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## Orange County Reporter, March 13, 1884

Orange County Reporter

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# REPORTER--SPECIAL

ORLANDO, ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA, MARCH 13, 1884.

## Shoes, Clothing and Hats!

AT WHITE'S,

A beautiful assortment of new spring styles in each of these departments just received. Boyden's shoes for the men, Croton, Wood & Co., and Laidl, Schober & Mitchell's of Philadelphia, for the ladies and children. Our quality is the very best, our prices the very lowest and our fits the most perfect. We can fit any foot, narrow or wide, short or long. The testimonials from all our patrons are very encouraging.

## Splendid Spring Clothing,

From the very best factories, in style and make up of the latest and most nobly fashions. Alpaca, Seidlans, serges, Flannel, Seersuckers, in stripes and plaids, Crook Linens, & all the new patterns.

## Magnificent Line of Furnishing Goods!

Shirts, Drawers, Socks, Suspenders and Cravats; Ties and Scarfs in all the latest, newest patterns. Our line of Shirts, Undershirts, and Working Shirts, Checked Nainsook Undercoats, is very large. We are prepared to take orders for white shirts from the best manufacturers in New York to fit Any Man, in any size, made of the best material, by best and most skilled labor. Try half a dozen for Ten Dollars.

## ONE HUNDRED DOZEN HATS,

All styles, all shapes, all grades in straw, felt and wool, from 10c to \$4.50. Call early and often at

White's.

## PLOW BRAND.

AS WALTON WHANN & CO'S,

PLOW BRAND

ORANGE TREE MANURE.

Leaves a strong, steady and durable growth.

SPECIAL FOR

Young Trees and Early Vegetables,

Leaves a quick, rank and vigorous growth.

SPECIAL FOR

BEARING TREES.

For use on lands requiring an unusual amount of top-dress. In stock at Orlando, in stock at Maithe Lake, in stock at Winter Park. Apply to agents for particulars giving analysis, certificate and prices for same. WALTON, WHANN & CO., Wilmington, Del. Florida Branch Office, 74 W. Bay St., Jacksonville.

### FLORIDA.

A Very Interesting Letter by Col. George W. Melroy, of Corydon, Who has Been There.

CORYDON, Ky., February, 1884. **EUROPEAN JOURNAL:** Since my return from Florida I have had many inquiries concerning that State I have concluded to venture the following as the result of a careful observation:

Florida protrudes like a great horn between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic ocean, forming a peninsula some 500 miles long and about 100 miles across the average.

The State is numbered among the largest, (90,000 square miles) and contains within its borders some of the oldest settlements in the United States, around which cluster some of the most interesting historical associations of early Spanish rule. She has ranked very low in the sisterhood of states. This, in a great measure, is attributable to the poverty of her soil and the vast tracts of unimproved and swampy lands. The southern part of the state is to-day almost a "terra incognita."

She literally rose from the sea. The coral insects were for ages laying her rocky foundations, upon which the ocean has deposited a thick strata of marine shells and sand, forming rather a low rolling plain, rising scarce 200 feet above the sea level on the high ridge separating the waters of the Atlantic ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

The whole of the state is sandy, with here and there a clay admixture presenting the general aspect of our river bottom lands; however wanting in their rich alluvial soil, consequently the soil is naturally poor, and requires heavy fertilizing to produce a paying crop.

Upon the dry rolling lands are some very fine hammock lands (that is the hard woods of our state), but by far the larger proportion is covered with pine, and thousands of acres of this pine forest can only be utilized in making turpentine, resin and tar.

The swamps and overworked lands run up into the millions. I believe the statistics show the amount patented to the State in January 1st, 1882, to be 18,000,000 acres, besides a large amount held by the United States as public lands. A great deal of this in time will be drained and become the finest land in the state for sugar, cotton, and rice, but millions will be worthless, only for the cypress timber upon some of it, which in some localities is very fine.

The St. Johns river drains the east and the lake region of Central Florida. It is a magnificent stream, averaging 20 miles in width for more than 100 miles from its mouth. The inflowing tide makes the water brackish to a still greater distance.

The shores present truly a tropical appearance—heavy forests of pine, mangrove, live oak, water oak, and other evergreen trees peculiar to a warm climate, some so heavily draped in the gray Spanish moss that it gives it quite a somber appearance, which is frequently relieved by the deep green of the orange groves, all aglow with their golden fruit, with here and there a stately palmetto, with its waving plumes, like a solitary sentinel on duty.

When the bar is removed from the river's mouth the largest steamers and ships can ascend 75 miles to Palatka, the head of deep water navigation. Palatka is a beautiful little city, wearing the air of a business, and will in time become one of the leading points in shipping early vegetables and fruits to the northern markets. They can now be put down in New York in four days.

WHAT OF FLORIDA AS AN AGRICULTURAL STATE?

To judge her by the standard of our Western States she would be a failure. She cannot grow profitably our cereals—wheat, rye, corn, oats and barley. Fifteen bushels of corn on her best lands would be a fair yield. In 1880 nine bushels was the average for the State. Neither clover, timothy, in fact none of our cultivated grasses, will grow there; however, the Johnson's Bermuda and our Crab grass is said to do well and furnish a good yield of hay and rich pasturage. It is so the timothy has not been upon those pastures and the hogs eek out a scanty living upon the pine cones. Under such conditions it was folly to look for or expect to see such splendid specimens of stock as daily browse upon our Kentucky pastures.

Considerable quantities of cotton, rice and sugar are made. Still Mississippi and Louisiana invite to more remunerative fields. The field crops, and even the orange groves, have to be fertilized to get the best results, necessitating a

heavy outlay of money, time and labor. **NOT WHAT, AGENCIES ARE OPEN, TO COMPETENCY AND WEALTH?**

1st. The waters that surround the streams and lakes within Florida teem with the finest of fish, that find a ready sale in the markets of Cuba, New Orleans and New York, and even in your own city. Mr. Laryng has been furnishing his patrons with the "Red Snapper."

2d. The fine forests of yellow pine, live oak, cypress and other timber, will find a rich return to the lumberman.

3d. The growing of early vegetables for the Northern markets, where they get fancy prices during the months of March, April and May.

4th. The growing of the tropical and semi-tropical fruits, more especially those belonging to the citrus family. This is the great business of Florida. It is to Florida what the Stock Exchange is to New York—every one speculating in orange groves. A grove is so much capital in hand.

Thousands of acres of pine and hammock lands are being cleared and set out in groves. In fact clearing, planting and cultivating groves has become a regular branch of business. Parties will contract to deliver in good condition, a grove in a specified time, for a stipulated sum. A grove will begin to bear in 6 or 7 years, but it will be 12 or 15 years before matured. A young tree, beginning this year, will give some forty five hundred oranges.

A full grove and thirty tree will yield six or eight thousand; some have been reported as high as ten thousand; sold at \$200 an acre, 1000 pines, gathered and boxed from \$2 50 to \$4 00 per box, a box containing from 140 to 175 oranges, according to age and thickness; and suppose these groves are made without time and money.

The choice pine and hammock lands in the older settlements cost from \$5 to \$100 per acre—according to quality and location—\$25 to \$75 paid to clear it, then broken up and planted. The trees from the nurseries cost, from 25 cents to 84 cents, according to age and thickness; a three year old tree is a nice age to plant.

The groves should be cultivated and fertilized annually.

The scale insect plays sad havoc with some groves, killing great numbers of the trees.

Persons going exclusively into the fruit business should go to the central or western portions of the State, where the banana, pine-apple and other tropical fruits can be grown as well as those of the citrus family.

WILL IT PAY?

If a person will give this personal attention or secure the services of a reliable man, it will be money and labor safely invested, and will in time return a handsome income. In fact some groves yield princely revenues. Col. Hart's grove opposite Palatka, for instance, are two notable bearing groves, 50 or 60 acres in each. Sales made last year amounted to \$100,000.

But in the language of another: "For four of unending miles, prone to overlook the details when so gazing at prospects is offered them of converting in a few years cheap lands into bonanzas, yielding princely incomes, we caution them that there is a long, hungry gap, between raw lands and groves of fruit-bearing orange trees. It takes hard work, plenty of pluck, assured health, indomitable energy, and accidents are possible drawbacks." Bearing groves can be bought at from \$500 to \$4000 per acre.

WHAT OF HER CLIMATE?

The cold wave this winter lowered the thermometer in the Northern part of the State to 15 degrees. In the central to 22, 25, and 28, giving to some, for the first time in many years, the reports of the records kept in St. Augustine last year a century shows the mean temperature for the winter of 1878 to be about 40 or 45 degrees. This mild and equitable temperature has attracted thousands from the cold rigors of the North. Now Florida is not only regarded as the sanitarium for all lung complaints, but also a place of refuge from the cold rigors of our Northern winters.

Respectfully,  
G. W. McCLURE.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

MARCH SESSION.

ORLANDO, MARCH 3, 1884.

The board met pursuant to adjournment. Present, King Wyly, chairman, D. B. Starni, J. H. Campbell, A. S. Campbell and Geo. E. Sawyer.

S. P. Mull having appeared before the board and presented his petition to sell liquors, and the board having examined said petition and it appearing to the satisfaction of the board that the said S. P. Mull had, in all respects complied with the law, and has a majority of the registered voters in district No. 1, it is therefore ordered that the said petition be granted, and the collector of revenue is hereby instructed to issue to the said S. P. Mull a license according to law, which shall authorize him, the said Mull, to sell spirituous liquors, wines, &c., in said district No. 1.

KING WYLY, Chairman.

Attent: T. J. SHINE, Clerk.

Ordered, That the sum of \$100 be appropriated to the building of a bridge across Gee Creek, and that James Campbell, upon petition, be, and he is hereby appointed commissioner to supervise the building of the same, said Campbell to enter into a bond in the sum of \$200 for compliance with specifications furnished him, said sum of \$100 to be paid to the said Campbell upon the completion of the bridge and its acceptance by the board.

The assessment of the St. Johns & Lake Eustis railroad having been raised, by the assessor from \$85,230 to \$161,170, and the matter having been called to the attention of the Hon. Comptroller, and the Comptroller having referred the same to the assessor with a request that he report to him his opinion of the valuation of the said railway, and the said assessor having reported to the Comptroller that in his opinion the valuation made by W. J. Jarvis, Superintendent of the said road is correct. It is ordered therefore that said valuation be reduced from \$161,170 to \$95,230, and the collector is authorized and instructed to receive from the said railway the tax on said amount of \$95,230, and that the additional tax placed on said railway shall be allowed to said collector as an error in assessment.

Ordered, That the county surveyor be instructed to begin and survey the public roads from the court house to Apopka City, Orange Heights, Sorrento, Indian Springs, Lake Eustis, Altoma and McLaughlin; branch roads to Eustis, Fort Mason and the Oklawaha River; and branch roads, also, from Orange Heights to Zellwood and Victoria.

Ordered, That the petition for the following highway, viz: Beginning on the public highway running through Osceola, at the north east corner of E. K. Pierce's lot, running west on the north boundary of E. K. Pierce's and J. R. Mace's land, to a point near Lake Mizell, thence along the shores of the lake on property of B. R. Swoope and E. K. Comstock, intersecting the public highway already laid out at the south east corner of Dr. I. B. Gee's lot, be granted, said road to be opened and all expenses incurred therein to be paid by the petitioners for said road.

Ordered, That the board accept the records of the official survey of the county surveyor and that the same be filed in the clerk's office.

Ordered, That the county surveyor proceed to survey and establish the boundary line between Marion and Orange counties.—Orange county to pay for the surveying and Marion to pay for necessary help.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the board that the forty acres assessed to Carey et al. is an error in assessment, it is ordered that the collector receive taxes for the remaining property and that said 40 acres be returned by the said collector and accounted for in final settlement as an error.

The following road commissioners were appointed, vice others who have failed to qualify, being exempt by law, to-wit: District No. 1, John W. Long; district No. 2, O. E. Chapman; district No. 4,

J. S. Montgomery, A. L. Ingerson; district No. 6, K. D. Raulerson, J. W. Prevatt; district No. 9, J. M. Bryan; district No. 13, W. A. Smith, J. T. Wofford; district No. 16, G. A. Schade, E. P. Demary, George G. Owens; district No. 18, Gilbert Yates, R. C. Tremaine.

Ordered, That the petition of C. G. Waite et al. be referred to the road commissioners of district No. 14.

Ordered, That the petition of J. A. Irvine et al. for a road described as follows, to-wit: "through the centre of the S. W. 1/4 of Sec. 22 and the N. W. 1/4 of Sec. 27, T. 22, R. 29, beginning at the north line of S. W. 1/4 Sec. 22 and running south through the N. W. 1/4 of Sec. 27 and through to the South Apopka road," be granted as a neighborhood road, 60 feet wide.

Ordered, That a warrant for \$400 be drawn on the road fund, in favor of the clerk, to be paid in installments to the county surveyor, as the surveying of the roads progresses.

Ordered, That two warrants be drawn on the general revenue fund, in favor of T. J. Shine, clerk, for \$50 each, to be returned to J. G. Sinclair and Lyman Phelps, for money advanced to assist in criminal prosecutions.

Ordered, That John H. Donnelly be paid \$50 for allowance as pauper for February.

Ordered, That Philip Geist be paid \$25, balance on bridge over Bonnet creek.

Ordered, That in future the county auditor receive as compensation \$25 per month for services as auditor, in lieu of all other fees or pay for such services.

The following accounts were examined and being found correct were ordered paid:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Title, Amount. Includes Charles King (Pauper \$5.00), Fannie Banks (do \$4.00), Mary Fryer (do \$4.00), W. E. Freeman (do \$5.00), Rachel Ford (do \$5.00), Mrs. E. Benington (do \$10.00), Catharine Lee (do \$5.00), Angelina Jackson (do \$5.00), Solina Stancel (do \$5.00), S. J. Barton (do \$5.00), J. H. Donnelly (do \$5.00), T. J. Shine auditor, fees as auditor (47.50), T. J. Shine clerk, for Sinclair and Phelps (100.00), R. E. Reid, on jail roll (37.50), P. W. Shine, sheriff, for jail guard (174.00), Philip Geist, balance on bridge (25.00), C. Stovin, attendance as witness (2.25), W. E. Briggs, fees as constable (2.00), A. S. Campbell, fees as commissioner (15.00), J. H. Shine, clerk, criminal prosecutions (99.91), J. E. Bask, feeding prisoners (104.49), T. J. Shine, clerk, for surveyor (393.00), J. T. Beck, superintendent schools (64.40), W. Klinger, school board (8.96), J. W. Hicks, meals, etc., on prisoners (9.25).

The board then adjourned. KING WYLY, Chairman.

Winter Park Notes.

Rev. Dr. Hooker preached in the Town Hall at 10:30 a. m. on the 9th inst., and Rev. Mr. Carpenter at 7:30 p. m.

Hon. Lewis Lawrence is still here; it was his son who returned to Utica.

Miss Annie Palmer has gone to New York, but will return soon.

The Congregationalists have secured over 200 towards their new church building.

Mrs. Andrew Richmond gave all the little folks in this vicinity a party on Saturday, the 8th inst.

Rev. Mr. Ward spent last week in Jacksonville.

Robert W. Albernathy died here on the 19th ult., and was embalmed by Mr. Richards, and sent to his home in Ohio.

Visitors are arriving here in large numbers, and teams are kept busy driving them around the lakes.

R. M. Pulsifer and E. B. Haskell, of the Boston Herald, accompanied by President Ingraham and Mrs. Pulsifer, were here Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Pulsifer were pleased with the improvements upon their lot on Lake Ocoosa.

Mrs. R. G. Flemming, wife of the Gen. Supt. of the S. F. & W. R. R., with a party of friends, was here for a drive around the lakes on the 20th ult.

Judge Eugene Cary, of Chicago, bought a lot on Lake Ocoosa on the 3rd inst., upon which he will build a cottage.

Andrew Richmond has bought Perry's carriage factory, and his son, Edgar will turn it into a livery stable.

Mr. Drey, president of the Atlantic Co., was here on the 3rd inst., with Judge Wilson, of Brooklyn, Mass.

The Conway grove, with 140 acres of land was sold last week to Dr. M. A. Henkle, of Winchester, Va.

Frank H. Moses has bought his brother, Clinton's interest in the store of Ergood & Moses, of Lake Kibbary.

Mrs. B. F. Moses, gave a pleasant tea party the other evening in honor of her son, Frank and his bride.

A. W. Rollins, of Chicago, bought last week of Capt. Scarlett, 120 acres in section 12, on Lake Kibbary.

Reporters for sale at the post-office.

ORANGE CULTURE.

Parties wishing to plant Orange groves will do well to correspond with Holden Brothers, of Winter Park, before purchasing their trees. Holden Brothers will give personal attention to sacking of land for groves, and plant trees if desired.

HOLDEN BROTHERS. Winter Park, Orange Co., Fla.

FOR BARGAINS. —IN— Real Estate

H. R. JACKSON, Has on hand every day. Fresh Oysters, Fish, Vegetables & Fruit

of the season. I solicit a portion of the public patronage, and all orders will be promptly attended to.

French and Spanish

Instructions in French and Spanish. For particulars and terms apply to W. B. JACKSON, Maitland, Fla.

GO TO HUGHEY BROS. —For your— Family Groceries,

Where you will get Fresh Goods and have prompt attention. J. W. LAWLER & Co.,

GENERAL TEAMING HAULING,

Either in town or country. Good team and care of driver. Apply to GEORGE STABEY, Orlando, Nov. 12, 1883.

SIRRIE'S Boarding House

SANFORD, - - - FLORIDA. northwest corner 4th St. and Palmetto Ave. Hotel Fare at Boarding House Rates. Is now open for Guests.

Three minutes walk from Railroad and Steam boat Landing. WILLIAM SIRRIE, Prop.

Orange Culture.

For Sale.

Table with 3 columns: Quantity, Description, Price. Includes 500 Budded Orange Trees (1.00), 1,000 do do do do (2.00), 1,000 Seedling Orange Trees (1.00), 2,000 do do do do (2.00).

For further particulars address HOLDEN BROTHERS, Winter Park, Orange Co., Fla.

FOR HEALTH Drink Pure Water,

FOR SAFETY. Protect Against Lightning.

I am prepared to put down Dryer Wells and erect Lightning Rods. Leave orders at C. F. Boone & Co's store. C. F. HOWE.

C. O. SMITH,

Dealer in Fine Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, and Musical Instruments.

ORLANDO, - - - FLORIDA. FINE WATCH WORK A SPECIALTY.

Repairing done in a satisfactory manner and at Reasonable Prices. All work warranted.

South side of Church Street, between Court and Orange Avenues.

COME TO APOPKA!

Magnificent Orange Groves at prices which will insure a large profit.

High, Rolling Pine Lands of the Best Quality. send for lists of bearing groves, improved and unimproved lands, etc.

DAVIS & MCKINNEY, APOPKA, FLORIDA.

S. E. Ives,

Red Front Store,

CHURCH ST., ORLANDO, FLA.

Dealer in STAPLE and FANCY GROCERIES,

TOBACCOS, SEGARS, &c.

A Fresh Supply of Canned Goods of All Kinds.

Constantly on hand.

Fresco and Plain Painting,

Grating, Paper Hanging and Kalsomining. Estimates Furnished at Short Notice.

By sending specifications I will estimate on work in any part of the country.

GO TO THE

Orlando Bakery

BREAD, CAKES AND PIES,

Besides, if you want any of the articles usually kept in a

FIRST-CLASS FAMILY GROCERY,

we are prepared to furnish you as cheaply

FOR THE CASH,

as you can purchase elsewhere. Call on us for your

BREAD, CAKES, PIES, CRACKERS, FLOUR, SUAG, RICE, COFFEE, HAMS, BACON,

And especially almost all grades of CANNED GOODS.

OUR MOTTO IS "A Nimble Sixpence is Better than a Slow Shilling."

With many thanks for past favors we earnestly wish it a continuance of the same.

N. B.—On and after November 6th we will put a delivery wagon

T. NEW'S PREPARED ROOFING

For steers or flat roofs. Applied by ordinary work men at one-third the cost of the "Circles of Soap" free.

T. NEW, 32 John St. - New York. Jas. DeLaney, Agent, Orlando, Florida.