

LA GRANDE DUCHESSE.

It Is Said. Will Run Between Charleston and New York.

H. B. Plant's new steamship, La Grande Duchesse, which, it is thought, will ply between New York and Charleston, with the Clyde's new boat the Comanche, is one of the most magnificently appointed boats of her kind, says the Jacksonville Metropolis.

This new craft has created much talk among merchants as the object of the Clyde-Plant combine is not generally known, but it is evidently to control the coastwise freight trade.

The Atlanta Journal, of the 24th inst., contains this accurate description of Mr. Plant's new boat.

"La Grande Duchesse is a steel ship, built under the latest United States regulations, which provides that such vessels may be converted into ships of war. She is 405 feet long, of 1,700 tons burden and about 5,000 tons displacement. On her trial trip she had a load of 2,200 tons. The ship will be registered for a capacity of 700 passengers, and has a guarantee speed of 17 knots per hour. It is expected that she will develop a speed of 19 knots, something over 20 miles an hour, and will be able to make the trip from Savannah to New York in 36 hours, which is six hours less than the time of the Kansas City, the fastest ship now plying between those ports. The equipment is equal to that of the best ship afloat. There are telephones between the principal staterooms and the purser's office, electric bells, electric fans and every appliance for comfort. The decorations are up to the height of the art, and the furniture is of the best. In a word, the ship is a floating palace."