Coast increasing stead-by; occupation important. Farm products: Cotton, 1898, 7,164,175 acres, 2,822,408 bales, value 86,296,665. Corn, 3,973,000 acres, 29,925,000 bushels; winter wheat, 614,000 acres, 11,652,000 bushels, oats, 639,000 acres, 23,004,000 bushels. Hay, 1897, 305,145 acres, yield, 427,303 tons, value 85,072,222; potatoes 13,162 acres, 1897,700 bushels, value 875,0234. Sugar cane, 1896, 15,506,577 pounds; bounty, \$102,701.

Horticulture.— Excellent fruit and nuts grown in many localities. Texas peaches and pecans of superior quality: extensive shipments made to Northern markets. Apples grown in north figs and oranges in south. Latest reports give area under peaches, 51,750 acres; value of crop, \$1,289,551; apples, 11,428 acres, \$259,856; melons, 16,243 acres, \$556,082; area under peaches about 25,000 acres. Mustang and other native grapes abundant; European varieties flourish in northwest.

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Live Stock.—Grazing as an industry second only to agriculture in importance. Owing to character of climate and vast extent of excellent pasturage, State peculiarly adapted to the pursuit. Western Texas abounds in nutritious grasses, affording pasturage for immense herds of cattle and flocks of sheep; horses in large numbers are reared also Texas foremost State in Union in cattle industry. Number and value of farm animals, January. 1898: Horses, 1,148,500, value \$19,866,178; mules, 265,349, 8,214,550; sheep, 2,649,914, \$44,04,647; milden cows, 722,476, \$14,449,520; other cattle, 4,823,295, \$73,639,656 swine, 2,826,302,

\$8,874,588. Among wool-producing States Texas ranks high; clip, 1898, 16,380,442 pounds; scoured wool, 4,914,133 pounds.

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Manufactures,—State has great natural advantages and abundance of raw material for manufactures. Numerous industries are receiving increased attention. In 1892 there were 6,687 manufactories in the State; value of material used, 221,937,441, products, \$36,950,864; number of employes, 37,763. Cotton-seed oil and planing mills and saddle and harness works lead in importance; largest cotton-seed oil mills in country located in Texas. Cotton mills have been opened; those at Galveston the most important. In 1898, sugar product was 15,680,000 pounds; value, \$627,200. Output of pig iron, 1897, 6,175 tons; Portland cement, 1896, 8,000 barrels, value \$24,000; brick and tile, 885,762; common brick, 8665,091; pressed, \$142,560; pottery, \$83,081. Distilled spirits, 1898, 11,538 gallons; fermented liquor, 322,761 barrels. 761 barrels

322,76i barrels. — Though largely undeveloped the mineral resources are among the richest in the country. There are extensive deposits of iron and coal. Large iron furnaces established at Rusk and New Birmingham. Coal output, 1897, 639,34i tons, value \$972,323. Copper, lead, and silver ores are found most abundantly in trans-Pecos region; gold exists, also, and new discoveries have been made near Dallas. In 1896, 387 ounces—were mined; value, \$8,000; silver, 525,400 ounces, value, \$679,305. Salt springs and lakes numerous; salt product, 1892-96, 640,107 barrels. Oil exists in large quantities; fields near Corsicana and Beaumont especially valuable. Sulphur and cinnabar are found. Gypsum deposits most important in country; value of output, 1896, 336,511. State ranks high in output of asphalarum: value, 333,220. Excellent building stones abound. Marble of various shades, granite, limestone, and sandstone are quarried.

Political.—State elections biennial; State, congressional, and presidential elections, Tuesday after first Monday in January; number of Senators, 31; Representatives, 128; sessions biennial, in odd-numbered years; meets second Tuesday in January; no limit of session; term of Senators, 4 years; Representatives, 2 years. Electoral votes, 15. Voters must be citizens or declared intention; residents of State 1 year, of county and town 6 months; registration limited. Lunatics, idiots, panpers, convicts, and U. S. soldiers and seamen, in service, excluded.

Legal Holidays.—January 1, February 22, March 2, April 21, July 4, first Monday in September, general election day, Thanksgiving, December 25.

Legal.—Statutes of limitation: Judgments, 10 years; written contracts, 4: open accounts, 2: notes, 4; redemption of taxes, 2 years; extensions made when State is purchaser. Legal interest, 6 per cent; by contract, 10.

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