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JULIEN C. YONGE, *Editor* EMMA ROCHELLE WILLIAMS
Pensacola *Assistant Editor*, Jacksonville

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THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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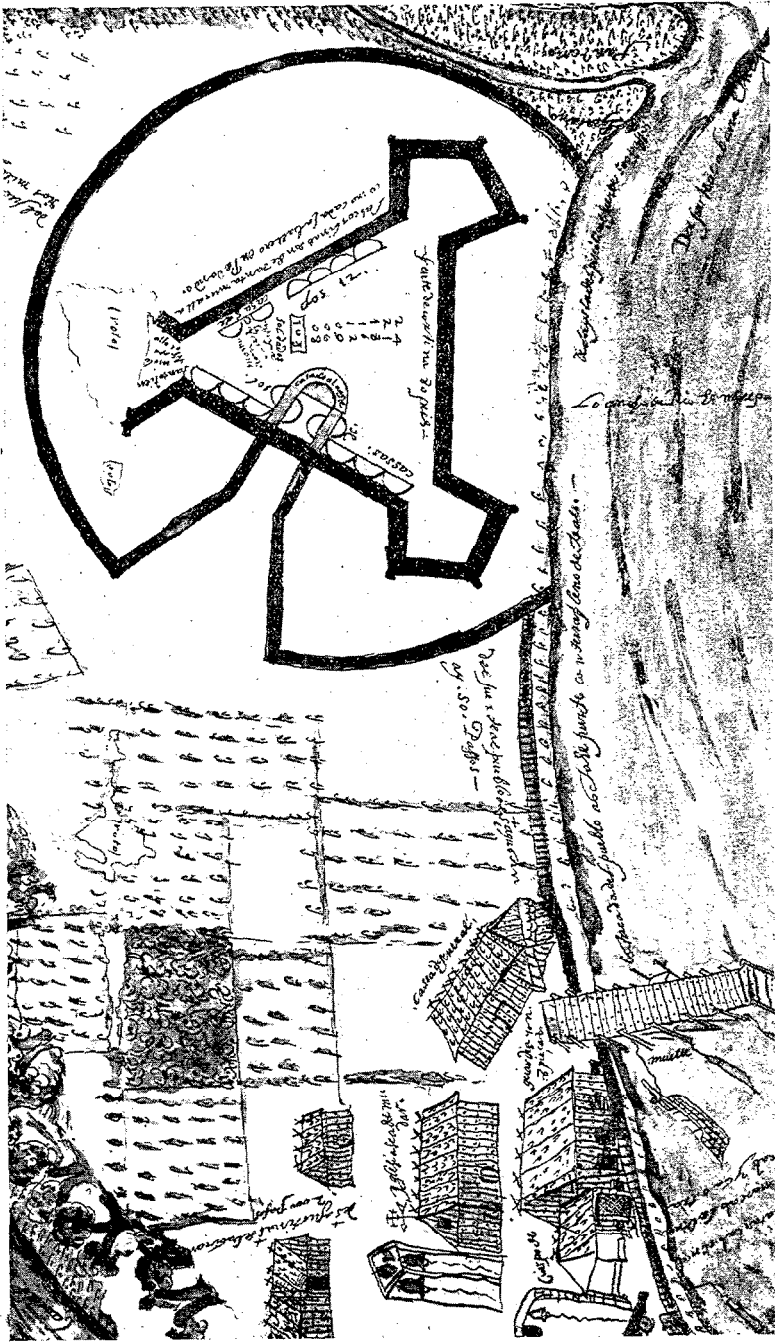
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* * * To explore the field of Florida history, to seek and gather up the ancient chronicles in which its annals are contained, to retain the legendary lore which may yet throw light upon the past, to trace its monuments and remains, to elucidate what has been written, to disprove the false and support the true, to do justice to the men who have figured in the olden time, to keep and preserve all that is **known** in trust for those who are to come after us, to increase and extend the knowledge of our history, and to teach our children that first essential knowledge, the history of our State, are objects well worthy of our best efforts. To accomplish these ends we have organized the Historical Society of Florida.

GEORGE R. FAIRBANKS.

St. Augustine, April, 1857



PLAN OF ST. AUGUSTINE, 1595
(Brought from Florida to Philip II by Hernando de Mestas.)

THE NINE OLD WOODEN FORTS OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Part II

After Drake burned the fort at St. Augustine in 1586, the settlers gave the name of San Marcos to the wooden building which took its place - Fort Number Seven. They had long wanted and asked for a fort of stone, and it would seem as if the discovery of coquina by Pedro Menendez Marques, in 1580¹⁹, should have helped to bring about the realization of their wishes; but always, something came up to prevent it.

Gutierre de Miranda was Governor and Captain-General of Florida from 1589 to 1592. His temper, his conduct to the soldiers, and the sufferings and injustice they endured, caused another rebellion at St. Augustine, so that the project of erecting a substantial fort of stone did not take definite shape before the King and the Council of the Indies until Hernando de Mestas made two voyages from Florida to Spain in 1593 and 1595. Governor Domingo Martinez de Avendano sent him in 1595, with a memorial and plan advocating an eighth fort, this time to be built of coquina. The map or plan, which is anonymous, is nearly as interesting as Boazio's and less well known. Its description of the fort the colony then had, reads as follows: "This is the old fort which is in St. Augustine, called San Marcos. It is entirely of wood, propped up by thirty-two supports which are indicated. All of it is in danger of collapsing, inside and out, and it is on the

¹⁹ Menendez Marques to Philip II, St. Augustine, December 27, 1583, A. G. de L., 54-5-9.

site of the one which is marked for the new fortification, 140 paces nearer the town. The guns on its walls are not to be fired because it is feared all the curtains will tumble down.”²⁰

The petition asked, among other favors, for ten thousand ducats to build San Marcos of coquina and twenty negroes to help do the work. These requests were granted and a master stone cutter, a workman in stone cutting and a mason were to be sent from Havana. The only thing that happened, however, was the erection of Wooden Fort Number Eight. St. Augustine had more than three quarters of a century to wait before seeing the beginning of her fort of coquina!

Alonso de las Alas says, in his letter of January 12, 1600 : “On September 22 of the past year 1699 the tide came in with such fury that the town was entirely flooded and many houses were knocked down, among them the guard-house and part of the storehouse ; whereby a quantity of your Majesty’s supplies was destroyed, also part of the fort, as the waves swept away the wall and caballeros on the sea front; the said fort being built of wood, sand and flour sacks, its foundation not being strong enough to build it of stone, because in digging one cubit beneath the surface one finds sand and water.”²¹

Ten-twelve-years went by. San Marcos, which had been repaired after the flood, was again going to pieces, according to Governor de Olivera’s letters to the King, and contradicting Las Alas, he dwelt on “the ease with which a stone fort could be built”.²²

Perhaps the fundamental trouble was the state of mind of St. Augustine. Many people-particularly

²⁰ Memorial, letters and plan. Hernando de Mestas, February, 1595, A. G. de I., 140-7-37. (See frontispiece.)
²¹ Las Alas to Philip III, St. Augustine, January 12, 1600, A. G. de I., 54-5-14.
²² Juan Fernandez de Olivera to Philip III, October 13, 1612, A. G. de I., 54-5-14.

in that first part of the seventeenth century-thought the settlement and fort should be situated farther north where the harbors were better. Moreover, the arrival of the government's annual subsidy was often delayed for years, salaries remained unpaid, graft existed among those in power, and indifference and inertia often prevailed-when it was not despair!

The eighth fort must have been chronically dropping to pieces and being patched up, for on June 18, 1631, Governor de Villegas wrote to Philip IV: "I found the fort of this presidio defenceless and idle, by reason of its being built of a poor quality of timber which rots easily and is so dry and ready to burn that merely by using the artillery therein fire breaks out in many places."²³

Barcia the chronicler tells us that in 1640 unruly Indians in the neighborhood of St. Augustine were punished by being condemned to "forced labor on the fortifications of the stronghold."²⁴ Yet Governor Benito Ruiz de Salazar says, in a letter to the King from St. Augustine, April 16, 1645, that the fort had not been repaired for years and that its wood was rotting.²⁵

In 1647, the royal officials wrote that lately, after the rebellion of the Apalache Indians, twelve of them were put to death and twenty-six were set to work on the fort.²⁶

We do not know when the ninth wooden structure was begun. The engraving after Arnoldus Mon-

²³ Andres Rodriguez de Villegas to Philip IV, June 18, 1631, A. G. de I., 54-5-10.

²⁴ Cardenas y Cano (Barcia), Don Gabriel de. *Ensayo Cronologico para la Historia General de la Florida*. Madrid, 1723, p. 204.

²⁵ Benito Ruiz de Salazar Ballecilla to Philip IV, St. Augustine, April 16, 1645, A. G. de I., 54-5-10.

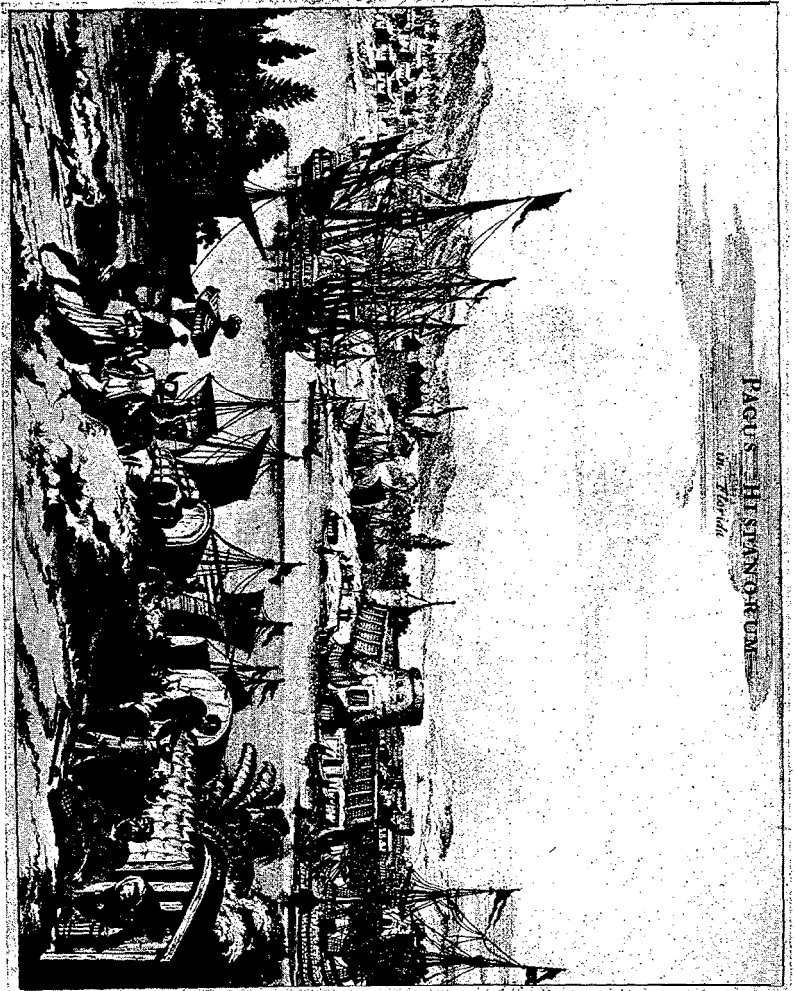
²⁶ Francisco Menendez Marques and Pedro Benedit Horruytiner to Philip IV, St. Augustine, July 27, 1647, A. G. de I., 54-5-20.

tanus²⁷-fanciful as to details but probably trustworthy as to the fort-shows a very large, rickety building with two massive round towers, a smaller one with a poivriere - pepper-pot-top, enough houses within the fort to make it a town in itself, and nearly as many props or buttresses as a centipede has legs.

Where the fort was concerned all the governors had been careless, unscrupulous-or discouraged. In compliance with royal decrees, a long official letter and report on many matters connected with the town of St. Augustine was sent to the King in 1655 by one of the royal officials, the Accountant, Don Pedro Beltran de Santa Cruz. Diego de Rebolledo was governor and captain-general at the time, and was disliked by everybody. He was one of the worst Spanish governors that Florida has had, an exceptionally disreputable individual. Santa Cruz, in the course of his report, gives a scathing arraignment of dishonesty and inefficiency in the matter of the fort, which, "because of being constructed of wood, they have allowed to decay. It is crumbling at many points, and none of the artillery pieces have gun-carriages that can be used, for they can scarcely support the guns that rest upon them, as, of necessity, if the guns be fired the carriages collapse because the wood is rotten. Besides, none of the said artillery rests on planks on which the wheels could be set; they are entirely buried in the sand. And such is the condition when your Majesty has, in the said presidio, slaves, convicts, carpenters and a *maestro mayor*²⁸ with a salary of fifteen hundred ducats, and a number of teams of oxen bought through

²⁷ Montanus, Arnoldus. *De Nieuwe en onbekende wereld*. Amsterdam, 1671. There is a copy of the work containing this map in the Division of Maps and Charts, Library of Congress; and there are two in the Reserve Room of the New York Public Library. (See reproduction on opposite page.)

²⁸ A *maestro mayor* was a commissioner of public works.



THE MONTANUS MAP, 1671

the Royal Exchequer to draw the lumber for the repairs."²⁹

In 1668 - not 1665; the date generally given - John Davis, that genial and sprightly Boucanier from the island of Jamaica, fresh from his piratical triumph in Nicaragua and "feeling his oats", attacked St. Augustine one night, having been put up to it by a Frenchman who had a well-founded grievance against Francisco de la Guerra y de la Vega, the Governor. The fort was tottering more than usual. Strange to say, it did not fall on John Davis, but the good townspeople were frightened out of their wits and acted the part. That raid was a lively one.

Four more years went by before the King and the Council of the Indies, far away in Spain, finally bestirred themselves and made it possible for St. Augustine to start the building of its long-talked-of fort of stone-the present one - the great fort of coquina quarried on Anastasia Island. It was still called San Marcos and not until the nineteenth century did it receive the fine name of Fort Marion. Its Spanish personality still longs for its old Spanish name, held for so many years, from the time immediately following the coming of Drake.

San Marcos, as we know it, was begun in 1672. I hope this actual date of the commencement of the undertaking will be borne in mind, as nearly every history and guidebook is fond of asserting that the fort of St. Augustine was started in 1638. Barcia is probably responsible for this deep-seated error, as he is for many others. He wrongly gives the year 1638³⁰ as that of the rebellion of the Apalache Indians, which took place, according to the royal officials (as we have just seen), late in 1646 or early in 1647. Fair-

²⁹ Pedro Beltran de Santa Cruz to Philip IV, Havana, November 20, 1655, A. G. de I., 54-5-18, 48.

³⁰ Cardena z Cano, *Ensayo Cronologico*, p. 203.

banks copies this mistake, adding that in 1640 the Apalache were brought to St. Augustine to work on the fort.³¹ Barcia had made the statement that in 1640 the Indians of the vicinity of St. Augustine (not the Apalache) rose in mutiny, but I can not find his authority for this in any of the records.

Perhaps the coquina fort would not have been begun even in 1672 had it not been for the menace of the English settlements to the north, which, for nearly a century, were to advance unceasingly on the Spanish colony with the relentlessness of tidal waves. As to the forgotten and important date, 1672, I quote the affidavit of Juan Moreno y Segobia, the government notary at St. Augustine at that time:

"Today, Sunday, the second of the present month of October of the year one thousand six hundred and seventy-two, at about four o'clock in the afternoon, the Senor Sergeant-Major Don Manuel de Cendoya, Governor and Captain-General of these provinces of Florida for his Majesty, in his royal name, being in the vicinity of the fortress of this presidio where the plan of the new fortress is marked out, accompanied by the judges, the royal officials, Sergeant-Major Don Nicolas Ponce de Leon and Captain Antonio de Arguelles, who fill these posts for his Majesty in the presidio, and by many other persons and retired soldiers of the garrison, began on this said day, spade in hand, [aided by] the royal officials and others associated with him, to break ground for the foundations, to commence the erection of the said castle."³²

There are more affidavits ; one, of the ninth day of the month, "when the first stone was laid", Antonio Menendez Marquez, the Royal Accountant, being

³¹ Fairbanks, George R. *The History and Antiquities of the City of St. Augustine, Florida*. New York, 1858, p. 121.

³² Affidavit of Juan Moreno y Segobia, St. Augustine, October 2, 1672, A. G. de L., 58-1-26.

also present. The engineer for the construction of the fort was Ignacio Daza, a citizen of Havana and a military man, who declares in another deposition:

“The fort of this garrison is of wood, which [fort] I have examined not only because of the weakness and decayed condition of the timbers but because its lines have been changed by reason of the many repairs ; these have reduced it to a shapeless mass, out of all rules of fortification. On account of the lack of the necessary traverses and the deviation of the defence lines, I find that the fort is useless for defence or for any sort of resistance.” It is interesting to compare this description with the picture of the fort as it is shown in the engraving after Montanus. They curiously confirm each other. San Marcos could not be more ramshackly.

By December, Governor de Cendoya was full of enthusiasm for the inspiring task before him. On December 15 he wrote to Charles II of Spain that the work of preparing the foundations was going on “with all possible speed and had reached the old fort . . . built of wood, on account of which the stone could not be laid [there], the old fort occupying the space and being damaged from decay . . . Because of this, as well as because the site near the said castle is not only of equal strength, but possesses several advantages over any adversary who might dare to attack by sea as well as by land, I decided, [after] a council held in this presidio, and on the opinion of the engineer, which I am sending to your Majesty, to build on the place aforesaid. I send your Majesty the plan of the castle, the square of which is of the same size as the old one, save that it is larger where the bastions are thrown forward in order to follow the rules of good defence in the whole plan, adding

all the other parts and accessories of which there is need.³³

Governor de Cendoya had more than one setback. Indian laborers paid by the day were employed to build the fort, but work of that kind had never suited them. The situation was complicated by the fact that they were also required in the fields and there were not enough of them adequately to assist the Governor. They had resented being taken from their own lands in the first place, and a recent violent epidemic had swept through the provinces and reduced their numbers to an alarming extent. Cendoya, nothing daunted, and determined that his English neighbors at "St. George" (as the infant city of Charleston was called) should not catch St. Augustine off its guard, infused his own ardor into the soldiers and wrote to the King that he was "working in person, with the infantry, in digging the trenches ; so that it appears to me it would be well to order, if your Majesty so please, that thirty negroes, by contract with Domingo Grillo, be sent from Havana to this presidio."³⁴

For eighty-two years—from 1672 to 1756 - the little town was to busy itself with its signal achievement, the construction and completion of the coquina fort, the story of which would fill volumes. The surface of that fascinating part of our Colonial history has barely been touched.

The time to *feel* the charm of the old fort is in spring and autumn, when the weather is not too warm, and the credulous tourists are not in St. Augustine to tempt the beautiful city to forget that its preposterous Fountain of Youth should be a Fountain of Truth. Then it is that the fort belongs to the spirits of the men who fought and suffered and prayed

³³ Manuel de Cendoya to Charles II. St. Augustine, December 15, 1672, A. G. de I., 58-1-26.

³⁴ *Ibidem.*

and died there. You should go there by yourself; climb the ramp - now a stairway - by which the cannon used to be rolled up to the platform, the terreplein of the ramparts, and look seaward. The breakers are rolling in far off in the distance. You are facing Matanzas Bay, Anastasia Island, North Beach (the peninsula opposite) and St. Augustine Inlet-la barra de San Agustin. You stand alone with the ghosts of the past. You see the soldiers of Menendez "digging with their finger nails the trench" around the communal house of Cacique Seloy. This was the very beginning of the fort of St. Augustine. Was there ever a great fort with a more inspired and picturesque beginning!

You see Florez, inspecting the cadalechos, or beds of tree branches where the soldiers sleep; the mysterious and disquieting secret postern "which is used to take people out that way"; the sentinel in the platform sentry-box, the soldiers of the guard standing at the principal door of the fort, with their fuses lighted night and day.

You see Sir Francis Drake's capture of St. Augustine in June, 1586 and Nicolas Burgoignon, the Frenchman, escaping from the Spaniards in his little boat and going to join the English, making his presence known by "playing on his piph the tune of the Prince of Orange his song".³⁵

You see Drake's men leave their pinnaces, come on shore on Anastasia Island, discharge their cannon at the fort on the main land opposite, and burn the fort, and the town south of it.

You see all the long struggle of building the wooden forts that succeeded it and keeping them in a semblance of repair; the Indians and negroes at work, the lumber being hauled by the oxen, the Apalache

³⁵ Bigges, *A Summarie and True Discourse, etc.*

prisoners bending over their hated task, the Timucua in their canoes paddling up and down the river.

You see ships with the supplies and the subsidy for the colony coming in at long irregular intervals, although the subsidy had been promised to the settlers every single year. As the sentinel tells of the shallows at sea, you see them crying with joy and praising God at one more respite from starvation!

You see the surprise attack of John Davis in May, 1668 - you smile at the amusing and pathetic helplessness of the bewildered citizens. "The pirates did not get much booty," says an old writer, "for the people of this place are very poor."

You breathe a friendly sigh of relief when Manuel de Cendoya breaks ground for the present stately structure on that Sunday afternoon, October 2, 1672. But the Spanish government in Europe was a paternal government, growing steadily more dilatory and weak. **Manana** por la manana! And the Anglo-Saxon was gaining ground-coming nearer and nearer to the gates of St. Augustine! There could be no doubt as to the outcome. Yet, during the first half of the eighteenth century, St. Augustine twice had able men for the crises of the moment: Joseph de Zuniga y Cerda and Manuel de Montiano, two great and wise Spanish governors. They are tempting subjects to enlarge upon. So are all the sieges of St. Augustine. This paper, however, is merely intended as an outline sketch-perhaps a preliminary one-of the beginnings of the institution known for three hundred and sixty years as the fort of St. Augustine-the symbol, key and center of Spain's power at the southeast end of the vast region now included in the United States.

JEANNETTE THURBER CONNOR .

SOME FLORIDA NAMES OF INDIAN ORIGIN

There is intense interest in venturing beyond the horizon of recorded history into that of the prehistoric by way of tracing back to the time of the earliest Spanish explorations the aboriginal names of localities in Florida, and particularly such names of many of its bays, streams and lakes.

SARASOTA is derived from **SUA** (the sun), **HA** (water) and **SATA** (the shadow) - literally denoting the fleecy, intense brightness of the cumuli (billowy clouds) which Indian fancy suggested as shadows cast by the sun itself: "Water of the White Sun Shadows".

MIAMI is from **MA** (a form of negative so intense that it made the most emphatic affirmative) and **YAMA** (meaning the Dark One of the mythical Twins : Yamo being the Dawn, and Yama the Dusk that "drives from the heavens the far-shooting arrows of light" - the sun's last rays) : **MIAMI** as figuratively, and by the most intense form, "Always (Everlastingly) Bright".

TAMPA is evidently of close kinship to Tlamapa (the name of an ancient town in Santa Cruz) , and from **TAMU** (culture hero of the Guaranis and patron deity of the Caribs, "The Old Man of the Sky"- the sun), the form **TLAMA** denoting "something done with the hands", exercise of the creative power, and subjectively **PA** (from **ALLPA**, the earth), in instance the building of a hill or mound : polysynthetically ¹ "The Place made by the very hands of the Great Sun God and the Mound of his Temple (Council) House". The

¹ Duponceanu gave the name polysynthesis to the Indian method of combining a number of ideas in the fewest words, even in one.

name was first applied to a locality on the Gulf coast south of the city of Tampa, being subsequently changed to the present site with undoubtedly an exact location by the mound that formerly stood on the old Fort Brooke reservation.

It is unfortunate that the city of Tampa could not have forestalled the obliteration of this mound by preserving it intact as a monument to the origin of its name.

The **WITHLACOOCHEE** river (of the south) before it was so called by the Seminoles, who came in later and succeeded the Indians located there at the time of the Spanish explorations, was the **AMASURA**, that is, **YAMA** (the Dusk) **HA** (water) **SUA** (the Sun), signifying "Water that has the darkness of dusk even in sunshine".

The **SUWANNEE** river was destined to pass under many names before that of final determination, and as a fanciful derivation was one time supposed to be "San Juanee" (much anglicized Spanish) - "Little St. John".

The Memoir of Fontanedo (who was wrecked on the Florida coast, held for many years a prisoner by the Indians, and afterwards an interpreter for the expedition to Florida under Pedro Menendez, in 1565) gave the name of this river as **OLACATANO** (or Olgatano) ; and without analyzing its polysynthetic structure, the meaning was "Blessed Stone Dwelling of the God of Rain and Fertility"; while its present form is from **SUA** (the Sun), **HA** (water) and **NO** (beloved) : "Water beloved of the Sun God".

These names and many others of startling appropriateness are veritable picture-words, that express an emotional tribute to nature by a people of far higher culture than the later (Seminoles) Indians,

F R A N K D R E W .

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO SECESSION
IN FLORIDA

(These documents are of great historical value, for, so far as known, none are of record, nor have any been published heretofore. ¹ The originals have been preserved in the family of John C. McGehee, president of the Florida secession convention. They are now in the possession of his niece, Rosa Galphin, of Fernandina, a student at the Florida State College for Women, Tallahassee. A sketch of Judge McGehee follows, written by Miss Galphin.)

The following communication by TELEGRAPH has been received.

From Washington, D. C.
Dated Jan 15th 1861
For Gov. Perry-

We have ceased participation in the proceedings of senate and only wait receipt of authenticated ordinances to retire formally -

D. L. Yulee ²
S. R. Mallory ³

From Washington
Dated Jan 8, 1861
For Gov. M. S. Perry

The Steamer [Star] of the West has sailed with

¹ Of similar documents relating to this subject, one or more will be found in each of the following: *Journal of the Proceedings of the Convention of the People of Florida begun and held Jan. 3, 1861.* Tallahassee, 1861; *House Journal*, 1860, p. 7; *The War of the Rebellion. Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.* Series I, Vol. 1, pp. 442, etc.; and in a few contemporaneous newspapers.

² and ³ U. S. Senators from Florida.

troops probably for Charleston. Possible for Pensacola.

Hawkins ⁴

From Jackson, Miss.
Dated Jany 8th, 1861
For Gov. M. S. Perry

The Convention passed resolutions for Secession by almost unanimous vote.

JOHN J. PETTES [Pettus] ⁵

From Jackson, Miss.
Dated January 9th, 1861
For To President State Convention-

I am instructed by the Mississippi State Convention to inform you that the State of Mississippi by a vote of her convention approaching unanimity has seceded unconditionally from the Union and desires on the basis of the old constitution new Union (sic) union with the seceding States.

WM. S. BARRY,
President Convention

Tallahassee Jany 12, 1861

Dear Sir.

I have this moment received the Enclosed dispatches which I take the earliest opportunity of presenting to you and through you to the Honorable body over which you preside and to his (sic) His Excellency the Governor of the State of Florida.

I have also the honor to inform you that I start upon my return to my State this evening. And before doing so I would beg to present to yourself and the

⁴ U. S. Representative from Florida.

⁵ John J. Pettus, governor of Mississippi.

Convention My very grateful sense of the consideration with which I have been received as the Commissioner of South Carolina and that while to myself personally the incidents of my mission will constitute the most pleasant memories of my life, they will, also, I am sure, confirm and strengthen the bonds of Sisterhood which in the present perils of our fortunes bind our States together.

With great Respect
I am Sir your obt svt
L. W. SPRATT⁶

To

Hon. John C. McGehee
President of Convention

The following communication by TELEGRAPH
has been received

From Charleston S. C.
Dated January 12th 1861
For L. W. Spratt

Large Steamship off Bar Steaming up Supposed
to be the Brooklyn. Expect a Battle.

R. B. RHETT, JR.⁷

From Charleston So Ca
Dated Jan 12th 1861
For L. W. Spratt

Rejoice to receive your dispatch-Give our cordial
congratulations to the Convention and say we will
stand by Florida as we intend to stand by our own
Guns-We are now prepared & hope to do our duty.

F. W. PICKENS⁸

⁶ Commissioner from South Carolina.

⁷ U. S. Senator from South Carolina.

⁸ Governor of South Carolina.

JOHN C. McGEHEE

Though small mention is made of his name in the histories of Florida, Judge John C. McGehee was one of the outstanding figures of the state between the years 1835 and 1865. Born in Abbeville, South Carolina, September 6, 1801,⁽¹⁾ he attended a little school in Cambridge with Dr. F. R. Calhoun and Dr. Mosley. The thoroughness of preparation in the small schools of this time is attested by the scholarly attainments of the students. After leaving this school, John McGehee took up the study of law and practiced it in Cambridge.⁽²⁾ In 1823, he was married to Charlotte Dozier of that city.⁽³⁾ He had just built her a summer home on an uncleared tract of land near there. When she first saw the place she exclaimed upon the beauty of the "Greenwood" and the little city which grew up around it kept the name thus given.⁽⁴⁾

In 1831 Judge McGehee and his wife moved to Florida and settled in Madison County.⁽⁵⁾ Nothing was considered too good for his wife and he wanted her to have the finest home in the state and did everything in his power to provide it for her. Most of the timber for the mansion was cut from his own plantation and much of the furniture was made from the same source, which was cut in a saw-mill built near the house for convenience. Among his hundred slaves there was sufficient help to clear the ground. Sawyers and cabinetmakers were brought from afar. The fine furniture and china and silver were imported. Each day the Judge and his wife planned the happy times they would have in their new home when it would be

⁽¹⁾ *Madison Recorder*, October 22, 1881. ⁽²⁾ C. M. Calhoun, *History of Greenwood*, p. 11.. ⁽³⁾ *Madison Recorder*, October 22, 1881. ⁽⁴⁾ C. M. Calhoun, *History of Greenwood*, opposite p. 16. ⁽⁵⁾ *Madison Recorder*, October 22, 1881.

completed. While waiting for the mansion to be finished they lived in a temporary home called Oakland. The new plantation was named "Chuleotah," an Indian word meaning Pine Hill. On August 2, 1858, the mansion planned by Mrs. McGehee was completed, but sorrow settled in the home - for she died that day.⁽⁶⁾ This was a great blow to the true heart of Judge McGehee, but with Christian fortitude he bore his sorrow.

Judge McGehee was always interested in all civic matters pertaining to the state. Hospitality was an inborn virtue with him ; so he continued to entertain and that right royally, but his chief work now was to help in the building of the great state and all of his energies were bent in that direction. When the convention met in St. Joseph (1838-39) to frame a constitution, he was sent as a member.⁽⁷⁾ He was for many years judge of the territorial court of Madison County.⁽⁸⁾ He took the contract for and built fifteen miles of railroad between Greenville (Station 4 as it was then called) and Madison.⁽⁹⁾

He was a devout Christian and member of the Presbyterian Church. For many years he was a ruling elder in the Oakland Church, often officiating in the absence of the pastor. He was the spiritual advisor of his slaves, visiting them in their cabins and reading to them from the Bible.

Of course he was a states' rights man. When Governor Perry called the convention to decide whether or not Florida should secede from the Union, Judge McGehee was chosen to represent Madison County. The convention met with John Pelot as temporary chairman, and Judge McGehee was elected president of this

⁽⁶⁾ *Madison Recorder*, Oct. 22, 1881. ⁽⁷⁾ C. M. Brevard, *A History of Florida*, Vol. I, pp. 241-242. ⁽⁸⁾ *Madison Recorder*, Oct. 22, 1881 ⁽⁹⁾ Mrs. Royal C. Dunn in paper read before the Tallahassee Chapter of the U. D. C. in February, 1920. (See *Jacksonville Times-Union*, Feb. 22, 1920.)

convention, which passed the Ordinance of Secession.⁽¹⁰⁾

The following is from the journal of the convention :-

On motion, the Convention proceeded to the election of a permanent President by ballot. The result of the election was as follows:

For John C. McGehee 47 votes.

For John C. Pelot 7 votes.

For J. P. Sanderson 2 votes.

For Jackson Morton 1 vote.

Whereupon John C. McGehee was declared elected.

Upon taking the chair the President made the following address :

GENTLEMEN: . . .

. . . The occasion upon which we are called together is one of the most solemn and important that ever assembled a People. Our Government--the inheritance from a noble ancestry--the greatest achievement of human wisdom, made to secure to their posterity the Rights and Liberties purchased with their blood, is crumbling into ruins. Every day and almost every hour brings intelligence confirming the opinion that its dissolution is at hand. One State--one of the time-honored Thirteen--has withdrawn the powers granted in the Constitution which constituted her a member of the Union, and she is now from under the political power of the Government. All *our sister* Southern States immediately adjacent to us are at this moment moving in the same direction, under circumstances which render their action as certain as anything in the future. And as we look further and beyond, we see the same swell of public sentiment, that a sense of wrong always inspires, agitating the great heart of the more distant slave States. And no reasonable doubt can be entertained by the most hopeful and sanguine, that this excitement in public sentiment will extend and increase, and intensify until all the States that are now known as slave States will withdraw their political connection from the non-slaveholding States, unite themselves in a common destiny and establish another Confederation.

Why all this? The story is soon told.

In the formation of the Government of our Fathers, the Constitution of 1787, the institution of domestic slavery *is*

recognized, and the right of property in slaves is expressly guaranteed.

The People of a portion of the States who were parties to the Government were early opposed to the institution. The feeling of opposition to it has been cherished, and fostered, and inflamed until it has taken possession of the public mind at the North to such an extent that it overwhelms every other influence. It has seized the political power and now threatens annihilation to slavery throughout the Union.

At the South, and with our People of course, slavery is the element of all value, and a destruction of that destroys all that is property.

This party, now soon to take possession of the powers of the Government, is sectional, irresponsible to us, and driven on by an infuriated fanatical madness that defies all opposition, must inevitably destroy every vestige of right growing out of property in slaves.

Gentlemen, the State of Florida is now a member of the Union under the power of the Government, soon to go into the hands of this party.

As we stand our doom is decreed.

Under a just sense of impending danger, and realizing an imperative necessity thus forced upon them to take measures for their safety, the People of Florida have clothed you with supreme power and sent you here with the high and solemn duty to devise the best possible means to insure their safety, and have given you in charge to see that their commonwealth suffers no detriment.

Your presence at this Capitol is the highest proof that your people fear to remain under their Government. With poignant regret *no* doubt they leave it; but they have no ground of hope of safety in it. What are we to do in fulfilment of our duty in this great crisis? I will not presume to indicate your course—your superior and collected wisdom must decide.

I cannot doubt though that our people are safe in your hands, and that you will in a manner becoming the dignity of the high position you hold, and worthy of the trust confided to you, promptly place them in a position of safety above the power and beyond the reach of their enemies.

As one of you, representing a noble and confiding constituency, I pledge to you and to them the entire devotion of the powers of my mind in the discharge of this duty; and with my

full heart I ask you, each of you, to forget all former differences of opinion, all past party prejudices, and make, now, here on the altar of your State, your country, for the sake of your people, a sacrifice, an offering of all feeling, prepossession or prejudice, that may stand in the way of perfect concord and harmony; and may the God of nations watch over us and bless our labors and guide us into the haven of safety.

Before its adjournment the convention authorized four counsellors of state to assist the chief executive. Hon. John C. McGehee, Gen. Jackson Morton, Major John Beard and Col. Joseph Finegan were the four appointed by Gov. Perry as his counsellors.⁽¹¹⁾ Judge McGehee's whole heart was now in the work of the cause which he loved so well. Anything that was needed for its service that he had was cheerfully given; One large family of refugees from South Carolina, eight girls and their mother, lived for two years on his bounty, he considering it his Christian privilege and patriotic duty to care for them, as the father and brothers were fighting for the protection of the homes of the South.

The sad ending of the war was a heavy blow to him. Indeed, those so conspicuous in their work for the Confederate States as he suffered more than others. The Federals put a price in gold upon his head at the close of the war and he deemed it expedient to go to Mexico for awhile. This he did, returning the latter part of 1866.⁽¹²⁾

The sweetness of his disposition was never changed and though his heart seemed broken when "the cause" was lost, he never murmured nor complained but was always ready to help anybody in need as much as his straitened circumstances and declining years would

⁽¹⁰⁾ W. W. Davis: *The Civil War and Reconstruction in Florida*. p. 57. ⁽¹¹⁾ *Journal of the Proceedings of a Convention of the People of Florida, began and held January 3, 1861*. Tallahassee, 1861. p. 65. ⁽¹²⁾ Information given to my mother, Mrs. L. T. Galphin, Sr., by her mother, Mrs. W. N. Thompson, who was a niece of Judge McGehee and later adopted by him.

permit. His work on earth being over, his spirit was called to join his beloved wife amid the glories of heaven "where there are no wars nor rumors of wars". He died October 10, 1881, and was buried beside his wife at Oakland cemetery.⁽¹³⁾

ROSA GALPHIN.

⁽¹³⁾ Madison Recorder. Oct. 22, 1881.

OLD TIGER TAIL DEAD ¹

MIAMI, Sept., 1881.

"My old man, my father, old Tiger Tail, gone big sleep - no get up no more." These were the words in which young Tiger told us at Miami of the death of the old chief. Tiger Tail was nearly ninety years of age, tall of stature, over six feet, well proportioned, and agile even at his advanced age - his hair was white and his eyes somewhat dim and these were really the only outward signs of age ; his manner was very dignified, and he was noted for integrity in his dealings. He seemed to command the respect of all the younger Indians, and was always welcomed by the whites of our settlement. He was fully conscious of his advanced age, though his appearance indicated a long lease of life. He often alluded to himself as "old too much", and unable to hunt as when a "young man" on account of his failing sight. Sometimes he would come to trade, bringing a few farm articles, gophers, etc., and in his canoe would lay his old rifle-faithful servant of past years, and as he looked at it he would shake his head, say "no good no more, long time kill plenty." This, after realizing the life of daring and adventure he had lived, and for which he had so many scars to show, was sad to see. So the sudden messenger lightning which called him to "the happy hunting grounds", seemed like a kind release from the ills which follow age.

Many years ago, after hard fighting as a young warrior, he accepted the situation, admitted the white man's power, and devised a role of peace as the best for his followers. As near as the writer can learn,

¹ From Tallahassee *Floridian*, October 25, 1881; which reprinted from *Key of the Gulf* (Key West?).

he was deposed as chief for his continued friendliness to the whites, and "Mattelow", who is more warlike in his feelings, became his successor as war chief. Young Tiger Tail, of course, being hereditary chieftain, but too young to supplant his father at the time the change was made.

Old Tiger Tail would sometimes speak of the past, when Tallahassee was an outskirt trading post, when Generals Jackson; Harney and Worth were waging war against them - of the time when Seminoles were hunted like beasts by blood-hounds, and of starvation and exile staring his tried and despairing little band in the face, how they came to the Everglades and pines of extreme Southern Florida, where the water-courses hid their trails, and they subsisted on compty and such other food as nature provided and required no tell-tale smoke to prepare, how they baffled pursuit and became once more a people.

Of course but few of Old Tiger's companions remain, death claimed many of them, others were transported to Arkansas. Osceola, whom he often spoke of, sleeps in front of the parapet near the main sally-port of Fort Mountrie, Charleston Harbor; and on the slab which marks his grave are inscribed the words, "Chieftain, Warrior, Patriot!"

Tiger Tail lived to see his warriors' sons and daughters grow to man and womanhood, and to find them slowly but surely accepting the march of civilization, which he could foresee long ago. Of his immediate family one son and two daughters survive him-the eldest married; the youngest, the child of his old age, is called "Wool-kee" a bright girl of about eleven years, and young Tiger Tail, the son of a former squaw, who died about three years ago. The son is in manner like his father, in looks like his mother, and will no doubt make an able successor to his father in his offi-

cial line. The old chieftain will be missed probably, not mourned, as death is to them a welcome call to happier spheres. So he passes away and becomes a type of the past.

“He was a man, take him all in all, I shall not look upon his like again.”

INDE.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FLORIDA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

The twenty-third annual meeting of **THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY** was held in the museum hall of the St. Petersburg Historical Society, St. Petersburg, Florida, at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 17th, 1926.

After a cordial welcome by Mrs. William Thomas Eaton, president of the St. Petersburg Historical Society, Mr. Arthur T. Williams, president, called the meeting to order and instructed the secretary to call the roll.

The following members answered present: Mr. Arthur T. Williams, Mrs. Mary E. Apple, Mrs. W. P. Coffey, Mrs. W. T. Eaton, Mr. C. Seton Fleming, Mrs. S. O. McClung, Dr. A. H. Phinney, Judge Chas. B. Parkhill, Mr. Jonathan Smith and Mr. Francis M. Williams. Forty-eight proxies of absent members were accepted and registered. A few other friends of the Society were present.

The president announced a quorum present and read his annual report.

The report was received with marked pleasure and ordered spread upon the minutes.

The secretary reported all gifts to the society during the year.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

The order of business was then suspended and Judge Charles B. Parkhill of Tampa was asked to address the meeting.

He esteemed it "a great honor and privilege to meet face to face the men and women who are endeavoring to collect and preserve the truths of Flor-

ida history", congratulated the society upon its rapid growth, and paid a warm tribute to its president.

"History," he said, "is made of memories. Do-nothings have no memories. And the things we remember - count. In the hall of fame at Washington, Florida is represented by two statues, but by no means all the important or significant figures ever reach that height of public acknowledgment, and it is our privilege and duty to save these others from obscurity.

The history of Florida is, to my mind, divided into but two periods or epochs, the first stretching from its discovery to its acquisition by the United States, the second, from then to now. The first was one of great peace ; Florida dreamed the years away. The second has been one of mixed happiness and sorrow. There is much to be said in favor of war; by its means much has been accomplished that would otherwise have been impossible. Our land was won by war, war with red men, war between races and nations. From 1819, when the United States acquired Florida by the help of war, to 1861, was a long day of peace, a wonderfully happy period. Master and slave contributed to each others' welfare in ways that were blessings to both ; that bond was torn asunder at bitter cost to many of us, We passed, from that happy period, the so-called period of slavery, to a new period of freedom, a glad change I suppose, in spite of its cost in blood and tears, but it has not yet. brought all that it promised. Freedom abounds, but it still wears shackles, more galling than the slave's shackles. It is questionable whether we shall take as much pride in the history of the current period of prosperity as we do in that earlier period, with all its trial and tribulation.

Assessing our own hearts and our own aims we must conclude with the poet that

“Not proud rival cities, but Men, highminded men ;
These constitute the State”.

And this is what we should draw and preserve from history for the welfare and happiness of all.

Governor Bloxham was the first to understand the significance of the times, to catch the vision of the future, and to lift the State from its pit of depression. By his initiative and forcefulness, large areas of State land were sold for development, and the proceeds devoted to relieving the State of her burden of debt, so that she should be free to rise to the stars. And she has risen ; she is fast becoming one of the greatest states of the Union ; in extent she is the largest state east of the Mississippi; and has the longest seacoast, the most affable climate, soil and people of any of the states. Florida is the real melting pot.

Her people have accepted her destiny and will follow her star. In the constitutional convention of 1885 she resolved that Florida shall never again secede. The old soldiers of the Confederacy wrote that resolution and put it through. She tried out three northern judges in her supreme court of 1867, found them worthy and embraced them as her own; none since have surpassed them in integrity of character, or in the esteem of her people. Now she insists that the supreme court of the United States is the key to our Union ; the one saving power.

Edward Douglass White, senator from Louisiana, confederate soldier, and chief justice of the supreme court of the United States, said to me on one occasion: “Tell your people to maintain the spirit of the constitution above all else, and defend it against the attacks of the selfseeking”.

I am delighted to meet you ; glad to be a member of your society. You're so modest and quiet; no seek-

ing of applause, no scramble for office ; your influence in Florida cannot but be sweet and desirable”.

Mrs. William Thomas Eaton, president of the St. Petersburg Historical Society, who has accomplished a marvelous achievement in bringing together a notable collection within a short space of time, and in inspiring a continuing interest, spoke lightly of her own part and gratefully of her colleagues. “We found our old treasures being carried North,” she said, “and we started to stop it. The result you see”. She expressed a wish for desirable pictures of the presidents to complete the collection of that series.

The meeting then recessed for a delightful lunch at the Yacht Club.

Upon reassembling, the president asked for an expression upon his recommendation that the annual dues be increased from \$2 to \$3. Upon motion of Dr. Phinney, a referendum of this question to the membership was resolved upon.

The president appointed as a committee to draw suitable resolutions of sorrow for the deaths of members during the year: Messrs. J. C. Yonge, C. Seton Fleming, and Dr. A. H. Phinney.

Upon motion it was resolved that all ex-presidents shall become honorary members.

Upon motion it was resolved that Mr. T. Frederick Davis is hereby made an honorary member of this Society, in recognition of his splendid history of Jacksonville and of his services to the Society.

Mr. Chas. Swann Walker, president of the Historical Society of Amherst, Massachusetts, responded to an invitation to address the meeting. His society, he stated, was started by Mary Louise Todd, the founder of the Daughters of the American Revolution. He described an interesting manuscript in his possession written by his grand uncle Caleb Swann, who was ap-

pointed to spy out the country in 1792 and made this report to Congress. Swann lived among the Indians, studied them and wrote their vocabulary. Mr. Walker advocated strongly the work of historical societies. "Without the procession and increment of past generations," he said, "the present generation would be helpless. All they have is inherited and they should be taught to acknowledge and appreciate it. Among other things they must learn that without our double form of local and centralized government, the Union would be unwieldy, and could not stand. Just as two foci make one perfect ellipse, so do the two systems balance and sustain each other. Individual character, universal education, the perception of the relation of self government to centralized government, and last, the necessity of righteousness, all work in harmony for the good of all."

Captain C. Seton Fleming good humoredly took issue with Judge Parkhill's description of the peaceful state of Florida, offering in evidence the biggest Indian war that ever was. With all of the Judge's conclusions however he was in entire sympathy. He expressed his pleasure at the delightful reception.

Mr. Philip C. Tucker, of Davenport, Florida, told about his pioneer work with the Galveston, Texas, Society. He thought that the most important sources for historical societies to acquire were personal narratives, especially of old residents who were not writers.

Mr. Jonathan Smith, vice-president of the St. Petersburg Historical Society, spoke of his pleasure at the presence of our society, and the evident earnestness of its members. "We must", he said, "make our work practical and effective, because we are now the most lawless of all the civilized nations. We were among the first to establish religious freedom, and to overthrow monarchy. Democracy, the first fruit of war,

is a success, and we have firmly established the principle of government by law, instead of by men. This is for us to sustain.”

Mr. Arthur T. Williams was made an honorary member of the St. Petersburg Historical Society, the presentation being made by Mrs. Eaton.

He expressed his appreciation of the handsome entertainment provided for the Society, and for the honor paid to himself, and talked about the Society's collection in Jacksonville, particularly with respect to its extremely valuable library, and ended by inviting all to visit and use it.

A telegram was received from Hamilton Holt, president of Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, inviting the society there for its next annual meeting. The invitation was accepted with pleasure, and the secretary so advised Dr. Holt.

Officers of the Society for the coming year were elected as follows:

Arthur T. Williams	president
C. Seton Fleming	1st vice president
Philip K. Yonge	2nd vice president
Fred W. Hoyt	treasurer
Francis M. Williams	secretary
Emma Rochelle Williams	assistant-secretary

Directors

Arthur T. Williams	Guyte P. McCord
C. Seton Fleming	Philip S. May
Francis M. Williams	A. H. Phinney
Julien C. Yonge	

The minutes of the session were then read and approved and the meeting adjourned sine die.

FRANCIS M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

The Florida Historical Society in annual meeting, February 17, 1926, with its membership roll before it, pauses sorrowfully to drop four names marked there with the asterisk of death:

FATHER BENEDICT, of St. Leo

RICHARD M. CARY, of Pensacola

JOHN T. DISMUKES, of St. Augustine

HORACE DREW, of Jacksonville

Though these names will appear no more upon the list of Active Members, they will remain on the permanent roll of the Society -added, with others who have gone before, to the names of more than one hundred Floridians from every part of the State who, seventy years ago, founded The Historical Society of Florida.

Membership in the Historical Society may have held but a small place in the lives of these four men; yet it indicates, it establishes, their public spirit; and whether their interest was much or little, still it was a definite part of their life's work, and in doing that part they have borne their share in keeping faith with the founders.

We pause to acknowledge their interest and their support, to record our loss, and to honor them as they honored their Society and their State.

A. H. PHINNEY

C. SETON FLEMING

JULIEN C. YONGE.

REPORT OF ARTHUR T. WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT, TO THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1926.

Members of the Florida Historical Society:

It is with a feeling of great pleasure that I, as President of The Florida Historical Society, in compliance with the statutes of the organization, address the members assembled in the twenty-third annual meeting within these rooms dedicated to the quest for, and the preservation of, the truths of history.

Fourteen months have passed since the last annual meeting held in Tallahassee during the Centennial Celebration of 1924 - months fraught with much that is gratifying and beneficial to the growth of the Society.

Oftimes it is the privilege of the presiding officer to become the mouth-piece through which the voices of his co-ordinates find expression ; therefore, it is with keen gratification, the more keen because it is most just, that I convey to the St. Petersburg members of The Florida Historical Society our sincere and fervent appreciation of your stimulating interest in the organic affairs - an interest which has been exceedingly gratifying and most beneficial to the growth of the Society. The majority of your memberships have extended but the short period of one year, yet today you number 27 on our roster and your valuation is not to be estimated numerically. Fourteen months ago, through your representative, Dr. A. H. Phinney, we accepted your cordial invitation to assemble in annual meeting in this beautiful city of St. Petersburg with a sensibility of the thoughtful courtesy

which urged you to extend the hand of friendship to a society with which, at that time, most of you were not affiliated. It was a most gracious act and will ever be remembered as such. Today we feel that we are among friends - friends who have demonstrated their interest and sincerity by uniting with us in the worthy cause we are attempting to serve. The many courtesies and the cordiality of the greetings extended to us today will, I assure you, remain a bright spot in the intimate history of The Florida Historical Society.

I feel in submitting for your information the following reports, activities, and the healthy condition of the Society for the past fourteen months that I am the bearer of exceeding good news. In the President's report of November, 1924, the following figures on membership were given; 5 Life members, 4 Honorary members, and 117 Active members, a total of 126 enrolled. Today there are 2 Honorary members, 6 Life members, 6 Contributing members, and 270 Active members, a total of 284 names upon the roster of The Florida Historical Society-more than double the membership of last year. Certainly, to me, the progress in membership has been most gratifying.

Of the 158 new members gained during the past year, 58 are directly attributable to Dr. A. H. Phinney, whose unflagging energy has been one of our greatest assets. To Mr. J. C. Yonge of Pensacola, so vitally interested in every phase of the work of the Society, are attributed 60 enrollments. Through their successful exertions the quarterly publication of the Society is distributed, not only within the boundaries of our field of operation, Florida, but has entered many homes in the north and far west, thereby gaining for The Florida Historical Society many intelligent friends and a dignified publicity of our cause

which is most advantageous to us. The warm appreciation of the Society is extended to both these gentlemen for their splendid work. To Dr. Phinney we must add-it is but another reason why the assembling in St. Petersburg was so eagerly anticipated by all of us.

While this splendid increase in membership is most encouraging, we must not forget the fact that the dues of membership do not yet balance the yearly expenditures. The deficit has heretofore been met by contribution, but I feel that it is the desire of every member that the Society be placed upon an assured foundation whereupon it may function in a healthy financial condition. We can not, in justice, call ourselves a wholly successful organization until such a condition exists.

In the Quarterly periodical edited by Mr. Julien C. Yonge of Pensacola, we have the pulse of the Society. It is through this publication that the life of our organization will become more stimulated and invigorated with the years, and it is the medium through which our work becomes known to the public whose interest we desire to arouse. Under the able direction of Mr. Yonge, and by its many excellent articles of deep historical significance, the periodical is rapidly winning an enviable reputation. We have on our mailing list 14 exchanges of note, all of which have been requested. I feel so keenly its great importance as a constructive power for the Society that I should like to expand it with every issue--certainly it must not be curtailed. From the 270 Active members enrolled we receive \$2.00 per annum, or \$540.00. Added to this is the \$60.00 per annum from our 10 Contributing members, making a total income of \$600.00 per annum. It will, therefore, be necessary for us to increase our membership or to increase the yearly dues. I have thought it might be a good idea

to submit to our members the question of increasing our dues to \$3.00 per year in order that our income would be sufficient to meet the cost of publishing the Quarterly and increasing its size.

In November of this year, one of the most important steps in the progress of the Society was taken in the publication of *A History of Jacksonville and Vicinity* by Mr. T. Frederick Davis, a resident of Jacksonville.

The author, a member of the Society, has devoted twenty years to accumulating data for this work, and has compiled a book of 500 pages, painting in swift, graphic word pictures a full, complete and authentic history of Jacksonville and vicinity. It was a stupendous task: over one thousand letters were written, all available public and private documents, newspapers, foreign archives and the libraries of the State and nation were searched for the material, resulting in Mr. Davis's getting out a most complete and authoritative history.

Mr. Davis generously donated the manuscript of this history to The Florida Historical Society, requesting that the entire proceeds derived from the sale of the book be devoted to the usages of the said Society in the advancement of educational knowledge bearing upon the history of Florida. The Society, profoundly grateful to Mr. Davis for his great generosity and proud to sponsor a work of such undisputed excellence, arranged to have 1000 copies published. This volume, illustrated and nicely bound, is now on sale at the headquarters of the Society, 7 West Forsyth Street, or Box 42, Jacksonville, Florida, for \$5.00.

Our archives and museum have been enriched during the past year by many contributions, most of which are extremely valuable. Owing to the historical significance of these contributions I deem it just that the information concerning them should be pre-

sented to you in detail, therefore, the Secretary will presently read to you the list.

The Assistant Secretary of the Society has received and replied to over 150 letters of inquiry on subjects relating to Florida history, many of these inquiries coming from distant states. I mention this as evidence of the rapidly growing interest in the Society beyond the confines of our native State.

In 1925, the Society lost through death four of its most valued members: Father Benedict of St. Leo, a contributor to our archives of many historical works of his own authorship. The literati of the State, as well as the Society, will suffer a keen loss on the passing of this learned priest. Mr. Horace Drew of Jacksonville, a son-in-law of the founder of The Florida Historical Society, Major George R. Fairbanks, and one always vitally interested in the advancement of historical research ; Mr. R. M. Cary of Pensacola, and Mr. John Dismukes of St. Augustine. The Society wishes to publicly acknowledge its loss and I suggest that a committee be appointed to prepare suitable resolutions to be published in the next issue of the Quarterly.

Respectfully submitted,
ARTHUR T. WILLIAMS,
President.

REPORT OF **THE** TREASURER, JANUARY 31, 1926

I have the honor to report that the funds of the Florida Historical Society, which are in the Savings Department of the Atlantic National Bank, have been received and disbursed since the rendering of the last report, November 4th, 1924, as follows:

Balance in bank November 4th, 1924	\$ 86.76
Received for dues, etc.	786.70
Interest credited on bank balances	2.68
	<hr/>
TOTAL	\$876.14

Moving property of the Society	\$ 65.00
Two checks in blank for prizes ¹	20.00
H. & W. B. Drew Company, printing	450.70
Pepper Printing Company, printing	155.39
	<hr/>
	\$691.09

Total receipts	\$876.14
Total disbursements	691.09
	<hr/>

Bank bal. Jan. 31	\$185.05 ²
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Respectfully submitted,
 FRED W. HOYT,
 Treasurer.

¹ A prize essay contest on Florida history for high school students.

² On this date there is an unpaid bill for printing the journal of \$266.58.

NOTES AND COMMENT

The most important matter brought before the Society at its annual meeting was its financial state, for conditions make it so. That is said at the outset to indicate the subject of this paragraph; but any member with a real interest in the body must feel a like interest in this problem. With our recent increase in membership the receipts from annual dues of two dollars very nearly cover the cost of printing the QUARTERLY. This small deficit and all lesser expenses have been paid by donations. There is no expectation of suspending publication of the journal, though it cannot of course expand; but the Society will not reach a healthy state until its current receipts equal its expenditures. Beyond this: it will be readily seen that other expenditures, though not necessary, are exceedingly desirable. The only increase in our historical collection during the year has been from gifts. Many opportunities have offered for the purchase of Florida historical material of unusual value, which we could not consider. An increase in our resources is necessary to growth and almost to existence. The Society asks you earnestly to secure one or more members, or to become a Contributing Member (at ten dollars) for this year.

At the annual meeting a resolution was adopted providing for a referendum to determine whether the annual dues shall be increased to three dollars. With a substantial growth in both the Active and the Contributing memberships, this change will not be needed.

A recent issue of the General Extension Division *Record*, University of Florida, is - ***Florida History, A course of study especially designed for Florida Club Women***; by Catherine Z. Winters, Instructor in His-

tory, Florida State College for Women. Copies may be obtained from the Division, Gainesville, for twenty-five cents. Its thirty-six pages contain twelve lessons and a bibliography. Most of these lessons are studies of certain periods of Florida history, the others deal with factors and men. Each is divided into four parts: a sketch of the period (or the subject), readings relating to it, points covered, and suggestions for discussion. This outline is valuable for the purpose intended, and useful for individual study or reading.

In the December number of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review, Isaac J. Cox writes on ***The Border Missions of General George Matthews***. These concern the activities of John McIntosh in and about Florida, and the so-called Patriot War. Here, also, is a review of Julius W. Pratt's ***Expansionists of 1812***. The reviewer states: "The most valuable sections [of the volume] are those devoted to the southern expansionists and the abortive attempts on East Florida, and in particular the detailed study of the local activities of the regular and irregular agents of the administration in that field."

Many copies of T. F. Davis's ***History of Jacksonville*** have been sold. This volume, the first published by the Society, was fully described in a recent number. It can be had from any bookseller, or from the secretary. The price is five dollars.

Since the last issue of the Quarterly appeared the Society has received the following gifts:

John C. Gifford, ***Billy Bowlegs and the Seminole War***. Presented by the author.

Frank Harris, ***Frank Harris of the Ocala Banner; Some of his preachments.*** Presented by the author.

Trench and Camp. Publication of Camp Johnson. Jacksonville, Florida. 1918-19. Bound volumes. Presented by the Times-Union, Jacksonville.

The Times-Union, Jacksonville, Florida, 1917 - 1918. Bound volumes. Presented by the ***Times-Union.***

From Mrs. Raymond Robins, a Contributing Member, fifteen dollars additional.

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