

the Green River County in Kentucky, comprising nearly one third of the state. Convenient also to the whole Mississippi valley, nearer to the cotton, iron, and almost all the raw materials than the points at which they are now manufactured, with a supply of coal considered by common estimation inexhaustible, (of this, however, I am no judge, but seeing the coal hills for some two miles running parallel with the river, and indefinitely back, it would seem to me useless to calculate the time when they could be worked out.) The health of your place is reported to be good, and I have no doubt of the fact. You have a fine harbor, with deep water. I cannot myself conceive how your advantages can be improved. The quality of the coal for grates, you seem to be as good as could be desired; such appears to be the opinion of the people of Owensboro' where it is generally used, and I learn that it is bought as fast as it can be delivered at the landing, which is strong evidence in its favour. Were I to name the estimation in which the property seems to be held by most of the intelligent persons in this section of country, I should, perhaps, meet your utmost wishes. I feel satisfied myself that there is no point in the West possessing equal advantages as a point for manufacturing.

With great respect,

JOHN CALHOUN.

*To Robert Triplett, Esq. Owensboro', Kentucky.*

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HAVRE (FRANCE) JULY 19, 1848.

*Mr. W. J. Staples, American Consul.*

DEAR SIR—As a matter of interest to the American public of the Mississippi valley, I desire to be informed what knowledge you have of the building of ships on the Ohio, by seeing such laws, and the report as to the inducements to build them there.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ROBERT TRIPLETT.