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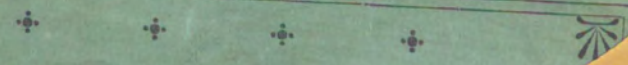
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A brief description
of Brevard
County, Florida;
or the Indian...

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J. H. Lewis



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A BRIEF DESCRIPTION
OF BREVARD COUNTY,
290593 FLORIDA, OR 17500

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J. W. Lewis

Brevard County,

✦ FLORIDA ✦



— OR —

THE INDIAN RIVER COUNTRY.

May 1891

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION

OF

BREVARD COUNTY,

FLORIDA,

OR THE

INDIAN RIVER COUNTRY;

ITS

CLIMATE, HEALTH, PRODUCTS, ETC.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE DA COSTA PRINTING HOUSE, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

1891.

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A BRIEF DESCRIPTION
OF BREVARD COUNTY,
290593 FLORIDA, OR 17500

PREFACE TO THE FOURTH EDITION.

This pamphlet was originally published by the committee appointed by the County Commissioners, to disburse the appropriation made to aid the county in making a creditable exhibit, at the opening session of the Sub-Tropical Exposition, at Jacksonville, 1888, for the purpose of setting forth some of the advantages of Climate, Health, Products, etc., of Brevard County, Florida, or the Indian River Country, and as a means of giving reliable information to those who, for business, health, or recreation, may be inclined to come among us.

The unexpected demand for that, and also for the second and third editions, has caused our County Commissioners to issue this, the Fourth Revised Edition. Any additional information to that contained in this pamphlet, on any particular point, may be had by writing to the Postmaster at such place, who will either reply himself or refer it to some reliable person who would be pleased to do so.

By Authority of the County Commissioners.

BREVARD COUNTY.

OUTLINE HISTORY.

BY HON. H. S. WILLIAMS.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY formerly extended from Cape Canaveral on the north, to Hillsborough Inlet on the south, and from the Atlantic coast west, to near the centre of the State. In January, 1855, the name was changed to Brevard, the boundaries changed, and "a County Site permanently established and located at a place known and designated as Fort Pierce, and the name of said County Site shall be Susannah." In 1862 an act was passed providing for the election of county officers. In 1864 the County Site was changed to Bassville, and some years later to Lake View. In 1879 the southern part of Volusia County was added to Brevard, and soon after Titusville selected as the County Site, at which time the full and efficient organization of the County was made by the appointment of a full set of county officials, and for the first time in our history, taxes were systematically collected.

At this writing Brevard County extends from the northern boundary line of township 20, to and including township 37, south, a distance of 108 miles. It embraces within its present limits about eighty townships, or nearly 3,000 square miles. The whole of the celebrated Indian River is embraced in this County, with the exception of about twenty miles to the south of St. Lucie River, known as Jupiter Narrows. So great is the interest taken in this section that we propose to describe it at some length. Its unrivalled water facilities, its peculiar and romantic scenery, its superb fishing, hunting and yachting, its unexcelled fruits, its delightful climate, and its clean bill of health, all combine to make it the Mecca of the tourist, whether he comes for health or for pleasure.

GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION.

The peculiar system of water communication extending along the Atlantic Coast and separated from the ocean, generally by

narrow strips of land or clusters of islands, and connected therewith by inlets at various places, changes from the broad bays and sounds of the Virginia and Carolina coast as we proceed southward, and when we reach St. Augustine they assume such long narrow shapes as to be called rivers; hence the Matanzas, Halifax, Hillsborough and Indian Rivers are, in fact, immense bodies of salt water connected with the ocean by inlets, and subject, near those inlets, to the influences of tide water. Imagine a body of water one hundred and forty miles long, and from one to five in width; so straight that a line stretched from one end to the other would not touch either bank, with a wide channel from six to twelve feet in depth, not an obstruction in the way of rocks or sunken trees, and you get an idea of what Indian River is.

But to thoroughly appreciate, one must see it, and sail its entire coast with a well-posted skipper. "Why, sir!" said an old sea captain to me once, "why, sir, I've been around the world seven times, sir, and never have I seen a finer body of water than this."

Lapping by one another for some ten miles, the Mosquito Lagoon to the east, and the head of Indian River to the west, they are separated by a narrow strip of land, scarcely more than a quarter of a mile wide. At Haulover, which, as the name indicates, is where sail-boats were formerly transferred from one river to the other, there is now a canal sixty feet wide. Northward the river extends for six miles, forming a huge basin, and surrounded by immense bodies of hammock lands, rich and desirable, but unfortunately mostly covered by old Spanish grants.

South of the canal, about two miles, is the old Dummitt grove, celebrated the world over for its luscious oranges. The original wild orange trees were changed to a sweet grove by transplanting and budding, in 1852, by the late Captain Douglass Dummitt and his brother-in-law, General William P. Hardee.

Nearly opposite Haulover is Aurantia, where some northern capitalists once tried to establish an immense orange grove on the co-operative plan, but which, for want of proper management and good judgment, failed. Under more efficient management it is now quite a thriving place.

Eight miles to the south Titusville is located. As before stated, this is the County Site of Bevard County. Since the

completion of the railroad to this place it has grown wonderfully, and improvement is still the watchword. Here, if the tourist is "on game or fish intent," he should get a sail-boat, and taking advantage of a fair wind, proceed southward, anticipating with perfect safety a most delightful trip. Six miles below (south) the river is six miles wide, and is known among boatmen as the "Bay of Biscay." Merritt's Island lies to the eastward. This island is thirty-five miles long by six miles wide at the north end, and is bounded on the east by Banana River, a broad, shallow body of water, abounding in fish, while still to the eastward lies Cape Canaveral, with its superb lighthouse.

After passing Jones' Point, eleven miles south of Titusville, we reach Hardeeville, with its immense wharf, and then three miles to the south we reach Sharpes, a postoffice, and the location of Rocky Point House, a popular winter resort, under the most efficient management of Mrs. Sharpe. Here the settlement of City Point commences. For miles the bank is dotted with neat dwellings and flourishing orange groves, nearly all hidden from view by a fringe of palmetto trees that line the river bank.

On the opposite or east bank of the river we have several thriving settlements with postoffices—Courtney to the north, then Indianola and Merritt some five miles to the south. Early vegetables are grown very successfully, while orange groves and pineapples have been set and promise well for the future. South of Magnolia Point, which marks the southern boundary of the City Point settlement, the bank of the river changes from sandy shores to bold rocky banks and deeper water.

At Oleander Point—a well known land-mark to all boatmen on the river—the noted Rock Ledge hammock commences, so named on account of the shore being "ledged" with coquina rock. The water is comparatively deep up to the rocks, so that wharves from forty to seventy-five feet long will reach six feet of water.

Just to the north of Oleander Point is the town of Cocoa, quite a thriving village of half a dozen stores and two hotels.

Rock Ledge hammock is three miles long by an average width of half a mile, and is one continuous orange grove its

entire length, a large part just coming into bearing. Near the centre of the hammock are two stores, two large hotels, and the postoffice. The river is a full mile wide at this point.

Four miles southeast of Rock Ledge is the settlement of Georgiana, where some wealthy Northern gentlemen have winter homes. The Island is here only half a mile wide, and to the southward partakes of an almost tropical nature. Dr. Wittfield's charming place, "Fairyland," is one mile south of the postoffice.

To Eau Gallie the banks on both sides of the river alternate from hammock to pine land, with houses every few hundred yards. The settlers on the island at Brantley and Tropic are successfully growing pineapples and garden vegetables, the latter being shipped as early as the first of February.

The point of Merritt's Island, and the mouth of Banana River, is directly opposite Eau Gallie. Here the *beach* commences, which separates Indian River from the ocean. It varies from one mile to a few hundred yards across.

Three miles south of Eau Gallie is the enterprising settlement of Melbourne. The river here has widened out to nearly two miles, which is its average width until we reach St. Sebastian River, some twenty miles south of Melbourne. St. Sebastian River is quite a large body of fresh water, rising in the flatwoods, near the head of the St. Johns, and is noted for its fine fresh water fishing.

We now come to the *Narrows*, simply a number of islands in the channel of the river, and extending for several miles southward. After passing the "Hole-in-the-Wall," the narrowest part of the river, it widens out again, and fifteen miles below is the inlet, with St. Lucie opposite. Near here Fort Capron and Fort Pierce were situated during the Indian wars. The supplies for the troops were conveyed by wagon from New Smyrna, a long, dreary and dangerous journey. The old Smyrna and Capron *trail* is plainly marked through the pine woods, and is yet utilized to a considerable extent in places.

The river is here well supplied with oysters, while the fishing is as good, perhaps, as at any point in the country. There are several islands just inside the inlet, chiefly utilized as camping places for sportsmen. For a few weeks outing, this excels any

place we know of. Plenty of game, and a superabundance of fish and oysters give the true sportsman all the sport he can reasonably ask for, while his larder can be always most abundantly supplied. St. Lucie presents the most accessible point for a trip to the Indian camps and hunting grounds in the vicinity of Lake Okeechobee, one of the most romantic and adventurous trips conceivable.

Twenty miles below we reach Eden, noted for its enterprising citizens, its high bluffs, and its large plantations of pine-apples and bananas. Waveland, five miles south, is just over the line in Dade County, and near the mouth of St. Lucie River.

All this southern section of the county is improving rapidly, and new places are being constantly developed by a hardy, enterprising and intelligent class of settlers. The new postoffices have been increased in number to such an extent that no settler can be removed a great way from convenient mail facilities. In the "Description of Places" the reader will find all information needed to form an accurate and intelligent idea of the peculiar advantages of each locality.

The western part of the county is generally flat pine woods and prairies, devoted almost exclusively to stock raising. The broad prairies bordering on the St. Johns are fine grazing lands, and the settlement of Fort Drum, thirty miles west of Indian River Inlet, comprises some among the largest stockmen in this section of the State. Thousands of cattle can be seen grazing on the broad, level prairies; while the owners, although living, perhaps, in rough houses, will receive the stranger with the most courteous welcome, and entertain him with the most liberal hospitality.

THE LANDS.

Along the river lands are divided into pine and hammock. The latter is subdivided into high and low hammocks. The high hammocks are densely wooded with live oak, hickory, red bay and palmetto, with an almost impenetrable undergrowth of ironwood, wild olive, myrtle and vines. The soil is either red or grey coquina, and is peculiarly adapted to the growth of the citrus family of fruits. The low hammocks are heavily timbered with the same growth, and, in addition, ash, magnolia and gum,

while the soil is black, and generally underlaid with marl. This land is adapted to the growth of bananas, sugar cane, corn, and vegetables generally. Unlike most of the high hammock lands of the State those on Indian River, like Rock Ledge, for instance, are perfectly healthy. The soil is of that fertility that an orange grove will come into bearing and pay a handsome revenue before any fertilizing is necessary, an item of no small importance to the poor man.

No more charming picture can be imagined than the palmetoes, with their long, fan-shaped leaves lining the rocky bank of the river, and swayed gently to the fresh morning breeze, while the oaks and hickories lift their proud heads far above a huge mass of living green leaves, elaborately festooned with pendant masses of gray moss; a background of orange trees, the golden fruit contrasting so charmingly with the deep green foliage, and then the foreground, the grandest body of water we ever saw, while the waves dash a regular monotone against the rocks at our feet—it is a lovely picture, fresh from the hands of the greatest of all artists, *Nature*, and one which will live in the memory for years to come.

OUR INDUSTRIES

are many and varied. No more well established fact exists than this. The greatest degree of permanent prosperity attends that section where the husbandman can grow the greatest number of paying crops successfully. As an illustration, the planter who grows corn, cotton, potatoes, oats, the grasses, and a surplus of stock, is much more prosperous and independent than one who only grows cotton. In the latter case, if the cotton crop fails all is lost, while in the former he has many more paying crops to fall back on. Here we have three great money making crops, oranges and lemons, pineapples and garden vegetables. Add to these the fish, oyster and turtle business that is increasing every year.

As a money making crop the orange takes the lead. The Indian River orange needs no description of eulogy at our hands. In whatever market they may be placed they at once lead all others, both in demand and price. The thousands of tourists who visit us every season invariably pronounce them

the finest ever tasted. The true test as to the quality of an article is the price it brings in the market. Those of our readers who have followed the price currents of the New York and other Northern markets, have noticed that *Indian Rivers* were quoted from fifty cents up to one dollar per box above any other brands.

Our Indian River oranges have in fact risen to the dignity of special quotations in our leading Jacksonville papers, much to the chagrin of friends in the interior. This superiority consists in the marked absence of pulp, the extra amount of juice, and the delicious sweetness, without losing character. It is still a disputed question with some whether orange growing as a rule pays or not. The true answer to such a query depends to a great extent on the locality, the soil and the grower. We have seen many groves that we do not believe will ever pay the owner the first cost of setting. We know some such groves in Brevard County, but fortunately very few. With us, as a rule, we have no hesitation in saying that orange growing *does pay*. For proof positive on this point, we will state that the owners of nearly all the groves who originally set the trees have made everything they possess from the sale of the fruit they have marketed. We can name several orange growers who have during the past ten years expended from \$10,000 to \$20,000 cash on their places in the way of improvements, every dollar of which came from the sale of the products of their places. With careful and systematic management, reasonably good transportation, an honest and well established commission merchant, good quality of fruit, well graded, sized, wrapped, and packed in neat boxes, there need be no fear as to the results in the way of remunerative prices.

That the general reader who has had no experience in this line of business may more readily understand the subject, we copy two accounts of sales received by a party on the river during the season just passed, 1890-91:

Received March 14th and sold for — —:		BOSTON, March 16, 1891.
31 boxes, XX, @ \$5.....		\$155 00
59 boxes, X, @ \$4.50.....		265 50
8 boxes, No. 2, @ \$3.25.....		26 00
2 boxes lost.....		
100		—\$446 50
Freight, A. C. D. (all rail).....		\$ 90 00
Cartage.....		3 00
Commission.....		44 65
Net proceeds.....		308 85—\$446 50

The following account-sales is a month later :

BOSTON, April 25, 1891.

Received April 13th and sold for — — — :

13	boxes oranges, XX.....	at \$6 00...	\$78 00
10	boxes oranges, XX.....	at 5 50...	55 00
11	boxes oranges, X.....	at 5 00...	55 00
21½	boxes oranges, X.....	at 4 50...	c6 75
9	boxes oranges, No. 2.....	at 3 75...	33 75
8	boxes oranges, No. 2.....	at 3 00...	24 00
2	boxes oranges (96s, coarse).....	at 2 50...	5 00
½	box lost.		
<hr/>			
75			\$347 50
	Freight (refrigerator car).....	\$ 78 00	
	Cartage.....	2 25	
	Commission.....	34 75	
	Net proceeds.....	232 50	
<hr/>			\$347 50

Our own experience shows that there is but little difference between New York and Boston as a market. Late in the season New York is generally the best. As the reader will see, the above netted a trifle over \$3 per box in both instances and under the most favorable circumstances. The fruit was first class in quality and sizes good, ranging from 126 down to 200, with the exception of two boxes of 96s in each lot; it had a reputation in the market; it was well graded, wrapped and packed, neatly boxed and stamped with the grower's special brand or trademark. The cost of picking, wrapping, packing and boxes is about fifty cents per box delivered on the wharf.

In connection with this subject we will say that the past season was not the best. During the month of February oranges went through in very bad order by steamship, our cheapest way of shipping. The market was badly glutted and prices ruled low.

We think that a net average of \$2 per box will pay a fair profit to the grower, as a grove ten years from the setting should produce at least 400 boxes to the acre, all the conditions being favorable. One grower, the past season, sold his entire crop of over 2,000 boxes for \$3 per box delivered on the wharf.

As the intelligent reader will see, our immunity from injurious frost is a great advantage in the prices realized. By saving the bulk of the crop until February and March, the heavy shipments from the interior and northern section of the orange belt will have been sold, when the demand, exceeding the supply, causes the price to have an upward tendency.

PINEAPPLES

are now receiving more attention than ever before. Previous to January, 1886, they gave promise of being grown as far north as the Haulover with a fair prospect of profit, but the disastrous freeze of that year drew the line of successful culture down toward the south end of the county, and hereafter, on the west bank of the river, as far south as Eau Gallie, we doubt if we can grow more than are needed for home consumption.

On Merritt's Island and on the coast from Canaveral southward they can be grown very profitably. The late Captain M. O. Burnham made a success of the Egyptian Queen variety, which he considered the best for market. At the worst, two crops only were lost by the freeze of 1886. Dr. William Wittfield, of Merritt's Island, one of our most successful growers, tells me that he has grown Trinidads that, without extra care or cultivation, attained eleven and a half pounds weight, while his Egyptian Queens of extra size sold readily at fifty cents each by the crate. During the past year this industry has assumed immense proportions, and thousands of acres have changed hands, while hundreds of acres have been set, the amount only limited by the supply of plants. Some of the more enthusiastic growers venture the assertion that in a few years the shipments of pines will equal, if not exceed, the orange crop. The present season—1891—the shipments will be about 12,000 crates, while the acreage will be nearly doubled. Our pines, like our oranges, are very superior in quality. We have shipped some from our own place that received the high praise from the consumer, "that they were the first they had ever eaten that did not require sugar when serving them." As we can let them begin to color before picking they are very superior to those that have to be picked green like our imported ones.

The largest plantations are from Ankona southward. Those at Eden and Jensen are very promising. On the beach opposite Melbourne many thousands have been set, and with proper care we have no doubt but they will prove a success, as those already in fruiting indicate.

BANANAS,

being gross feeders, require low, black and moist hammock land to do their best. Several plantations near the inlet, the Narrows and the St. Lucie river are a success financially.

SUGAR CANE

grows to perfection and can be made a very profitable crop. The Indian River syrup is a very superior article, and when one gets it he knows he has the pure juice of the cane, which cannot be said of the vile abominations that come from the North. The price, by the barrel, is about fifty cents per gallon.

GARDENING,

as a business, is followed to some extent, but our transportation is even yet too slow for tomatoes and like perishable articles, and the freights too high for much profit to the producer. When communication becomes both rapid and cheap, fortunes can be made at this business. We have thousands of acres of low, rich hammock that can be utilized for this purpose, especially in the Narrows, where this industry is carried on to a greater extent than in any other part of the country.

Drought is the greatest obstacle. Irrigation will have to be adopted to make it a certain success, and then we see no reason why nearly all kinds of vegetables cannot be grown to perfection. We have often seen cabbage weighing twenty pounds and over per head, while onions and tomatoes were all that could be desired.

There are some varieties of the English pea that can be grown during the winter, and promise to prove very remunerative. The results of one year's experiments, on a small scale, have encouraged the growers to enlarge their area to over twenty acres.

THE GUAVA

grows to perfection. Few persons like this fruit at first, but a taste is soon acquired, so that one classes them equal to the best. From them we make jellies, preserves, marmalade, catsup, etc., besides canning them. The guava jelly, when properly made, is a very superior article, and finds ready sale at remunerative prices. The fruit is too tender, and decays too soon to ship any great distance.

The guava can, as above stated, be prepared in so many different ways for market, that recent experiments justify the belief that it will become a valuable fruit product of the county.

During our residence here the trees have been killed to the ground twice—in 1876 and ten years later, when we had trees

over thirty feet high killed, after coming into bearing. We have never known the crop to fail. When we get communication so as to ship this fruit as far north as Jacksonville the same day that they are picked, we can grow them very profitably.

GRAPES

have been grown to a limited extent only. The Scuppernong grows to perfection, but the more northern varieties have not as yet been a very gratifying success. We have hope, however, to report more favorably on this most delicious fruit ere long.

IRRIGATION.

Owing to our extremes in wet and dry weather, irrigation, if not an actual necessity in fruit growing, will be found very advantageous, and profitable as an investment. For vegetable growing, however, we consider it a necessity, in order to realize profitable results. Successful irrigation is, fortunately, no longer a problem. In the summer of 1888, Mr. Albert S. Magruder sunk the first artesian well, and made a success of it, in Rock Ledge Hammock. Since then several parties have engaged in the business; have been kept busy, and with such success that, at the present writing, nearly every orange grove at Rock Ledge, City Point and Merritt's, and nearly all the pineapple and vegetable farms at Georgiana, Eau Gallie and Melbourne have fine flowing wells. To the stranger the value of these wells can hardly be realized. The two-inch pipes flow about 90,000 gallons per day, the three-inch pipes from 180,000 to 200,000 gallons per day. The pressure is generally sufficient to force the flow from thirty-five to forty feet above the level of the river. That these wells have added materially to the health of our people, and to the value of real estate, is no longer a question. The water is generally a mild sulphur, while some, toward the north end of the county, are quite salt. To realize the greatest possible benefit from these flowing wells, the water should be controlled by pipes and hydrants, so as to turn off or on at pleasure.

OUR LIST OF FRUITS

comprise the following: Oranges, lemons, limes, grape fruit, citrons, shaddocks, pineapples, custard-apples, grapes, guavas, bananas, loquats, pawpaws and mangoes. A few cocoa-

nuts are planted along the river, and some at Bethel creek and Eden; have been productive for several years, but the county generally is too far north for the profitable culture of the tree.

Of the above, oranges, lemons, limes, grape-fruit, pine-apples, guavas, bananas and mangoes can be grown profitably. Within the past year or two, the grape-fruit (pomelo) has met with ready sale and an increased demand in all our markets. It is in fact our choicest and healthiest fruit. As a breakfast dish it is without rival, and the most fastidious taste could ask for nothing better, especially as an appetizer like rare old wine. It has more *character* than any fruit we ever ate. So great is our faith in the future of the pomelo that many growers are planting groves of this variety of the citrus family exclusively. As yet the fruit-growing of this section is in its infancy, and as experiments are made the profitable list may be added to very considerably.

FISHING

is good at some seasons, and rather indifferent at others. Our list of fish is large and varied. The mullet, channel-bass, crevalle, salt-water trout, sheephead, redfish, pompano, jew-fish, tarpon and blue fish abound, especially near the Inlet. Green turtle are taken in great numbers, in their season, at Fort Capron. They are shipped North and readily sold at good prices. The best fishing commences in June and lasts until December, when the mullet, our most numerous and best table fish, go outside to spawn.

Tourists, who have a weakness for the sport, by taking a competent skipper, can find, during the winter season, a surfeit of good fishing. The Banana River affords the best fishing in the northern end of the county, while near the Inlet the larger varieties are so easily taken that it often becomes an irksome task in place of a pleasurable one. At any point on the whole length of the river and its tributaries, however, a skillful fisherman can meet with fair success under favorable circumstances.

OUR OYSTERS

are very fine. Previous to 1878 they were, apparently, inexhaustible, immense beds extending for many miles both to the north and south of the Inlet. The September storm of that

year, however, destroyed nearly all the beds, and only within the past two or three years have they become plentiful again. With proper cultivation they can be grown in quantities, and equal to any we have eaten. As a rule they are not fat, consequently not good for the table, until December, owing, no doubt, to our late seasons. They continue good, however, correspondingly late in the season, as we often use them until the middle of June.

THE HUNTING

is good, if the hunter goes after his game and knows how to get it after he finds it. Deer are plentiful out on the St. John's prairies, and on the beach where it is not settled. It is no uncommon thing to see from ten to twenty deer in a day's ride along the Lake Winder prairies. But if the sportsman from the North wishes to take back a pair of antlers as a trophy of his prowess, he must be prepared to put up with a great many hardships and exercise an extra amount of patience. A good hunter, who, if not "native and to the manor born," is at least of considerable experience, and who knows the country well, should be engaged to act as guide. A camp-out of two or three days in some good hunting section will generally reward the party who has the courage to try it, with at the least one good fat buck, providing he is a good shot on the run.

Wild-cats, racoons and opossums abound in our hammocks, and prowl round our hen-roosts at night. Occasionally a panther is seen or heard, but the bear has retreated to the dense swamps and jungles beyond the sound of civilization.

OUR CLIMATE

is unexcelled. Our rainy days are few and far between. During the winter and spring months, such a thing as a rainy day is almost unknown. Some seasons, August and September, give us an excess of rain, but as a rule we are too dry. Our winters are very pleasant, with now and then a cold snap, accompanied by a heavy norther and a light frost. Our summers are generally cool and delightful, with a fresh breeze from the southeast. For several years we kept a daily record of the thermometer, and day after day, for weeks at a time during June, July and August, the record was the same, 68° at sunrise, and

86° at noon and 78° at sunset. Each day the wind would rise from the southeast between 8 and 9 a. m., and blow steadily all day, dying away after sunset, to be followed by a light land breeze all night. But to thoroughly appreciate our climate one must be here to enjoy it.

THE HEALTH

of Indian River is as good as any part of the United States. If one takes reasonable care of one's self there is no excuse for sickness. By exposure and drinking impure water one can get sick even here, and have the double satisfaction of paying a doctor's bill and swallowing a lot of nauseating drugs. When we first located here we were compelled, as all pioneers were, to undergo a great many hardships and exposure. For days at a time we would be wet by wading in the river, rafting, etc., and at night we would sleep in our boat, or on the river bank, in wet clothing, but so far as we could see, we suffered no ill effects. The same exposure in a more northern climate would have laid us up with chills and fever, if not worse. The drinking of impure water is, in our opinion, the prime cause of nearly all sickness. As we are to have a special contribution on the health of this section by a gentleman more competent to deal with it than ourself, we refer the reader to that article.

TRANSPORTATION,

with all its facilities of regular and rapid communication, is so far superior to that of past years, that we feel hopeful of the near future. In 1881 a semi-weekly line of small steamers was established between Sanford and Rock Ledge, landing on Lake Poinsett (see map). This line was kept up until after the building of the railroad from Enterprise to Titusville in 1886. A line of steamers is now run in connection with that road from Titusville as far south as Jupiter. We have daily mail by this line as far south as Melbourne. The East Coast Transportation Company have a line of steamers running from New Smyrna, in Volusia county, to Melbourne, making tri weekly trips and connecting at the former place with the A. & W. R. R. A majority of the stock in this company is owned by the citizens of City Point and Rock Ledge.

The Lake Jesup, Indian River and Atlantic R. R. is now surveyed from Oviedo, in Orange County, to Coquina just to the south of the Rock Ledge Hammock; work is progressing, and the management are under contract to have it finished by January 1st, next. This road will give us an all-rail competing line, connecting at Oviedo with the F. C. & P. system and the South Florida Railroad, and a rail and steamer competing line by connecting with the Clyde Line of Steamers at Lake Jesup. When this line is completed we will have the most perfect system of transportation of any section of South Florida.

From Titusville to Jupiter we have a telegraph line erected by the Government, with officers at the most important places. At nearly all the places named on the river, good sail-boats with competent and careful skippers can be engaged to visit important points, or cruise by the week in regular marooning style, where the best fishing and hunting is to be had, or wherever the fancy and inclination may direct. In search of health or sport this is the proper way to pass, at least, a part of the winter.

A PARADISE

is not to be found on Indian River, however, by any means. We have some drawbacks, like all sections and all countries we have ever seen. A gale sometimes visits us, and does more or less damage. Yet they are not of yearly occurrence, as some persons at a distance imagine. We have now been exempt from one for several years; our last was on the 31st of August, 1880. The principal damage they do is to blow oranges off the trees, sometimes upset a house if not securely built, and wreck any small boat that may be caught out exposed to the storm. The damage to the orange crop can, in a measure, be counteracted by growing the trees with low heads, and by leaving heavy margins around the grove for protection. Our greatest annoyance is mosquitoes. We have lots of them, good, lively fellows that mean business, and they keep a lazy man moving during the months of July and August. Generally, for some three months during the summer, they are bad, and come nearer demoralizing us than any known factor in the make-up of the many ills we have to bear in this life. Sometimes they are bad for a couple of weeks, and then they will almost entirely disappear,

only to return again in great numbers, to torment us, perhaps, to teach us the valuable lesson, that all the good things of this world are not to be found in one place.

Sand flies are bad only among the mangrove swamps, near the inlets, and in the low hammocks, on calm days.

Poisonous snakes are very rare. Our rattlesnakes are huge, hideous monsters, but, fortunately, not especially vicious, and most easily killed. A neighbor, and one of our first settlers, says he never wants a club more than two feet long to kill one with, but with us the length of the club depends somewhat on the length of the snake.

THE TOURIST

can find no pleasanter locality to pass the winter than within the confines of our county. If he wishes to lead a hotel life, "with all the modern improvements," he can do so. If he wishes to get up a party and charter a sail-boat for the season, we know of no section where he could get more real sport in hunting or fishing, or enjoy an out-of-door life to a greater extent. Throwing aside all the restrictions of a fashionable civilization, one can here live as Nature intended he should live. No breathing the stifling, furnace-heated atmosphere of air-tight rooms, no shrinking at the rude touch of a wintry blast, no dreaded fear of pneumonia, no doctor to feel the pulse, and with a face as long as his prescription write it out; no long drawn bills for nauseating drugs, but, instead, NATURE, free and ever generous, will infuse new strength into the worn and tired system, and renew the overworked brain with a new lease of life, by giving what so many sadly need, perfect rest.

During the past season all our hotels were taxed to their utmost capacity, and for several weeks guests had to be turned off. We need more hotels, and capitalists would do well to look into this matter at once. The hotels at Rock Ledge the past season had to utilize all the spare room in the settlement, and even pressed the sail-boats at the wharves into service. The more and better this section becomes known the greater the volume of winter travel.

THE PROSPECTIVE SETTLER

will find lands, and, perhaps, some few improved places for sale. But to all parties who propose locating in Florida, we

say, most emphatically, come and see for yourselves. The whole orange growing part of the State is so different from any other country, that all the articles or letters written in description would fail to convey a proper or correct idea of its many peculiarities. Therefore, we repeat, come and see for yourself, and then you can decide, if you look about intelligently, whether a change of home would be desirable. At least a month should be spent in looking over our county, mingling with our citizens and learning everything you can regarding the varied industries we can offer you. No man wants to change unless he can better his condition in life. If I was asked for advise when to come to spy out the land, I would say come in mid-summer. Then you will find everything at its worst. To start in on wild land, the pineapple industry, no doubt, presents the quickest and surest returns, but we would combine it with early vegetables.

In conclusion, we can truly say that we have no sectional feeling against any other part of our State. We have too much pride in her progress, as a whole, to wish ill of any section. We desire to have the Indian River Country and Brevard County to stand on their own merits exclusively, and, as far as we are concerned, we will never try to build them up at the expense of any other community.

HEALTH.

BY G. W. HOLMES, M. D.

In the winter of 1875-6 the writer first sought the shores of Indian River in quest of health. A life of exposure to the inclemencies of the climate of Central Ohio in the practice of medicine had developed a disease of the lungs incapacitating me for work. The death of two sisters from consumption, coupled with decided tubercular tendencies in my own case, led me to despair of recovery. I turned my reluctant footsteps from the land of my childhood, with all its cherished memories, and directed them toward the land famed in story for its salubrious and equable temperature.

The shipwrecked mariner whose foundering bark leaves him adrift upon the broad expanse of ocean, turns to the nearest land in search of safety with no more singleness of purpose than I journeyed southward in quest of a region where the chilling blasts of winter were replaced by genial sunshine and balmy breezes. The thermometer was ten degrees below zero when I left Columbus, Ohio; when I reached Rock Ledge, in this county, the pineapple plants and sweet potato vines showed not a touch of frost. There I passed the winter—a never to be forgotten winter! The close indoor life of chilly December was replaced by one of out-of-door freedom in my new southern home. The gloomy feeling of almost hopeless invalidism gave place to the pleasant consciousness of inhabiting a tenement a little less frail, wherein the machinery of life was beginning to run with about normal friction. An “Indian River appetite,” with increasing power of digestion and assimilation, replaced the wasted tissue. The strengthened heart beat with slower measure and increased volume. A lowering temperature noted the equilibrium of waste, and renewal of life. The wholesome influence of my new home convinced me that this was the land for me to live in. My sleeping apartment was so well ventilated that there was little difference between it and out-of-doors. The mildness of the air forbade the colds that harass invalids in northern climates. The change of scenery and consequent distract-

tion of the mind from dwelling upon itself efficiently aided the healing influence of the climate. And, as a further point of personal experience, I find that the tendency to chest troubles, heretofore hereditary in my family, has not been entailed on my children.

* * * * *

In the greater number of cases that have come under my observation I found that the permanence of health depended upon a continuous residence. Those who have returned to their former homes have generally had relapses that have terminated their lives. The summer months here, though long and not entirely free from monotony, are really more curative than those of the winter.

Here we meet those who have suffered from asthma. One from Michigan who had tried every place in the Union reputed as beneficial, found in Cocoa, in this county, an exemption unknown in any other place. Another neighbor, who hails from Nebraska and had previously dwelt in New York and Iowa, finds this climate the suitable one. This suitability is not unvarying, but in a majority of cases the local influences approximate to the necessary requisites.

Many of our residents have come to this section for reasons similar to those named above, and have continued to enjoy life in freedom from the ills that drove them here. One instance, notable as illustrative of the longevity enjoyed by those who have recovered health, is that of Capt. Miles O. Burnham (recently deceased) who came previous to the Seminole War, and lived to bear the distinction of being the oldest light-house keeper in the United States.

Especially noteworthy is the influence of the climate upon bronchial disease in childhood. For the last three winters Prof. Starling Loveing, of Columbus, Ohio, has sent a patient to City Point with capillary bronchitis. The boy had had from infancy, during the winter and spring months, alarming attacks of this distressing disease; the severity increasing until it was conceded that he would not live if he remained in that latitude during those months. The pleasing contrast between the child's health here and there, cannot well be depicted. The hale,

robust boy returning northward in June, would scarcely be recognized as the coddled invalid of a few months previous.

The United States Census Reports are conceded as an authority upon the relative frequency and fatality of consumption among the inhabitants of the different States.

TABLE OF DEATHS FROM CONSUMPTION IN 1,000 DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES.

Maine.....	258	California.....	138
New Hampshire.....	222	Virginia.....	138
Vermont.....	202	Iowa.....	137
Rhode Island.....	201	Minnesota.....	133
Massachusetts.....	199	Wisconsin.....	131
Delaware.....	190	North Carolina.....	117
Connecticut.....	179	Illinois.....	108
Ohio.....	177	Louisiana.....	97
West Virginia.....	174	Missouri.....	97
Kentucky.....	174	Kansas.....	90
Maryland.....	172	South Carolina.....	90
New Jersey.....	171	Mississippi.....	76
Michigan.....	169	Alabama.....	71
New York.....	168	Arkansas.....	70
Tennessee.....	166	Georgia.....	68
Indiana.....	164	Texas.....	63
Pennsylvania.....	142	Florida.....	58

We think that it may be safely inferred from the data furnished in the foregoing statistics that where a disease does not prevail to any extent among the native portion of the population, all other conditions being equal, it would be a safe section to emigrate to, to check premonitory symptoms. To my certain knowledge most of the deaths from tuberculosis occur among those who have come here from some other section; a fact that shows that States reputed as beneficial in climatic influences, actually are credited with a greater fatality than is justly theirs to shoulder.

HEALTH THE YEAR ROUND.

While previous statements set forth the inviting features of our section for invalids suffering from diseases peculiar to cold latitudes, a yet more important fact remains to be considered, viz: its healthfulness as a home for the settler who proposes to engage in the varied avocations of industrial life among us.

What of the prevalent diseases and their severity? There is force in the assertion that climate has much to do with general health, yet there are local influences bearing upon the health of

certain localities. Places to the leeward of the Pontine marshes have from the earliest period been noted for their malarial features; yet the climate of Italy is superb.

A glance at the map of Brevard County is sufficient to show its favorable geographical situation, and its bearing upon general health, so far, at least, as the conditions called malarial are concerned. It may safely be asserted that no single cause is productive of so much sickness in recently settled countries as malaria. Especially is this true where there exists a relatively large area of fresh water or marsh as compared with the land. Our county has about 108 miles of sea coast. It is divided into two parallel but unequal sections running north and south by the salt waters of the Indian River. The vegetable growths of these waters are of the marine character, the decay of which does not give origin to miasmatic poisons, as is the case in similar processes occurring in the growths of fresh water ponds, lakes, creeks and rivers. The prevalence of easterly breezes during the summer and autumnal months is productive of a degree of comfort that is a pleasant surprise to those unacquainted with these phenomenal conditions. Coming from the bosom of the Atlantic, cooling the summer heat, and in winter laden with the balmy influence of the Gulf Stream, these breezes give equality to the climate, and an ozone laden atmosphere for inhalation that is most conducive to the health of the inhabitants. Indeed, the direction and velocity of the wind during our warm months have more to do with the health as well as the comfort of the people than any other influence. Upon this contiguity to the ocean, and the saline character of our waterways, rests the claim to comparative exemption from malarial fevers. The St. Johns River flows to the northward along the western border of the county. After overflows, westerly winds long continued are apt to bring an atmosphere more or less laden with malaria germs. To this source we attribute most of the light fever of malarial character among us. I have not used four ounces of quinine or other products of cinchona per annum for a number of years. The records of the Surgeon-General's office, U. S. A., can be safely trusted to furnish reports free from the bias of self-interest in reference to the nature, frequency and character of the fevers among the soldiers formerly stationed in the forts that once dotted the southern portion of the Peninsular

State. They attest the mildness and amenability to treatment of these fevers as compared with the most healthful of the Departmental sub-divisions.

THE DISEASES COMMON TO CHILDHOOD

are but lightly felt as compared with those of the most favored locality. In northern latitudes fully fifty per cent. of the race die under twenty years of age. Here, we have had but one epidemic of measles and scarlet fever in sixteen years. What bearing this well-attested fact has upon mortuary statistics can easily be discovered when one notes how large a percentage of deaths is due to these scourges of infancy. The sequelæ of measles and scarlet fever are scarcely noticeable. There are no climatic reasons why we should not have the eruptive fevers, but there is a wonderful diminution as to the entailed local and constitutional effects.

Climatic influences exempt us almost entirely from the respiratory diseases peculiar to cold countries. Occasionally, as a complication of measles, or some other disease whereby the vitality is very much lowered, we may trace the counterpart of what is a prevailing type in less mild latitudes of the same season. I have attended but one case of croup; fifteen minutes' administration of aconite disclosed its mildness.

We have never had dysentery in the epidemic form. Our cases have been sporadic from endemic influences.

The most unsatisfactory of all diseases that the physician is called upon to treat is cholera infantum. It is almost a myth with us. I know of only one case. That is recovering. It is a fact that here there are more chances for a child to attain maturity than in any country known to me.

I have had but one case of typhoid fever. I have seen three typho malarial cases in consultation.

The southern half of the county, from Melbourne southward, a distance of over sixty miles, embracing in its area almost the entire pineapple region, has not a practicing physician in it.

Sharpes, Fla., September 29th, 1891.

II.

BY B. R. WILSON, M.D., TITUSVILLE.

Florida has become proverbial for its healthfulness. Here, over a century ago, was sought the fabled Fountain of Youth.

Here, too, to-day the weary invalid and wasted consumptive in the cold Northern States turns his almost hopeless eyes and thinks, "If I can but get there I will recover my health." By using almost superhuman exertions, buoyed by hope, he makes the trip—alas, oftentimes too late; but in many instances, on his arrival here, the warm, equable climate and healthful breezes, washed pure and clean by the blue waters of the Atlantic Ocean, begin to fan the feeble flame of life into a healthful glow. The weary tossing on a tired bed gives place to healthful sleep, "Tired Nature's sweet restorer;" the stomach begins to perform its wonted functions; the appetite and digestion improves, and in a few months the weary, almost hopeless invalid begins to feel stronger and better in every way and eventually becomes a hale and hearty man. This pen-picture is not overdrawn, as hundreds now living in Brevard County can truthfully testify. But how can Florida, and particularly how can Brevard County be healthy when its altitude is so little above the sea, and when the whole country is filled with lakes, ponds, marshes, and rich hammocks, under an almost tropical sun? Why is it not filled with malaria from decaying vegetable matter and stagnant water? How can you claim it to be healthy under such conditions? I answer: That Power who guides the planets in their course among the myriad worlds revolving through limitless space; who controls and governs the instinct of the lowest animal life; who disseminates and fosters the germs of vegetable life and places them in the localities best suited and adapted to them—that Power has made Florida different and surrounded it by conditions widely dissimilar from any known locality on the globe. Yes, Florida filled with ponds, lakes, marshes and rich alluvial hammocks; rank vegetation springs up in its warm, moist climate and as rapidly decays; the waters in the lakes and ponds stagnate and finally dry up under the hot sun; then why claim it to be salubrious and healthy? That wise Power has foreseen all these things and surrounded us with conditions unsurpassed anywhere on the globe. Washed on three sides, you may say, by the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean; the soil sandy and porous, absorbing moisture like a sponge; a constant breeze both night and day tempering the heat of the sun and wafting far away every breath of malaria as fast as it is

given off from soil, lake or decaying vegetable matter; breezes washed pure and clean by the salt waves of the Gulf and ocean, breezes uncontaminated by any deleterious gases, but sometimes saturated with bromine and iodine, and rich in ozone; the soil and climate adapted to the orange, the lemon, the lime and many other fruits peculiarly adapted to a warm climate and supplying those constituents needed by the inhabitants of such a climate—these conditions, united and blended in a harmonious whole, render this section unsurpassed for healthfulness.

Having practiced medicine here for twenty years and being familiar with the health statistics of the whole country, I can safely say without fear of refutation that no State in the Union can show any such record for healthfulness and such a low death rate as Florida, and that, too, when very many of those who do die here are invalids from other States who came here when their cases were past hope and whose death here raises the percentage of our death rate. I have been creditably informed that when our census returns were sent in to Washington, they were returned to our census-taker to revise the death rate. As it was so much lower than that of any other county, they thought some mistake had been made. All the diseases prevalent in this section of Florida seem to be of a milder type and more amenable to treatment than the same diseases in the interior States. During the summer, and particularly if we have westerly winds, we will have some cases of intermittant fever and occasionally, probably once or twice in two or three years, we will have a case of remittant fever; but all seem very amenable to treatment and seldom show any dangerous symptoms. During a practice of twenty years I have not seen a single case of typhoid fever. In a few instances I have seen a pernicious type of fever with some typhoid symptoms, and in every instance where that type of fever manifested itself, the cause was easily found in the hygienic surroundings and in the water in daily use, in nearly every case from an open well, ten or twelve feet deep, which formed an admirable reservoir for the washings of the yard, and close to the wash place and where all the slops from the kitchen could soak through the porous soil and into the well, and in some instances a contiguous cow-lot and pig-pen aided in the general contamination. This type of fever is quite dangerous if allowed to run

two or three days before treatment. We also have diarrhœas and dysenterys which can generally be traced to some local cause or some marked imprudence. Both, if taken in time, are very easily cured. Pneumonia *per se* is unknown here and as a general rule we are less subject to colds, bronchial and laringal affections than any place I know. I have seen, I think, every disease incident to this country and have treated them in my practice and find they all assume a mild type and yield readily to prompt treatment. We see many affected with that dread disease consumption in all its stages, but it is not indigenous. I can instance many cases that have recovered by a continual residence here, and can also instance many more who came too late to receive any benefit at all.

The diseases incident to childhood are much milder here than in the more northern States, and the mortality among children much lighter.

During the past twenty years we have had one epidemic of measles and two of whooping cough; of true scarlet fever I have never seen a case, although some have been reported on the river. We have none of the sequelæ following the above named diseases in the more northern States, nor have we any true cholera infantum, and croup is almost unknown except a few cases of the spasmodic variety, yielding readily to very simple treatment. In fact we are almost exempt from all those affections of the lungs and bronchia that prove so harrassing and fatal in the northern States. Our cemeteries show fewer small graves for the population than those of any State in the Union. The percentage of deaths from consumption in Florida is only 6 per cent. against 26 per cent. in Vermont and 25 per cent. in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, and 20 per cent. in Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, New York and New Jersey, and from 16 to 8 per cent. in nearly all the other States.

Titusville, October, 1889.

EDUCATION.

BY JOHN H. SAMS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

As the public schools are the main dependence of education for a great majority, any sketch of the progress and advantages of the county would be incomplete without some reference to them. This in a brief notice must necessarily be statistical, as in many respects their history is that common to all pioneer settlements.

The records begin with the year 1880. There were then only 140 children of school age in eight districts, for which only \$290 could be apportioned; the total assessed value of real and personal property in the county being about \$200,000 at that time.

The schools now number forty, with 700 pupils; the estimated revenue for their support for 1891-92 is \$10,000. This liberal provision not only places the schools within easy access of almost every child (a few families being isolated), but makes it possible to employ a better class of teachers than usual in such small schools; the attractions of our climate and country being also a potent factor in attracting many of superior ability. The corps now employed are with few exceptions thoroughly trained and experienced in the methods obtaining in the more populous and progressive centers of education.

The school revenue is derived from :

A special County School tax.

Proportion of State General School tax.

Interest on State School fund.

Capitation or Poll tax.

Twenty-five per cent. of the proceeds of sales of Public Lands.

Twenty-five per cent. of the proceeds of Escheated Property and Forfeitures.

All Fines.

Thus the school revenue will increase steadily without additional taxation, as our assessments are admittedly low and the wealth of the county rapidly increasing.

OUR CLIMATE.

BY REV. JAS. H. WHITE, OBSERVER FOR THE WEATHER BUREAU
OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

The climate of a place is its condition in relation to the temperature, and motion of its atmosphere. These, with clouds, fog and rainfall, are the principal climatic factors.

By our climate I mean:

1. Florida climate as distinct from that of other parts of the United States, and particularly that of California.

2. Brevard County climate as distinct from that of other parts of the State of Florida.

No part of the United States, except Southern California, makes even a pretense at rivalry with Florida in climatic excellence, and because of this our comparisons will be mostly between these States.

The rivalry between these regions is confined to four particulars:

1. A desirable place for well people to live.
2. A health resort for the sick.
3. A winter resort, and
4. The production of citrus fruits.

It is not necessary to treat these points separately, as the same climatic conditions are favorable to all of them. These conditions are:

1. Exemption from injurious cold.
2. Exemption from oppressive heat.
3. Exemption from sudden changes.
4. Exemption from fogs.
5. Exemption from mud.
6. Exemption from dust.

I am aware that mud and dust are not necessarily climatic, yet they are products of climatic causes.

COLD.

Frost is the great enemy of tender vegetation everywhere, and the Frost King makes frequent and destructive raids into regions where, by many, he is supposed never to enter.

In 1880 there were three stations where there was frost every month in the year, and, strange to say, one of them was in Southern California, where it is so often said "frost is unknown."

The same year there were but two stations where there was no frost, and both of them were in Florida.

That it may be seen that even Southern California is far from tropical, I quote from the Signal Service Report for 1881, page 336. It says of Campo: "Frost every month in the year 1880. January 28th it fell to zero." Campo is near the Mexican line, about fifty miles from the coast.

On page 577, it says of San Diego: "First frost September 30th."

Page 486, of Los Angeles, it says: "Heavy frost and ice January 28th to February 3d, 1880. Last frost of spring March 16th."

From the above it is quite clear that if any no-frost area is found in the United States, it is in Florida, and the experience of January, 1886, makes it equally clear that no portion of the mainland is absolutely exempt from frost, but for all practical purposes that part of the State lying south of a line from Cape Romano to Jupiter Inlet may be regarded as strictly tropical.

North of this line there are places that are very seldom visited by frost severe enough to do any damage. But at long intervals a polar wave of such severity sweeps over the country that its icy breath is felt to the southern point of the peninsula.

There have been two within the memory of man. One in 1835 and another in 1886. The coming of the next one is beyond the reach of mortal ken—it may be a century hence, or it may be next winter. But woe to the rest of mankind when the real South Florida gets a frost. But absolute exemption from frost is not necessary to the successful cultivation of many tropical plants.

I think that on the Atlantic coast, south of 28° , and on the Gulf coast, south of 27° , tropical growths are in no more danger from frost than the corn crop of Ohio and Illinois, or the wheat crop of Tennessee and Virginia.

But the products of a country are the best measure of its capabilities. Florida produces many tropical growths that in

the southern half of the State are untouched by frost, except at periods rare and remote.

Florida for years has had large pineapple plantations and a great variety of other tropical fruits.

OPPRESSIVE HEAT.

A place for well people to live in, or a resort for the sick, should be exempt from extreme heat. "Our climate" in this particular compares favorably with that of California or any other part of the world.

As a basis of comparison I will quote some of the maximum temperatures of August, 1885, from the *Monthly Weather Review* of the Signal Service Bureau:

Jacksonville, Fla.....	94°	Red Bluff, Cal.....	108°
Sanford, Fla.....	94°	College City, Cal.....	114°
Key West, Fla.....	94°	Poway, Southern Cal.....	103°
St. Augustine, Fla.....	93°	Los Angeles, S. Cal.....	106°
Island Home, Merritt's Island, Fla.	94°	Murietta, S. Cal.....	111°
Limona, Fla.....	98°	Fall Brook, S. Cal.....	115°
Sacramento, Cal.....	105°		

September, same year:

Jacksonville, Fla.....	89°	Poway, Cal.....	103°
St. Augustine, Fla.....	89°	Murietta, Cal.....	107°
Island Home, Fla.....	89°	Los Angeles, Cal.....	109°
Key West, Fla.....	92°	Fall Brook, Cal.....	110°
Limona, Fla.....	97°		

In addition to the above from the Signal Service Record, the Los Angeles *Herald* gives the following for the 21st day of the same month:

Colton, Cal.....	108°	San Fernando, Cal.....	110°
Pomona, Cal.....	109°	Newhall, Cal.....	112°
Passadena, Cal.....	118°		

HUMIDITY.

Just here, so far as facts will do it, I will correct a popular error in regard to the humidity of our climate. The last Annual Report of the Chief Signal Officer of the U. S. Army has the following data for the year 1887:

The average per cent. of humidity for the year was 78 at Jacksonville, 78 at Cedar Key, 77 at Los Angeles and 76 at San Diego. Here is one per cent. in favor of Southern California at one point and two at the other. But two per cent. certainly does not mark the difference between a "humid climate" and a dry one. The mean humidity at San Francisco was 75 and at Los Angeles 77, but we never hear them talk about the dry

climate of San Francisco and the "humid climate" of Los Angeles. But this volume shows more than this. It shows that during the warm parts of the year the relative humidity of Southern California is greater than in Florida. For seven of the warmest months the average at Jacksonville was 76, at Cedar Key 76, at San Diego 78 and at Los Angeles 79. Florida, compared with San Diego, has two per cent. in its favor, and three per cent. compared with Los Angeles.

"For June it was 76 at Jacksonville, 78 at Cedar Key, 78 at Los Angeles, and 80 at San Diego, being, between Jacksonville and San Diego, four per cent. in favor of Florida. For July it was 76 for Jacksonville, 77 for Cedar Key, 81 for San Diego and 83 for Los Angeles. Here is four per cent. in favor of Florida between Cedar Key and San Diego, and seven per cent. between Jacksonville and Los Angeles."

Though the summer is our rainy season, yet our relative humidity is very low, while the winter is our dry season—dry over head and dry under foot.

But in California the winter is their rainy season, and a stiff, sticky soil retains the water, so that mud is very common. Mud in winter, dust in summer.

Both the well and the sick need to be free from wet and cold, as they are enemies to both life and health.

FOG.

In September, 1886, Riverside, California, had fourteen foggy mornings, and near the coast fogs are both more frequent and dense than at Riverside.

During the same year we had but three foggy mornings here, namely, on January 19th and 22d, and December 12th.

SUDDEN CHANGES.

In Southern California a change in the direction of the wind often causes a great change in the temperature—coming from the ocean, the great Colorado Desert, or from snow-capped mountain peaks. But Florida is neither frozen by the icy presence of snow capped mountains, nor scorched by the burning breath of arid deserts, but, having large bodies of salt water on the east, south and west, we have no such sudden changes.

I think we have now covered the whole ground, and shown that Florida, as compared with California, is more exempt from

injurious cold, from oppressive heat, from sudden changes, from fogs, mud and dust. But while Florida climate is greatly superior to that of California, we by no means claim that it is a perfect climate. All we claim is, that it is nearer perfection than that in any other part of the United States.

A PERFECT CLIMATE

is only ideal; it is not a reality. In point of temperature a perfect climate would never fall below seventy degrees, nor rise above seventy-five degrees, as such a temperature is more conducive to human comfort than any other.

No such place can be found, but South Florida comes much the nearest to it of any part of the United States, and has by far the best obtainable climate in the United States. But if we extend this range ten degrees each way and say sixty to eighty-five degrees, we then have a climate that is obtainable for a considerable portion of the year. We say sixty to eighty five because when it falls below sixty it is too cold for comfort; or above eighty-five it is too warm for comfort. From this it will be seen that the place that has, during the year, the largest number of days the temperature of which falls wholly within these limits comes the nearest to a perfect climate.

The following table is compiled from the reports of the Signal Service of the United States Army. The headings of the lines and columns sufficiently explain their contents, bearing in mind that the figures indicate the number of days in that place for that month, no part of which the temperature was below sixty degrees nor above eighty-five degrees:

1879.	1887.											
	Los Angeles, Cal.	San Diego, Cal.	Campo, Cal.	Jacksonville, Fla.	Key West, Fla.	Punta Rassa, Fla.	Galveston, Texas.	New Orleans, La.	Charleston, S. C.	Wilmington, N. C.	Riverside, Cal.	Island Home, Fla.
January.....	0	0	0	0	25	14	5	3	0	0	0	8
February.....	0	0	0	1	25	10	1	1	0	0	0	26
March.....	1	1	0	11	31	21	23	9	4	2	0	13
April.....	0	0	0	12	28	22	25	17	11	8	4	19
May.....	0	0	0	20	19	27	25	27	19	14	1	26
June.....	6	5	0	10	13	8	6	10	13	12	3	13
July.....	10	22	0	4	0	3	0	2	9	11	3	4
August.....	9	28	0	7	1	5	9	16	11	10	1	5
September.....	5	14	0	19	5	12	21	20	24	13	0	16
October.....	1	3	0	26	19	20	21	22	20	18	0	25
November.....	0	0	0	13	30	21	18	13	11	7	0	23
December.....	0	0	0	5	31	30	16	7	2	3	0	17
For the year.....	32	73	0	120	227	193	170	147	124	98	14	195

Since 1879 the daily maximum and minimum temperatures have not been published in the yearly reports. The figures for Riverside are from the *Press* and *Horticulturist*, and for our Island Home are taken from my own record as taken for the Signal Corps of the United States Army. This table shows climatic conditions of which many people have never dreamed, namely, that in the lower Atlantic and Gulf States there is a large area that has a more even climate, in point of temperature, than Southern California.

The following table, compiled from the official records of the U. S. Army Signal Service Corps, as published in the *Monthly Weather Review*, will give emphasis to the fact that in Florida *winter* is our DRY season while in California it is their rainy season. The study of this table will be profitable to those who seek a winter home with the maximum of "dry and warm," and the minimum of "wet and cold." It will also help the intelligent physician to answer the question, "Where shall the invalids go?"

"Island Home" is a Signal Service station three miles southeast of Rock Ledge, and is known in the official records of the service as Merritt's Island.

MEAN TEMPERATURE.

Month.	Island Home, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Sacramento,			
	Fla.	Fla.	Cal.	Cal.
1889—November	68	64	61	54
“ December.....	64	62	55	49
1890—January..	67	63	49	43
“ February.....	66	65	54	47
“ March.....	63	60	56	53

AVERAGE FOR THE FIVE MONTHS.

66	63	55	49
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PRECIPITATION IN INCHES.

1889—November.....	1.16	0.51	1.35	3.15
“ December.....	0.00	0.00	15.80	7.82
1890—January.....	0.56	0.63	7.83	6.62
“ February.....	1.15	0.61	1.36	4.06
“ March.....	1.03	2.89	0.66	3.00

TOTAL FOR THE FIVE MONTHS.

3.90	4.54	27.00	24.65
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DAYS WITH RAIN.

1889—November.....	3	3	3	7
“ December.....	0	0	20	23
1890—January.....	3	9	9	17
“ February.....	5	6	4	9
“ March.....	5	10	5	14

TOTAL FOR THE FIVE MONTHS.

14	28	41	70
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CLOUDY DAYS.

1889—November.....	6	2	5	8
“ December.....	2	2	12	11
1890—January.....	2	7	8	11
“ February.....	5	9	4	9
“ March.....	8	4	5	13

TOTAL FOR THE FIVE MONTHS.

18	24	34	52
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CLEAR DAYS.

1889—November.....	19	16	16	17
“ December.....	23	20	8	2
1890—January.....	22	12	10	13
“ February.....	15	8	15	10
“ March.....	23	15	13	12

TOTAL FOR THE FIVE MONTHS.

102	71	62	54
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“Dry and warm” and “wet and cold,” are both well illustrated by the above table. A temperature of 60 degrees is the dividing line between “warm” and “cold.” Below 60 degrees it is too cold to be called warm and above 60 degrees is too warm to be called cold. Our mean temperature of 66 degrees well represents the one, and the 55 degrees of Los Angeles the other. Our 102 clear days are on the warm side while their 34 cloudy days are decidedly cold. Our rainfall of 3.90 inches in 152 days is dry compared with the 27 inches at Los Angeles in the same time.

THE CLIMATE OF BREVARD COUNTY AS COMPARED WITH THE
REST OF THE STATE.

Even in growing oranges there is a decided advantage in being well to the southward. Excellent oranges can be grown in the northern parts of the State; but from the first of December until the fruit is picked it is in constant danger of being frozen on the trees. As a consequence, the early market is overstocked with unripe fruit, the prices depressed, and the reputation of Florida oranges injured. *Here* the grower need not consult the almanac in the matter of shipping his crop. He has only the markets and his own convenience to consult. The bulk of the Brevard County crop is sold in February and March.

The general excellence of the Florida climate is such that many people suppose that it is all about alike, but this is a great mistake. To illustrate this I will here reproduce some items furnished to a California paper in 1883.

In cold weather the morning temperature in Brevard County is often fifteen to twenty degrees higher than in DeLand. Take, as an illustration, November, 1882. On the 1st it was twenty-two degrees higher here, being the difference between seventy-four degrees here and fifty-two degrees there:

November 2d it was $73-57=16$ difference.

November 8th it was $69-56=13$ difference.

November 9th it was $68-55=13$ difference.

November 15th it was $56-40=16$ difference.

November 23d it was $53-41=12$ difference.

November 24th it was $55-40=15$ difference.

Here are seven days in one month, wherein the coldest morning temperature was from twelve to twenty-two degrees

higher at our Island Home than at DeLand, less than fifty miles further north. Every cold month shows more or less of a similar variation. December the 8th, 1881, the temperature at Jacksonville was thirty-six degrees, at DeLand fifty-six, and at this place sixty-six.

In summer the difference is in the opposite direction; their summer mornings are often from three to ten degrees warmer than ours.

But figures cannot express the delightful coolness of our ocean winds that for the eight warmest months bring coolness to the land, and health and comfort to its inhabitants. From this it will be seen that this Indian River country has a remarkably even temperature, not only as compared with other States, but as compared with other parts of Florida.

In fourteen years we have seen ice at our place but twice. In December, 1866, just enough to say ice, and in January, 1886, plenty of it. What we have above seen to be true of DeLand, as compared with this place, is, to some extent, true of all the inland portions of the State, as compared with the seaboard. But the coast regions are not all alike.

The Atlantic coast on the east and the Gulf coast on the west are subject to very different influences, and consequently develop quite diverse climatic conditions. On the Atlantic side the coast is abrupt, and dry land is contiguous to the water. On the Gulf side the coast line is low and flat, with an abundance of marsh and mangrove islands.

On the east coast the waters are deep, and, as a consequence, are but little influenced either by the heat of summer or the cold of winter, while on the west coast the waters are shallow a long distance from the shore, and, consequently, the temperature of the water is much influenced by the season, and, in turn, it influences the temperature of the land, warming it in summer and cooling it in winter. But the most potent factor in this climatic difference is the Gulf Stream on the east and the Texas northers on the west. The Gulf Stream does not enter the Gulf of Mexico further than to pass around the west end of Cuba and through the Straits of Florida out into the Atlantic Ocean. Passing up the coast it has decided climatic influences as far north as Cape Canaveral. The west coast is destitute of

this warming influence, but it is subject to the adverse influence of the Texas northerners that often reach South Florida from the northwest and sometimes cross the State.

True, their power to injure is generally taken away by the warming influence of the waters of the Gulf before they touch Florida, but occasionally one reaches Florida with ice in its breath, when the west coast suffers first and most.

These two influences give the east coast much greater immunity from frost than the west coast, as the following statements show.

In January, 1879, a cold wave visited the north part of the State, of which the *Florida Agriculturist* said: "In Florida snow fell in Fernandina and other parts of the State, and in Jacksonville icicles hung from the houses and trees for three days."

The lowest temperature at Jacksonville was twenty-five degrees; St. Marks (on the Gulf) eighteen degrees; Punta Rassa, thirty-three degrees; this place, thirty six degrees.

Punta Rassa is nearly two degrees of latitude further south than our Island Home, yet, during the prevalence of this cold wave it was three degrees colder than here.

In 1884 another freeze visited the north part of the State of about equal severity with that of December, 1880. In fact, the two cold waves of the 6th and 22d, respectively, were of about equal severity.

As is often the case, people in the colder parts of the State, when bitten by the frost, try to produce the impression that all parts of the State suffered about alike; so Mr. Honesty (?), of San Mateo, wrote to the *Florida Agriculturist*, saying. "The degree of cold was about uniform all over the State." Ananias had certainly been a better signature to such a statement. The freeze of January 6th was unusually severe at DeLand, the record there being nineteen degrees, while at Jacksonville it was only twenty-one degrees, and Colonel Codrington wrote in the *Agriculturist*: "From all that we can gather, the late freeze extended through the whole State." The editor's tropical pets were all killed, and, in his despondency, he imagined that all the "innocents" in the State had shared the same fate. But in this he was mistaken.

Here the lowest temperature was thirty-six on the 6th day

of the month, and the same again on the 22d, and we had mangoes, guavas, saporillas, maumee apples, sugar apples, chermoyas and cocoanuts all untouched by frost.

Here is the record as shown in different parts of the State: Pensacola, 16; Jacksonville, 21; Daytona, 27; Rock Ledge, 34; Braidentown, 28; Cedar Key, 25; DeLand, 19; Apopka, 29; Island Home, 36; and Pinellas, 28 degrees.

Estero Creek, below Punta Rassa, in latitude $26^{\circ} 25'$, it was thirty degrees. Here are Daytona and Cedar Key on opposite sides of the State, with a difference of two degrees in favor of the east coast. Rock Ledge, thirty-four degrees, and Braidentown, twenty eight degrees, gives six degrees of temperature, and sixty miles difference in latitude, in favor of the east coast. Island Home, thirty-six degrees, and Estero Creek, thirty degrees—here again is a difference of six degrees of temperature and 125 miles of latitude in favor of the east coast.

We now come to the great freeze of January, 1886. I give the record of a few places: Tallahassee, 12; Fernandina, 15; Cedar Key, 15; Brooksville, 18; Orlando, 20; Manatee, 23; Punta Rassa, 27; Archer, 14; Jacksonville, 15; St. Augustine, 17; Tampa, 19; Rock Ledge, 22; Island Home, 26; Key West, 41 degrees.

The *Monthly Weather Review* of the Signal Service Bureau says of it: "A cold wave extended over the entire country, east of the Rocky Mountains, causing unusually low temperatures, especially in the southern sections of the country."

"At Punta Rassa mercury twenty-seven degrees, with large numbers of dead fish floating around the shores. In the interior, near Punta Rassa, temperature from twenty to twenty-five degrees."

Many of the fruits of the tropics have been grown and ripened much further north on the Atlantic than on the Gulf coast. My oldest mango tree was a foot in diameter, near the ground, eight years old, and had borne four heavy crops of fruit. It had never felt the touch of frost previous to January 10, 1886.

Previous to the same date, a cocoanut tree had fruited for several years, a few miles below Cape Canaveral, and so had as

sapodilla tree on the mainland, at City Point, about fifteen miles south of Titusville.

But there is another record worthy of some attention. As the record of the ages is found in the rocks, so is the record of climatic conditions found in the floral products of a region.

Some years ago Professor A. H. Curtiss made a careful botanical survey of the State. Much of the flora of South Florida is common also to the West Indies. The northern limits of these tropical forms is nature's boundary line between the tropical and semi-tropical. Many of these growths were found much further north on the Atlantic coast than on the Gulf.

Of this temperature record of nature—the beginning of which is more remote than the coming of Columbus—Professor Curtiss remarks: "Cape Romano, on the western coast, and Cape Canaveral, on the eastern, may be considered the points of demarkation between temperate and sub-tropical vegetation. From my tabulated records of the trees found in different parts of Florida, it appears that of seventy, or more, sub tropical trees which are found on the Reef Keys, about twenty-five extend to Cape Romano, eleven to Charlotte Harbor, and three to Cedar Key; while on the eastern coast eighteen reach Cape Canaveral, seven Mosquito Inlet, and one the Lower St. Johns. * * * Approximately the lines of similar temperature run through Fernandina and Cedar Key, Daytona and Tampa, Cape Canaveral and Charlotte Harbor, St. Lucie and Cape Romano, Lake Worth and Chuckaluskee."

I have before me articles on the Gulf Coast by Drs. Wall, Kenworthy and Benjamin, and Judge Knapp; and since all these writers bank heavily on the Gulf Stream as a climatic factor of that region, I will add a few words upon that subject.

The Gulf Stream has always been a mystery, and, like other mysteries, much nonsense has been written about it.

The supreme stupidity of much of this nonsense is well illustrated by reference to Lippincott's Gazetteer, edition of 1885. On page 132 we read: "The Gulf Stream originates in the Gulf of Mexico, from which it flows through the Straits of Florida, with a velocity of about eighty miles a day." On page 924 it tells us that it enters the Gulf from the Carribean Sea, and further adds: "The temperature of the Gulf of Mexico is eighty-

six degrees in summer, or six degrees higher than the ocean in the same parallel."

In the article on the Gulf of Mexico in the American Cyclopaedia we are told that the temperature of "the Gulf water is eight or nine degrees higher than that of the Atlantic Ocean in the same latitude."

The American Universal Cyclopaedia, which is a reprint of Chambers', has nearly the same words.

These articles were evidently written many years ago, when very little was known of the Gulf Stream. They belong to a former period, and he who quotes them as representing our present knowledge of the subject, places either his intelligence or his candor at a discount.

It is now known that the Gulf Stream only passes around the west end of the Island of Cuba, and thence in a northeasterly direction out into the Atlantic Ocean.

This was clearly demonstrated by the survey made in 1866 along the proposed path of the ocean telegraph cable from Key West to Havana, Cuba. They found no current until more than half way across the Straits of Florida, and thence to Havana; it was a strong current, flowing northeast. See Annual Report of United States Coast Survey for 1866, pages 35-44.

As to the question of the temperature of its waters, the Signal Service Corps of the United States Army have been observing water temperatures along our seaboard from Eastport, Maine, to Galveston, Texas, since August, 1873, and the observations of the first month showed the falsity of the fossilized fable of the higher temperature of the Gulf of Mexico. Here are some of both maximum and minimum temperatures of the month :

	Max.	Min
Indianola, Texas.....	86	82
Jacksonville, Fla.....	86	81
Mobile, Ala.....	86	81
Charleston, S. C.....	87	82

Here are several maximum temperatures for August, 1878 : Key West, Fla., 91 ; Mobile, Ala., 88 ; Savannah, Ga., 88 ; Wilmington, N. C., 91 ; Galveston, Texas, 86 ; Jacksonville, Fla., 89 ; Charleston, S. C., 86 ; Norfolk, Va., 87.

For August, 1882, as follows : Key West, Fla., 90 ; Mobile, Ala., 85 ; Savannah, Ga., 85 ; Smithville, N. C., 86 ; Galveston, Texas, 87 ; Jacksonville, Fla., 89 ; Charleston, S. C., 87 ; Norfolk, Va., 84.

These are bottom temperatures, and at Charleston the depth is forty feet. The others range from twelve to twenty feet. They are fair samples of the season they represent. From the above it will be seen that the water of the Atlantic, at times, as far north as Norfolk, is as warm as the Gulf at Galveston.

As bearing upon the relative temperatures of the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic in the same latitude, I here give some of the minimum temperatures for December, 1880: Galveston, Texas, 37; Eastport, Me., 37; Mobile, Ala., 42; Charleston, S. C., 42; Cedar Key, Fla., 44; Wilmington, N. C., 49.

For January, 1886: Galveston Texas, and Norfolk, Va., 31; Cedar Key, Fla., 35, and Savannah, Ga., 34; Eastport, Me., 36.

Upon the question of a polar current along the Atlantic coast inside of the Gulf Stream, I have carefully compiled the record for 1881 and 1882, and find that all the Atlantic coast stations, south of the Delaware Breakwater, for the months of June, July, August and September, show an average temperature as high as the Gulf Stream for the same months in the same latitude. Charleston, S. C., shows an average temperature of 82 degrees, and the summer temperature of the Gulf Stream, opposite, is 82. Norfolk, Va., 80, and the Gulf Stream off Cape Hatteras 80 degrees.

These Gulf Stream temperatures are by Sir William B. Carpenter in *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

The writers above named, or at least some of them, claim that the west coast is more free from malaria, fogs and dampness than the Atlantic coast.

The question of malaria is easily disposed of. During the season of malarial influences in Florida we have easterly winds almost constantly. These winds are fresh from the ocean and contain no malaria. These winds reach the west coast, but not as pure and cool as when they reach us. In passing over a hundred miles of land they not only lose their coolness but their purity.

It may be asked how we know these winds reach the west coast. We know that there, as here, the prevailing wind is easterly, and in just about the same proportion. At Punta Rassa, for twelve years, the prevailing winds were easterly,

and in proportion to all others as ten to six, and by far the greater proportion in summer and autumn. With this data it requires but a few grains of common sense to make the solution of the problem of malaria very clear. As to fogs I have no very reliable data as to the west coast. Several parties who have lived there say that fogs are quite frequent. Here, during the year 1886, we had but three foggy mornings, and during my Northern visit I saw more fog than I have seen in fourteen years here.

Relative humidity is the measure of dampness. When the air holds all the moisture that it can contain, it is said to be saturated or containing the 100 per cent. possible. When it holds one-half as much as it can contain, 50 per cent.; three-fourths as much, 75 per cent. In the Annual Report of the Signal Service for 1883 is a table of the average relative humidity of the Signal Service stations from the time the stations were established to the end of 1882.

The average at Punta Rassa, for eleven years, was 74.7 per cent.; Cedar Key, three years, 75.1 per cent.; Jacksonville, for eleven years, 71.6 per cent.; Savannah, for twelve years, 71.7 per cent.

From this it will be seen that the excess of dampness of the west coast, as compared with the east, is 3 in 75, or the proportion of 75 to 72.

So far as I am able to judge of my own work, I have now accomplished what I took in hand, namely, to show that the climate of Florida is superior to that of California by being more exempt from injurious cold, from oppressive heat, from sudden changes, from fogs, and dust and mud. Also, that our Brevard County or Indian River climate is superior to other parts of the State, north and west of us, in being more exempt from frost, from malaria, from dampness and from fogs, and in doing this have incidentally shown the falsity of three fictions:

First—That the Gulf Stream makes the circuit of the Gulf of Mexico.

Second—That the waters of the Gulf are warmer than the Atlantic in the same latitude, and

Third—That an arctic, or cold current, flows southward along the South Atlantic States inside of the Gulf Stream.

The reader will observe that I do not ask him to take my “say so” about these matters, but have given the evidence upon which these propositions are based. Most of this evidence is of the highest authority, namely: The Reports of the Signal Service Corps of the United States Army. For local temperatures in Florida, where there are no signal service stations, I have depended upon newspaper reports that I have preserved from year to year. I submit this evidence to the intelligent reader, with the utmost confidence that the final verdict will be that this East Coast region from Cape Canaveral southward to the Florida Keys has, by far, the best climate to be found in the United States.

Island Home, Merritt's Island, Aug. 22d, 1891.

TWO REASONS WHY THOSE INTENDING TO GROW ORANGES SHOULD COME TO INDIAN RIVER.

BY H. H. HARRISON.

FIRST—Because the groves here are made on hammock land and are brought into bearing without expense for fertilizers which cause such heavy outlays and swallow up the profits in the rest of State.

SECOND—Because the Indian River orange grower gets more money for his fruit than the average grower of the rest of the State. It is well known that growers elsewhere in the State do not net an average of over \$1.00 per box on the tree;—the Indian River grower nets an average of \$2.00.

The sworn returns of the Assessor of Brevard County show for 1890:

Number of bearing trees, 76,311; number of boxes of oranges, 118,132; prices realized, \$262,939.00—about \$2.25 per box.

We do not undertake to show what *can be* done on Indian River, but what *is done* now.

Relative profit of growing oranges on Indian River, and in other parts of Florida:

Indian River groves (70 trees per acre): Average yield of all Brevard County, 105 boxes per acre; average net price on tree, \$2.25 per box; average return to grower, \$236.25.

Other sections: Average yield, 105 boxes per acre; average net price on tree, \$1.00 per box; average return to grower, \$105.00, from which must be deducted the additional outlay for fertilizers over and above that required per acre in an Indian River grove.

The study of these suggestive figures will reveal the cause why so many people in other parts of Florida complain that orange growing does not yield a good profit. No one who has a bearing grove on Indian River makes any such complaint.

BREVARD COUNTY FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Crop of Brevard County, 1891: Boxes oranges, lemons and limes, 127,124; barrels pineapples, cabbages, etc., 24,636; crates vegetables, 11,865.—“*Florida Star*,” Titusville.

GOOD LANDS CAN BE HAD ON INDIAN RIVER AT LOW PRICES.

A few acres of unimproved land at Rock Ledge were sold last winter for two thousand dollars per acre. Choice river front property at Eden, Ankona and Waveland has been selling during the past few weeks at two hundred dollars per acre. These facts, as they occur, are recorded in the local press and when copied in exchanges throughout the State, tend to create the idea that Indian River lands are held at fabulous figures, and people who have thought of settling in this section jump to the conclusion that our lands are out of their reach.

As a matter of fact, when a wealthy winter resident pays \$2,000 for a home at Rock Ledge, or a pretty location at Eden, he pays for the surroundings. He does not buy the land based upon its intrinsic worth for agricultural purposes. The *Advocate* has endeavored to correct erroneous impressions which prevail in regard to the price of Indian River real estate. Good hammock lands have been advertised in our columns, as well as those of the *Star*, at \$20 per acre.

Many people from interior points have ascertained these

facts, and invested accordingly ; but many others, and, we regret to say, the majority of those who come to Indian River expect to acquire property at Rock Ledge and Eden for a song. They want deep water front, high bluffs, and thickly settled neighborhoods at low prices, and seem dissappointed at being unable to buy a portion of the Hotel Indian River property, at Rock Ledge, or a part of Capt. Richards' home, at Eden, at fifty dollars an acre. None but the wealthy can afford to secure such a location at this late day, but to any sane man who thinks of coming to Indian River, we pledge our word that he can find all the good land he wants at from \$25 to \$60 per acre. — *From the "Indian River Advocate," Sept. 11, 1891.*

BEVERLY COUNTY FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

GOOD LANDS CAN BE HAD ON INDIAN RIVER AT LOW PRICES

At the present time, there is a great deal of good land on Indian River for sale at very low prices. The land is all well watered and has a deep soil. It is very fertile and will grow all kinds of crops. The prices are very low, and it is a good opportunity for those who wish to acquire property in this section. The land is all well watered and has a deep soil. It is very fertile and will grow all kinds of crops. The prices are very low, and it is a good opportunity for those who wish to acquire property in this section.

DESCRIPTION OF PLACES.

TITUSVILLE AND VICINITY.

BY WALTER S. GRAHAM, EDITOR OF THE EAST COAST ADVOCATE.

This pamphlet is issued at the expense of the County and under authority of the Board of County Commissioners; its contents having their approval and sanction, it is presumed these pages contain nothing but FACTS.

Those having charge of compiling the pamphlet have aimed to satisfy the desire of the thousands of people in all parts of the country who at this time are anxious to secure specific and reliable information in regard to Florida and particularly as to Brevard County.

It is unnecessary to use exaggerated language in describing the peculiar charms and advantages of the Indian River Country, and none but those who are inclined to take a general view of life through gloomy glasses, or whose expectations are extremely unreasonable or exaggerated, will fail to admit after a personal inspection of this famed and fertile section that "the half has not been told" and that the language of these pages has failed to do justice to the many advantages and golden opportunities this charming clime holds out invitingly to the home-seeker.

We have been entrusted with the pleasant duty of describing the particular advantages which Titusville has to offer in the way of openings and advantages to the new-comer; we shall endeavor to do so in concise and unvarnished language.

It is quite natural to suppose that among the many readers into whose hands these pages will fall, there will exist a variety of tastes, inclinations and expectations.

Some will be anxious to glean all the facts they can in regard to pineapple culture, another will want to gain all the knowledge he can about the growing of vegetables on Indian River, while still others will be ambitious to make an orange grove. The articles from Eden, Narrows, Rock Ledge and other points

should treat particularly of the advantages of each place with regard to these branches of agriculture and their peculiar adaptability as a location for a home for those who propose to engage in either of the special pursuits named. What may prove attractive and meet the desire of one reader may have no charm whatever for another. The object of this pamphlet is to secure energetic and enterprising settlers for the County at large. Which particular point the new settler may select for a home is of secondary consideration. * If those who have had the charge of preparing the articles contained in this publication have set forth intelligently the varied attractions of the numerous settlements which dot our beautiful river, so that the reader can judge for himself which particular locality is most likely to suit his taste, they will have fulfilled their purpose.

Titusville possesses certain advantages which are not to be found elsewhere in this whole section; these we shall endeavor to set forth.

This town is situated on the west shore and near the head of Indian River; it is at present the southern terminus of the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway, the only route by which the iron horse makes connection with the Indian river and the outside world. It is the County seat, the principal business point and largest town in this section. For that class of home-seekers whose lives have been spent in and about cities and in business or professional spheres, Titusville is particularly adapted to meet the requirements, and has the surroundings they would insist on finding in their new home. The place is now sufficiently populous to furnish congenial society; it has an excellent school and several churches; and social gatherings as well as public entertainments are of frequent occurrence; there are a number of well-stocked stores where one can find almost any article their taste might desire to eat or to wear.

Many of those who think of coming to Florida in order to take advantage of our glorious climate are entirely inexperienced in, and have little inclination for, agricultural pursuits; they also have the good sense to know that any attempt on their part to play the farmer would be likely to result in a failure; this class are anxious to locate at a point where business openings may be

found. To such Titusville offers opportunities which no other point on Indian River would at this time attempt to rival.

The hundreds of people who have business from time to time at the County seat do the great bulk of their trading at Titusville, and our merchants are required to fill orders daily for points as far south as two hundred miles distant. In fact Titusville is recognized as the commercial centre and distributing point for the whole Indian River Country.

The famous Turnbull Hammock, which is one of the richest bodies of land in the State, and which is admirably adapted to orange, vegetable and sugar culture, adjoins the town on the north, while to the west are many fine tracts of hammock land divided from each other by high rolling pine hills, which afford exceptionally healthful locations for a home. It is, therefore, quite plain that those who do not care to be deprived of the comforts and pleasures attendant upon a residence in town can live in Titusville, and at the same time have their orange grove or vegetable farm in its immediate vicinity, and run out daily to give it their personal supervision quite conveniently.

Over and over again we have heard commercial travelers express their surprise at the amount of business transacted in Titusville, and we have heard them affirm more than once that they have gone out of Titusville with more orders than they were able to get at Sanford, a place which boasts of three times the population of this thriving town. These drummers have not hesitated to express far and wide their candid opinion that Titusville is the liveliest town of its size in the State.

The municipal government is in the hands of progressive yet conservative officials, and our merchants, business and professional men have ability rarely found in a much larger place.

Titusville needs, more than anything else, manufacturing enterprises. A number of firms are engaged in the packing and shipping of fish, and this industry is rapidly developing to startling proportions. A large concern has just been organized which expects to put in an ice manufacturing plant which will turn out twenty tons per day and use their entire product for freezing and packing fish in their own business.

Two lumber firms do an immense trade supplying Titusville and all down-river points, and yet we are without a wood-work-

ing establishment. We are confident an excellent opening exists for an establishment of this kind. We have in successful operation an ice factory which has never yet been able to fully supply the demand for its product. An electric light company furnishes the town and private consumers with light at very moderate rates.

We have no machine shop or foundry, but as repairs are constantly needed by the many steamers plying Indian River and the occasional breaks which occur at the ice factory, we are confident a small foundry and machine shop would pay well, as broken castings have to be sent to distant points, usually to Jacksonville, involving great delay and heavy expense.

We have a first-class bank with average deposits of \$140,000, and as the volume of business at any given point may be closely estimated by the average bank deposits, some idea may be conveyed of the amount of business done at Titusville.

We have two weekly newspapers, *The Florida Star* and *The East Coast Advocate*, and those who are authority in the matter usually express their surprise at the high standard maintained by both journals and affirm that they would be a credit to any place ten times the size of Titusville.

A railroad has been chartered to construct a line from Daytona to Titusville, and the projectors expect to have it in operation during the coming year (1892). If their hopes are realized, Titusville will have competition in the matter of rail transportation which will give a new impetus to its growth.

To any who are looking for business openings, or who do not want to go beyond the present confines of the railroad system of the East Coast, who are not longing to rough it in pioneer style, who wish to avail themselves of the glorious Indian river climate but are not prepared to dispense with pleasant social surroundings, with churches, schools, physicians and the many comforts not to be found outside of a well developed town, no point on Indian River can at this time meet their expectations of an ideal home as well as Titusville. To those of limited means who expect to rely upon their own labor and engage in agricultural pursuits as a source of their entire income, who have been schooled to country life and enjoy its solitude, its quiet, there are many

points on Indian River which will no doubt mæet their requirements for a home as well as Titusville, possibly better.

We think we have clearly outlined what this point has to offer in the way of advantages to those who contemplate making a home in Florida and will close our remarks, having consumed all the space at the disposal of that point which after five years of residence and satisfactory business experience we have come to look upon as our permanent home.

LA GRANGE.

Situated on a pine ridge parallel to, and here and there intersected by, the famous Turnbull Hammock, is LaGrange, a station two miles west of Titusville on the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway. It is an old settlement, containing some of the pioneer families of the Indian River Region. It has a variety of soils, consisting of high and low hammocks, and dwarf hickory and oak lands. Here, and in this vicinity, some of the best orange lands may be found, and here may be seen the orange tree in every stage of its growth, from the smallest stock in the nursery to the full grown tree bending beneath the weight of its delicious fruit. Besides orange growing, vegetable raising is carried on here to considerable profit, and the industry is capable of being greatly extended. Shipments from this station last winter ('90-'91) were: Oranges, 1889 crates; lemons, 6 crates; cabbages, 481 crates; tomatoes, 271 crates; beans, 118 crates; peas, 79 crates; egg plants, 29 crates. Other vegetables are grown here; those mentioned are the most profitable.

Lands may still be had at prices to suit settlers, the amount varying according to the location.

THE TURNBULL HAMMOCK.

The ridge mentioned in the last article slopes gently to the west shore of the Indian River which is distant a little more than a mile.

Leaving the Railway at either Mims or LaGrange, and taking our course to the eastward, after a walk of about a quarter of a mile, we enter the famous Turnbull Hammock (a mile wide opposite Mims), and at once exchange the tall pine stems with their ragged heads, for plumed cabbage palms, fragrant magnolias, and huge live oaks gracefully festooned with moss. It is only comparatively recently that this magnificent body of

hammock land, which extends from Titusville northward, far into Volusia County, has begun to receive the attention it deserves; the supposed difficulty of clearing and draining it having deterred those in search of land for orange groves from occupying it. But the splendid success of those who did venture to make the experiment has induced others to follow their example, and now there are about two hundred and fifty acres of the hammock set out in groves, many of which are now loaded with a heavy crop of fruit almost to the breaking point; and the results from vegetable growing—"truck farming"—have been most encouraging. A settler, with enough capital to purchase and clear his land, could easily raise and sell enough vegetables to maintain him until his orange grove should come into bearing. Twenty thousand acres of this hammock may still be had at moderate prices varying according to location and distance from transportation. An appropriation has been made to construct a road from Titusville along the river bank north through the hammock which will not only facilitate settlement, but will also form a most delightful drive for visitors staying at our County seat. There are five railway stations in this County which afford transportation to settlers on these lands, viz: Titusville, LaGrange, Mims, Turnbull and Aurantia. Besides these, a new railroad has been surveyed from Daytona to Titusville, which will bring transportation facilities to the very doors of settlers in the Hammock.

MIMS.

Passing through LaGrange we come to Mims, a settlement and station on the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway. Close to the station there is a handsome hotel, and near by are orange groves of various ages. Like LaGrange, the older part of the settlement crowns the ridge which divides the Indian River district from the prairies of the St. Johns, and which here contains about two thousand acres of first-class pine land; about 75 acres of which have been set out in groves. There is also a large acreage of valuable hammock set out in groves both of oranges and lemons. Both pine and hammock lands, and also building sites can be obtained at moderate prices.

The vegetable industry here is very promising and is capable

of being largely extended; the shipments of cabbages alone, to western and southwestern points, being a large and profitable industry. Some idea of the extent of the fruit and vegetable culture here may be gained from the fact that more than 12,000 crates were shipped from this station last season.

AURANTIA.

Aurantia is situated on the west bank of Indian River. On its western boundary is Aurantia Station, on the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway, 149 miles south of Jacksonville, and ten miles north of Titusville. Nothing of importance can be seen at the station except a neat depot building and an avenue extending in a straight line to the river, which is here about five miles wide. Opposite this point, on the east shore, is that portion of the Coast Canal connecting Indian River with Mosquito Lagoon. This point is in what is probably the largest body of hammock land on the river.

The price of land to actual settlers will compare favorably with other points. This place is now building up.

Town lots will be given to those that will build a neat house or store, and a large lot will be given for a hotel or boarding house.

The splendid body of hammock referred to above offers exceptional facilities for market gardening, hitherto not attempted here to any great extent. But the success attending gardening operations in the neighborhood—notably at Mims—has drawn attention to it here, and preparations are now being made to bring Aurantia into line this season.

TURNBULL.

This postoffice has been recently established in the northern part of the county on the line of the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway. This section, as its name indicates, embraces part of the famous Turnbull Hammock, the eastern shore of which is washed by the waters of the renowned Indian river. The lands are the same in quality as those described under the heads of LaGrange, Mims and Aurantia, and can lay equal claim with them to the variety and yield per acre of its products, as well as the facilities for transportation.

HAULOVER.

Haulover, about nine miles northeast of Titusville, is situated on an isthmus separating Indian River from Mosquito Lagoon. Here a canal has been cut through the isthmus allowing river steamers of considerable size to pass from river to lagoon. Several fine bearing orange groves, including the famous "Dummitt Grove" may be seen in this vicinity, the soil having the celebrated "chocolate" hue here; and vegetables, especially onions, have been profitably raised both for northern and local markets. Owing to its exceptionally good salt water protection from frosts, pineapples,—especially those of the Egyptian Queen variety—have been successfully and profitably grown of late years. C. H. Nauman has netted \$1,000 from one acre of this fruit. In the matter of health Haulover can rival any section.

During the winter months there is steam communication with both New Smyrna and Titusville, and it is hoped that this service will soon be kept up throughout the year. Land can be had at moderate prices.

CANAVERAL.

Canaveral is that part of the peninsula lying between Banana River and the ocean. It is noted for its beautiful scenery, fine beach, excellent boating, fishing and hunting, the flavor of its oranges, its nearly tropical climate, cool breezes all summer, and perfect health. Climatic affections are entirely unknown. The water protection renders it as free from frost as the mainland 100 miles further south. No injury has ever been done to its oranges or lemons by the great freeze of 1886. All tropical fruits flourish so far as they have been tried.

Along Banana River is a ridge adapted to pineapples, and affording beautiful building sites and water fronts. At intervals are bodies of hammock. Trucking is an important industry, and considerable crops of beans, tomatoes, etc., are raised. Bananas, sugar cane and sisal hemp flourish, and can be made profitable staple crops. Bees do remarkably well. The river grass furnishes an inexhaustible supply of the best fertilizer.

Land is cheap and several thousand acres are still open to homesteads. Banana River is well stocked with fish and ducks; on land are deer, and some bear and other game.

Canaveral has the only deep water harbor on the East Coast. Its isolation and want of ocean piers have heretofore prevented its use; but within a year or two the railroads will reach it and establish direct steamers to New York, so reducing present time and cost of transportation to one half. It will then do most of the phosphate and other business of South Florida, and become an important city, being to the East Coast what Tampa is to the West.

The Bight of Canaveral is a choice location for extensive fisheries, and offers many opportunities to enterprising men in that line, in sponging, and in trade with the Bahamas and West Indies.

The ocean beach is one of the finest in the world, free from mosquitoes and sand flies, and will become a summer resort for the people of the interior. A few business lots, water fronts, and hotel site will be given to desirable settlers.

HARDEEVILLE.

Ten miles south of Titusville by water is a little wooded promontory known as Jones' Point. On the south side of this has been laid out the town of Hardeeville, which has a substantial steamboat wharf, with daily mail and passenger service by commodious steamers. North of it is the Delespine Grant. On the west, stretching to the St. Johns River, is a tract of land varying in character from hammock to pine, and capable of being utilized in cultivating the various products of this region. To the south are the groves and gardens of City Point. A new road runs south along the margin of Indian River to the City Point Landing, distant six miles. There is an opening for a good hotel, for which an eligible site can be obtained free.

COURTNEY

is situated twelve miles southeast of Titusville on Merritt's Island and is the first regular mail and steamboat landing on the east side, going south. There are from fifteen to twenty resident families, chiefly from South Carolina, with improved places. There is a considerable area of land cleared and cultivated, on which are situated several bearing orange groves in fine order.

In addition to oranges, pineapples, bananas, guavas, lemons,

limes, and other semi tropical fruits are grown; also early vegetables for the Northern markets, shipments of which extend from the middle of December to May. During last winter ('90-'91) the shipments consisted of oranges, 3,650 boxes; pineapples, 40 crates; vegetables, 2,700 crates; watermelons, 300; syrup, twenty barrels. Next season will see increased shipments. The lands are hammock, scrub of good quality, and pine; and some may still be had at reasonable prices. There is a good opening for a store, and there is need of a good hotel or boarding house, for which latter a fine location with a good view of the bay can be had *free* by the right parties.

CITY POINT.

This name formerly designated a tract of country extending from Jones' Point six miles to the southward. But the march of progress has compelled a sub division of this tract, and to day we have four steamboat landings—Hardeeville, Fabers', Sharpes', and City Point—where formerly we had but one, the last named. A beautiful and most luxuriant hammock, redolent of magnolia, covers a large portion of this extensive water front; and here may be seen perhaps the greatest number of bearing orange groves to be found at any one point on the river. Other fruits, such as lemons, guavas and bananas, are also successfully grown; and vegetables, such as Irish and sweet potatoes, cabbage, cauliflowers and tomatoes, do exceedingly well.

Near Rocky Point House a new postoffice and steamboat landing, known as Sharpes', has recently been established; and south of it is the City Point Landing and postoffice, and also an excellent general store. Here also are express and telegraph offices. There are a church, good schools, and a public hall.

There are some new settlements a few miles back from the river which promise good results in orange and vegetable culture. Land may be obtained at reasonable prices.

INDIANOLA.

Indianola is beautifully situated on Merritts' Island between Courtney and Merritt, about eighteen miles from Titusville, with which it has mail communication daily. Comfortable boarding at moderate figures is to be had, and in the winter a number of families from the North make this their home. There is a post-

office, store and church, and though building sites on the river front are scarce at this point, a few may still be had.

Considerable truck is raised on the back lands where a number of young groves have been started and where land may still be bought for \$20 an acre. There is a good though limited cattle range on the salt marshes of Sykes Creek and Banana River, and also on the prairie which is of considerable extent. Water is good, and the resident population in the settlement will welcome intelligent and orderly folks from any part of the world who desire to make a home here.

MERRITT.

This settlement lies along the east shore of Indian River on the island from which the name of the postoffice is taken, and extends from Indianola to a point nearly opposite Oleander Point.

Most of the improvements are comparatively new; though several bearing groves and a number of young ones in fine condition attest the fact that oranges can be successfully cultivated; while other fruits and ornamental plants less hardy can be seen on a number of places. The guava takes a prominent place, and the Cleveland jelly factory, situated at the south end of the settlement, offers special inducements for the cultivation of that fruit.

Some of the residences are quite handsome and, with the Baptist church, form an attractive feature as viewed from the deck of a passing steamboat. There is also a good school building, and an organized school in charge of a competent teacher. A fine hotel has been erected near the postoffice and steamboat landing. Visitors will also find accommodations at several private boarding houses.

COCOA.

Situated on the west bank of Indian River, about nineteen miles south of Titusville, is the town of Cocoa. Its site is on a gentle slope which rises as one leaves the river until it attains a height of forty or fifty feet, affording beautiful views of the river, and lies between the City Point hammock on the north and the Rock Ledge hammock on the south. Here the river is about one mile wide and of good depth in front of the town, so that long wharves are unnecessary. Among the busi-

ness occupations of the place are six regular stocks of merchandise, a hardware and builders' material store, a newsdealer, one boat-landing establishment, a drug store, a dentist, two jewelers, two barbers, two shoemakers, a blacksmith, two billiard saloons, a soda-water and confectionery stand, a meat and fish market, a weekly newspaper, the *Public Spirit*, two restaurants, two hotels, two millinery and dress-making establishments, a bank, a telegraph office, a photographic studio, a set of marine ways, a Justice of the Peace, two fire insurance agencies, and a real estate exchange. Among the public institutions are an Episcopal and Methodist church (white), and a Baptist and a Methodist church (colored), and a day school each for white and colored. A resident minister conducts free religious church services twice each month.

Sunday-school, both white and colored, every Sunday. The population within the delivery of the postoffice is about 225.

About one-fourth of a mile south of the town is Oleander Point, which picturesque spot is celebrated as the scene of the Annual May Day Picnic, while the race course of the Oleander Point Regatta Association lies, for a great part of the distance, in front of the town. The Merritt settlement lies nearly opposite, on the east side of the river, while three miles to the west is Lake Poinsett Landing—the head of navigation on the St. Johns River.

ROCK LEDGE

is most beautifully situated on the west bank of Indian river, in township 25 south. It is noted for its excellent health, its flourishing orange groves, and the superior quality of its fruit. The hammock is three and a half miles long by an average width of nearly half a mile, and is one continuous orange grove its entire length. Its improvements have been remarkable. In 1873 one could walk its entire length, following an almost imperceptible trail along the river bank, and only two permanent improvements. Several clearings had been made and abandoned by persons who little dreamed of the bonanza they were leaving. Nearly the whole river front was then for sale at \$10 per acre, which was considered high. Several families came in about that time, and improvements were made rapidly. The hardships, privations, and toils of those days would have made an interesting chapter, counterbalanced as they were by robust health and

an independant life, and the always successful pleasure of hunting and fishing.

“Put your frying-pan over the fire with the lard in it first,” said an old settler, “then catch your fish.”

“Out of meat!” the good housewife would say at noon, and at dark a fat saddle of venison would hang up on the palmettoes. The Rock Ledge of to day is different. Our postoffice was established in December, 1876. In 1880 the Lake Poinsett route of the upper St. Johns was discovered and opened by a semi-weekly line of steamers from Sanford, making regular trips. From that date the whole section has improved rapidly. Settlers came in, hotels were built, and a general era of prosperity was inaugurated. Our communication is now by steamer daily to Titusville, and by steam tri-weekly to New Smyrna, connecting at both places by rail with the outside world. We have a daily mail. The Lake Jessup, Indian River and Atlantic R. R. is surveyed through the entire length of the hammock, tapping nearly every orange grove. When in operation our communication will be perfect.

Rock Ledge is not, strictly speaking, a *town*, but rather a *settlement*, extending the whole length of the hammock, and nearly all the houses facing on the river. The shore is *ledged* with the curious coquina rock, a peculiar concrete of sand and shell. Several Northern gentlemen of wealth have winter homes here, with small groves attached. A beautiful paved walk extends nearly the whole length of the settlement, winding along the many curves of the river bank, beneath the pleasant shade of the live oaks and palmettoes, all forming one of the most delightful promenades imaginable.

About 50,000 trees, orange and lemon, are now set in grove, only a part of which are as yet in bearing. The crop the past season was about 50,000 boxes. As yet we have never had a failure of a fair crop. Nearly every grove has from one to three artesian wells. These wells are a great success, and give us an abundance of good, wholesome water, but slightly impregnated with sulphur.

No more charming spot to pass the winter can be found in the State. The prairies and lakes of the upper St. Johns, only three miles distant, and easily accessible, present unusual attrac-

tions for the sportman, whether a disciple of Nimrod or of Isaac Walton. The day's catch in Lake Poinsett the last season was sometimes immense.

Three hotels, one of the largest on the East Coast south of St. Augustine, and several boarding houses are generally crowded to their utmost capacity during the season. A telegraph office and daily mail put us in close connection with the great world. So much has nature done for this favored spot that our winter tourists have christened it "Rock Ledge the Beautiful."

COQUINA,

formerly known as South Rock Ledge, is a settlement, post-office and steamboat landing, occupying a beautiful front on the west side of the river, about three miles south of Rock Ledge. As at Rock Ledge, a stratum of coquina rock underlies it, and coming into view at the waterside, gives beauty and diversity to the river bank. Here are several thriving orange groves, some of them of considerable age, the soil being composed of the rich chocolate colored loam so favorable to the growth of citrus fruits. Here, also, the cultivation of the pineapple has been recently introduced with every promise of success, one settler having already commenced to ship the fruit. Market gardening is also proving remunerative. Coquina is expected, in the near future, to be the river terminus of the Lake Jessup, Indian River and Atlantic Railway, which promises to be in operation by January 1st, 1892, and which will afford excellent facilities for the transportation of fruit and vegetables. There are no hotels, but there is a good boarding house. The situation is healthy. The river teems with fish, and the flatwoods to the northward afford a good hunting ground for the sportsman.

GEORGIANA.

Georgiana is on the Indian River side of Merritt's Island, twenty-five miles south of Titusville. A grocery, a hardware and a dry goods store, postoffice, tin shop, a church and ten or twelve dwellings make up the village, while the settlement includes a section of the island extending two and a half miles south from the postoffice, and about the same distance north; in all about 30 families. There is a good school, in charge of an excellent teacher. Sunday-school and church services, con-

ducted by the M. E. Church, are well sustained by the community. We have a good school house, also a parsonage, occupied by a resident minister; and close to the Indian River, where it receives the best water protection, is a strip of low land suitable for gardening or strawberry culture. Here may be seen growing all the citrus fruits, grapes, pineapples, guavas and other tropical and semi tropical fruits in perfection, while early vegetables receive considerable attention. Not less than two thousand crates of vegetables were shipped from here last season. Of both pineapples and mangoes, Georgiana shipped the first that ever went from Indian River to a distant market. Georgiana furnishes most of the guavas that are sent from Indian River to the northern parts of the State. The early settlers gave but little attention to oranges, but at present there are in the settlement about 80 acres of young trees that are as promising as the best anywhere. Recently the acreage of pineapples has been more than doubled. At present lemons are receiving considerable attention. Near the Banana River is a strip of land containing beds of muck and a few low hammocks. The owners of land have so subdivided it that nearly all lots contain some of the various soils and front on two rivers. At this point the Island is but little over half a mile wide, with a good road from one side to the other. Fish and game are abundant. Crossing the Banana River and a narrow sand ridge the ocean is reached. There are no hotels here, but at reasonable rates good board can be had in private families, and with it, if desired, quiet, restful home life.

HORTI.

East of Georgiana and but little over half a mile distant (a good road connecting), is New-Found-Harbor, a body of water making up from the Banana River several miles in length, and about half a mile in width, separating the Georgiana neighborhood from the peninsula on which Horti is located. Here a postoffice was established something over a year since, and settlements are being made in this vicinity. There are some good hammock and pine lands in this section, which are being cleared and cultivated for fruits and vegetables, especially strawberries. Abundance of fertilizers from the waters of Banana River and New Found-Harbor, and from muck beds, are of easy access.

To the tourists and winter residents who wish first of all to be near good fishing and hunting grounds, Horti offers special advantages.

BRANTLEY

is on Merritt's Island, about ten miles south of Rock Ledge. It is supplied with a daily mail by steamer, which puts it in direct communication with the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railway and the Northern markets.

This is, comparatively, a new settlement. The people are devoting themselves to the growing of fruits and vegetables. The former has not had time to come on to any extent, but this place is fast building up a reputation for the latter, which are shipped to the Northern markets at a time which insures big prices. It being between the Indian and Banana rivers, it has the advantage of excellent water protection, enabling the settlers to cultivate their gardens all through the winter. The soil is well adapted to the growth of oranges, lemons, limes, pineapples, bananas, guavas, etc., and varies in quality from heavy hammock to light scrub.

This point has need of a few more settlers, and there are some good places for sale, both improved and unimproved, at reasonable prices.

Most of the sales at this point have been made to residents of the county.

During the season 1890-91 Brantley shipped 5,200 bunches of bananas, 1,200 boxes of oranges, 60 boxes of lemons, 2,000 crates of tomatoes, 1,525 crates of beans, 50 barrels of cabbage, 100 barrels of pineapples and 200 quarts of strawberries.

TROPIC

embraces all that part of Merritt's Island south of Brantley. This is the narrowest part of the Island, and has the advantage of the protection afforded by water on both sides, making it almost tropical and removing all fear of injury by frosts. This fact, in addition to its fertile soil, especially adapts it to the cultivation of early vegetables and tropical fruits.

Pineapples are successfully and profitably cultivated, this place being next to Eden in shipments of this fruit. Here, also, are grown quite a variety of early vegetables for shipment during the winter months.

The shores are mostly rocky, with good depth of water. Fishing at this point is excellent; and, as it is but a short distance to the ocean beach, a plunge in its briny surf may be indulged in with slight inconvenience. The postoffice is about fourteen miles south of Rock Ledge. It has no hotel, but a good boarding house near the steamboat landing supplies this want and cares for the wayfarer.

EAU GALLIE

is an incorporated town, situated on the west bank of Indian River about thirty-five miles south of Titusville and facing the mouth of the Banana River. It stands on high, fertile land, and about a mile of land intervenes between the ocean and Eau Gallie. The shores are rocky and washed by the waters of Indian River on the east, and of Eau Gallie River on the south and west. The waters are clear and deep with an abundance of fish, and there is a good and safe harbor for steam and sailing craft. The Indian River Steamboat Company has extensive property here, warehouses, dry dock, repairing shops, etc. There is a postoffice with daily mail, telegraph, two stores, meat market, church, school, hotel, and boarding houses, artesian wells, chalybeate and sulphur springs. A canning factory is in contemplation and also two more stores.

The land around Eau Gallie is high pine and heavy hammock. There are several young orange groves; and considerable quantities of vegetables and fruit are shipped from here to the Northern markets.

By the kind permission of Capt. J. O. Walton we have taken the highest and lowest temperature from a first-class, self-registering thermometer that has hung for years upon the parlor walls of that gentleman's residence. The greatest heat shown was 92° ; the greatest cold, 42° . Good land can be obtained in this locality at reasonable rates.

MELBOURNE

is an incorporated town, situated on the west side, four miles south of the confluence of Indian and Banana rivers, on a picturesque bluff from twenty to thirty feet above the water, commanding a beautiful view for many miles up and down the river. Crane Creek, flowing from the west, expands into a wide bay three-fourths of a mile in length, affording a snug harbor.

Numerous residences adorn its banks with green lawns sloping to the waters' edge.

Melbourne contains five general stores, a hardware and tin store, carrying heavy stocks of goods, a first-class drug store, real estate and insurance offices, meat market, three hotels, three churches and two school buildings, a telegraph office, and is the terminus of the East Coast Transportation Company's line of steamers.

The back country to the St. Johns prairie, a distance of about nine miles, consists of pine land and prairie, most of which is susceptible of cultivation. These lands are almost entirely in the coast canal reserve and are subject to entry by actual settlers under the rules and regulations of the Board of Internal Improvement.

The proximity of the Atlantic Ocean, only two miles to the east, and the prevailing southeast trade wind, render the climate cool and delightful throughout the year.

Melbourne is the shipping point for many truck growers, an industry which brings thousands of dollars to this vicinity and makes magnificent returns for the capital employed. \$600 per acre, *net*, has been frequently made in the truck business.

Melbourne is the first point south of Titusville where the ocean can be comfortably reached. A broad trail at East Melbourne, with carriage for transit and a steel railroad at Melbourne beach, nearly opposite the town, affords easy and speedy transit across the peninsula to the Atlantic where surf-bathing can be enjoyed nearly every day in the year. While for those unable to bear the buffeting of the surf, the river affords still water bathing in water almost equally salt.

For the sportsman, the myriads of excellent fish, the abundance of game and the most beautiful river in the world for small yachts prove great attractions.

The pineapple industry on the peninsula opposite Melbourne is assuming large proportions. At East Melbourne several gentlemen have engaged in the business heavily. The broad expanse of warm salt water (the river being one and one half miles wide) affords an almost perfect protection against frost, as was demonstrated by the great freeze of '86, when pines and coconuts were uninjured on the peninsula. The number of plants at

this point now aggregates 415,000, which will be doubled next year if slips can be obtained. At Melbourne Beach, where a little over two years ago not a single pine could be seen, are now planted 200,000, which will be largely increased. The returns from bearing plants have been very satisfactory. The peninsula at this point is destined to be a great health resort in the near future.

TILLMAN.

Tillman postoffice is situated at the mouth of Turkey Creek, on Indian River, three miles south of Melbourne.

Turkey Creek is one of the most picturesque bodies of water that makes into the Indian River. As you enter into the bay from the river, you see on either bank bold rocky shores; away to the right is a semi circle of nearly one half mile sweep, the bold bluff of the bay, fringed with palmetto, live-oak, magnolia and hickory. The bay is in the form of a horse-shoe, with deep water, so that all boats that sail on Indian River can enter at all times. The upper bay, or as it is now called, Lake Minneola, is a beautiful sheet of water, between 300 and 400 yards wide, and three-fourths of a mile long, making one of the safest harbors on the river.

The orange grove on the north side of the lower bay is one of the oldest and most famous on the river, in which is a large Indian mound, from which many interesting relics have been taken, and from the top of which many beautiful views can be had.

There are several fine cottages on the creek, and plenty of fine sites for building. The lands are a mixture of pine and hammock, and produce everything grown in this section, such as fruit and vegetables. Game and fish, both fresh and salt water, are plentiful. Good water for domestic use is obtained from driven wells.

The Rosedale nurseries, located about one mile from Turkey Creek, although yet in their infancy, give promise of becoming an attractive and important feature of this section.

AVERILL.

This is a new postoffice, situated on the peninsula, between the Indian River and the ocean, opposite Turkey Creek. Considerable improvements are being made. Pineapple culture is

becoming a specialty. Its proximity to the ocean beach, and its clean, attractive river shore, will doubtless make this a desirable place.

MALABAR

is situated forty-eight miles south of Titusville, on the west bank of Indian River. It is located on a hickory ridge which extends from Turkey Creek to Goat Creek, a distance of five miles. This ridge is from twenty to thirty feet above the river, affording fine building sites, being in many places in view of the ocean. This ridge is underlaid with a yellow sub-soil, rendering it especially adapted to the growth of citrus fruits, a fact apparent from the appearance of the young groves. Pineapples look well, and give promise of a crop the coming season. West of the ridge are extensive flat-woods, which, being fifteen feet above the river, are susceptible of drainage, some of which are now being successfully utilized.

Here, as elsewhere on the river, the tourist or invalid will find attractive features, while persons desiring to make permanent homes, can find fine building sites or locations for small groves on reasonable terms.

A good site is offered free to any one who will build a good hotel upon it. There is no hotel at present, but the three boarding houses have the reputation of caring for their guests in a satisfactory manner, at reasonable rates. There is, also, a cigar factory, doing a good business and furnishing a fine class of goods.

GRANT.

This postoffice has only just been established (September, 1891). The lands in the vicinity are adapted to the usual products of this county, being composed of good sandy loam and spruce pine lands. There is a fine river front and good hunting and fishing, with a regular steamboat service. A church will shortly be built, and a telegraph office established. The settlers are chiefly from Michigan and Minnesota.

MICCO.

This settlement lies principally on the west bank of the Indian River, fifty-eight miles from Titusville and three miles south of "Grant's farm." The land is principally high ham-

mock, the timber being live-oak, hickory, rubber, and cabbage palmetto; and is well adapted to oranges and other fruits, and vegetable growing. There is a postoffice, regular steamboat communication, and a station of the U. S. Signal Service. The river is two miles wide at this point, and is separated from the ocean by a narrow peninsula. Intersecting this peninsula are Mullet and other creeks on the shores of which may be found some of the finest cabbage palmetto hammock land, suited for orange, lemon and vegetable culture. Tomatoes and beans are raised here with great success, nearly three thousand crates having been shipped during last season (1890-91). A much larger area will be planted the coming season. The land near the ocean is adapted to pineapples and sisal hemp, of which latter there are about three acres in cultivation. Oak Lodge, a winter resort here, with its tastefully trimmed grounds, is one of the attractions of this section.

ST. SEBASTIAN.

a postoffice and steamboat landing, with a good general store and boarding house, is located on the west side about two miles south of the confluence of the St. Sebastian and Indian rivers. Here the river is more than two miles wide forming a fine bay to which the settlement gives its name. Around the bay and St. Sebastian River are high and low hammock lands remarkable for richness and fertility, scattered through which are several promising groves of oranges, lemons, limes, etc., while lands suitable to vegetable growing may also be found within easy reach of transportation. The reservation known as the "Fleming Grant" has for years kept the settlement from increasing; but arrangements have recently been made by which it is hoped the reservation will be brought into the market and the lands thrown open to settlement at reasonable prices. In fact this has already been done to a small extent. The lands of the Coast Line Canal Company can be purchased by actual settlers for a few dollars per acre. The growth of sugar cane and the manufacture of sugar will soon be added to the industries of the St. Sebastian district, a company having taken up a large body of the back lands for that purpose. Fish are plentiful, oysters of fine quality easily obtainable and game to be had for the seeking. The pine lands back of the settlement afford an excellent range for cattle.

THE INDIAN RIVER NARROWS

commence a couple of miles below St. Sebastian postoffice. Here a chain of mangrove islands, eight miles long, extending southwards nearly in the middle of the bed of the river, divides the latter into two channels connected at short intervals by numerous creeks. Between the east channel and the Atlantic Ocean stretches the peninsula, here varying in width from a quarter of a mile to a mile and a half. A magnificent stretch of ocean beach forms the eastern line of the peninsula, succeeded by from one to two hundred yards in width of billowy sand dunes, from whence to the margin of the river extends for miles and miles a stretch of beautiful cabbage and oak hammock, which, from its comparative freedom from frost, is being rapidly taken up and converted into truck farms. The west channel of the narrows runs between the mangrove islands above referred to and the main land. A salt marsh, varying in width, extends along the west shore; but westward of it is a fringe of rich low hammock and beyond it a belt of first-class pine land suited to the culture of almost any of our productions. Some of this latter is still available for homestead or canal land entry. The west channel through the narrows is one continuous oyster bed, and here some of the best oysters in the river may be found. Sometime in the future oysters will be cultivated here and will afford rich returns to him who will bring to the business the requisite knowledge and industry. Six years ago there was no postoffice in this neighborhood—now there are three—Orchid, Enos, and Narrows.

ORCHID

an appropriately named and pretty settlement, postoffice, and steamboat landing on the east side, in the belt of cabbage and oak hammock above described. Market gardening is the chief occupation of the settlers both here and on the west side opposite; but orange and lemon groves have also been set out; and the latter are already coming into bearing, and give great promise for the future. The vegetable industry, since facilities for transportation have been afforded, has yielded most satisfactory results in spite of low prices. The shipments for last season (1890-91) were 2,000 crates; besides 1,200 bunches of bananas. Some excellent banana land may be found here, and the cultiva-

tion is easy, cheap, and profitable. Bees also do well—2,400 pounds of honey having been shipped in the period above mentioned. River fronts can still be obtained at from \$25 to \$75 per acre; and excellent land of the same quality a quarter of a mile back from the river at \$20.

ENOS,

two miles south of Orchid, and in the same belt of hammock, is also a postoffice and steamboat landing. Effectually sheltered from cold winds, and with its beautiful environment of palmettos and oaks, it is a most inviting location for a winter home; and holds out unexcelled inducements to fruit growers and truck farmers. The climate is that of spring, summer and of early autumn—the thermometer is seldom above 90° or below 60°. Tropical fruits mature to perfection. Orange and lemon trees here are only a few years old, but are making excellent progress, and the latter have begun to bear, the first shipment having been made this year (1891). Bananas do well and afford sure returns, and market gardening, though tried for the first time last season, has given such results as to leave no doubt of the suitability and productiveness of the soil. A considerable quantity of hammock land is still for sale, and special inducements will be given to those desiring to make either a winter or a permanent home.

NARROWS.

This postoffice, steamboat landing, and store, is situated on an island two miles south of Enos, and at a point where a wide and navigable creek joins the east and west channels of the river. It is the shipping place of a section of country extending east, west, and eight miles south of it. On the west side, beyond the salt marsh previously described, the excellent hammock and pine lands are being rapidly taken up and brought into cultivation; oranges and lemons seem to do well, and egg plants and other vegetables yield rich returns. Bees thrive here and the honey is of superior quality. There are extensive cattle ranges offering inducements to stockmen. The peninsula on the east side is an unbroken continuation of the cabbage and oak hammock mentioned in the previous articles. It stretches from the banks of the river almost to the shores of the ocean, and in the hands of a landscape gardener could be converted into beautiful

sites for winter homes. But the market gardener, not the landscape gardener, has taken a considerable portion of it in hand; and oaks and palmettoes are rapidly giving place to rows of vegetables. Last season (1890-91) was the first of its market gardening, when twenty-nine acres were cleared, plowed and planted. This year the acreage will be more than doubled. La Roche's Island (really a part of the peninsula) absorbs the largest part of this estimate, nearly the whole of the island having been taken up and converted into gardens. There are some fine orange trees on this island, but they receive no attention, the time of the settlers being taken up with early vegetables, the fine soil and almost perfect immunity from frosts affording prospects not easily excelled. Throughout the whole of this section fish and oysters are plentiful and large game is always within reach of the hunter. More than 3,000 crates of produce were shipped from the Narrows landing during last season.

ST. LUCIE.

The name of this settlement is somewhat misleading, as it is more than twenty miles north of the St Lucie River, but is explained by the fact that that portion of Indian River which lies between the inlet and the mouth of the St. Lucie is known as the St. Lucie Sound. In Indian war times Fort Capron stood near the present postoffice, and old settlers still call the place "Capron." St. Lucie has a hotel well known to Northern sportsmen, and a postoffice and steamboat landing. There is also a resident Deputy Collector of Customs. Being situated opposite Indian River Inlet the fishing, boating and bathing facilities are unrivalled; tarpon fishing being the chief attraction. Some handsome houses have recently been built in the neighborhood of the postoffice, and will be occupied as winter residences by their Northern owners. The country back of St. Lucie is a vast cattle range, where also the hunter who is not afraid of a little exertion will seldom fail to supply his larder with venison. Wild ducks are plentiful in winter. The oysters of this neighborhood are of the finest quality and flavor; and there are considerable shipments of them.

FORT PIERCE.

This postoffice and steamboat landing takes its name from a fort so designated which stood here in 1835, but which has long since disappeared. There is here an excellent general store, around which a settlement has been steadily growing, furnishing the nucleus of what will one day be a thriving city. At present its industries are confined to fishing and fruit and vegetable shipping, but lately the stimulus which has affected the pineapple business further south, has also touched the people of Fort Pierce, who have set out about fifteen acres in the slips of that delicious fruit. Besides the usual mullet, bass and sheep-head fisheries, this locality and the neighboring one of St. Lucie affords good green turtle fishing—3,624 pounds were shipped last winter. The back country—stretching forty miles west to Osceola County—is the land of the cattle kings; but on Five and Ten-mile creeks some excellent gardening land is under cultivation. Fort Pierce is the headquarters of the Florida Canning Company.

FORT DRUM.

Twenty five miles west of Fort Pierce in the very heart of the woods is this old settlement, the name of which recalls memories of the Seminole war. No railway has as yet tapped this section and consequently the chief occupation of its hardy and hospitable settlers is in cattle raising, for which the country is exceptionally suitable, and from which large returns have been realized.

HUTCHINSON'S ISLAND

is the name of that portion of the peninsula east of Indian river which extends from Indian River Inlet to Gilbert's Bar. The island formed part of an ancient grant, which closed it against settlers until about three years ago, when 2,000 acres assigned to the grantees having been surveyed and selected, the rest of the island was thrown open for settlement. The river shore of this tract is very much indented by shallow bayous and mangrove marshes, but it contains some exceedingly rich cabbage and hardwood hammocks, and even the land adjoining the beach ridge is said to be productive, some fine pine-apples having been grown there. Opposite Fort Pierce is an exceedingly pretty bayou with some luxuriant hammock; and

south of Eden is a homestead known as "Uncle Joe's," and famous for its bananas, cocoanuts, tropical fruits and tobacco. Intending settlers will do well to give this island their attention.

THE PINEAPPLE COUNTRY.

To us who are so familiar with this fruit, a description of its appearance and habits seems absurd, but when we take into consideration the frequency of the question—how it grows, and where it grows, how does it look and how is it propagated—a general description of the various features does not seem out of place.

We have been asked what kind of a tree the pineapple grows upon. The absurdity of the question causes a broad smile to appear upon the face of the questioned, although the question is not so far out of order as one might at first imagine, because the pineapple partakes much of the nature of our native air plants and can be grown from the stump or crevices of a tree, providing there is enough deposit of leaf mould to support the roots. We have seen them growing in this way, though it is simply a matter of experiment and something of a curiosity to the tourist. A newly planted field of pineapples resembles more than anything else a northern corn field when it is first starting with its symmetrical rows stretching out into acres, though it soon outgrows this resemblance and becomes a matted mass of curved and prickly leaves, shading and protecting their own roots. Each plant is set into the ground at an average distance of twenty inches apart, the young plants being not more than six or eight inches high in two years. Each plant, when about waist high, bears an apple which is surrounded at the base with slips, and the top is artistically finished by a crown which adds beauty to the plant and is no small aid in creating a market for the apple; these slips and crowns, being planted, bear in their turn another apple. They are also propagated from suckers and ratoons which grow out from the old root and bear the next season's crop, while the old stalk dies and aids in fertilizing the land.

* * * * *

The heart of the pineapple country seems to lie between Fort Pierce and the St. Lucie River, although a large number are being raised with a degree of success on either side of this tract

of country, more especially along the shores of the St. Lucie River, which is developing wonderful resources in that direction under the intelligent work of thrifty settlers. Beginning at Fort Pierce one is attracted by the gradual change in the face of the country. The high bluff rising from the water's edge, thickly fringed with tall palmetto trees, and interspersed with many beautiful woods, growing in wild and luxuriant confusion, and so thickly that it is impossible for the eye to penetrate the mass and know, only by a personal and careful inspection of the forest, what an amount of growth the soil is capable of supporting at this section of the river. To those who are inclined to doubt the capacity of Florida sand, let them note this dense growth and then let them follow the workmen and notice the quantity of roots that is taken from underneath the surface, equalling if not exceeding that which grows above it, then doubt no longer. The bluff here rises abruptly from the water a height of from eighteen to thirty feet, and from the brow of the bank, back some distance, it is usually a gradual slope some ten feet higher, then the divide; and a gradual slope the other way to the savanna or fresh water lake which divides the flatwoods from this pineapple belt. Beautiful homes are being built on the bank of the river under the palmettoes and spreading bays and sweet scented sandal woods.

Modern conveniences are finding their way here and adding much of luxury and ease to a country already gifted with that which art or wealth could never produce—a climate which carries on its breezes and in its sunshine that greatest of all blessings, Health.

* * * * *

The pineapple is the chief industry here; but oranges and lemons occupy the attention of many of the growers, and have already proven, even in the short term of years which has been allotted to the cultivation on this part of the river, a most profitable industry—the great and only objection being the length of time required to bring these trees into bearing anything like a profitable crop. One must expect to wait seven years at least, and that without the drawback of unlucky years, such as sometimes come and retard the growth of the trees, but once into a bearing condition one could not wish for a more

paying industry. But a pineapple field will bear in two years from setting, thus doing away with that long hungry gap unavoidable in the culture of lemons and oranges. The intelligent grower, however, does not neglect to set out at an early day a number of trees, and gradually increase the number each year, while he bends his best energies to the pineapple industry. To commence from the beginning, he, or she, must buy an acre of land for \$50 or \$100. I say she, because ladies become as enthusiastic in this pursuit, and as well versed in the methods and in the work as they might become in the same extent of flower gardening. He pays for clearing, preparing and setting another \$100; he pays for 14,000 plants to fill out that acre \$98; and for cultivating \$25; for fertilizing \$15; for picking, packing, etc., \$30; for crates \$20; and if he has done his duty by the scuffle hoe, he will pick 12,000 apples and realize an average of 5 cents each for them. He will have 35,000 slips which he can sell for \$7 per thousand. This brings the yield of the acre to \$845, a net yield of \$457. The second year the same acre will yield nearly the same amount, with the expense only of labor for cultivating, packing, etc., and an increased amount for fertilizer. This acre will continue to bear from three to seven years without resetting. All this is with the common Key Largo or Red Spanish pine, better varieties bringing results which are startling to those unacquainted with the business.

ANKONA

was given this name by Dr. J. F. Ankeny (the original name being Ankona), who was the first to chop his way from the water's edge to the beautiful building site which he selected some ten years ago, and on which he built a house which still remains as one of the early landmarks. Since that time permanent settlers have come, and a postoffice was established in 1886. Built upon the beautiful ridge already referred to as marking the river front of the famous pineapple region which extends from Fort Pierce to the mouth of the St. Lucie River, Ankona possesses all the attractions most sought after by the tourist or the home-seeker. It is located in the heart of the pineapple region, at an easy distance from the inlets and oyster beds, and with an unlimited range to the westward for hunting. The river here is broad; the water clear and salt, a little labor and care

being all that is necessary to make oyster farming a success. There is a small school-house built here, and a hotel will be erected during the coming year. At present there is no hotel or boarding house. There is a tri-weekly mail and passenger service by steamer.

EDEN.

Eden, healthfully and beautifully located on a high hammock bluff commanding a fine view of St. Lucie Sound, seven miles south of Ankona and ten miles north of the mouth of St. Lucie River, in latitude $27^{\circ} 10'$, has been particularly favored by the hand of nature, located as it is, with a large body of water on the west, tempering the cool winds in winter, preventing damaging frosts; and a fine river to the east two miles wide divided by a narrow strip of land from the Atlantic Ocean, which causes the summer winds to be cool, making the days pleasant and the nights comfortable.

With endless pineapple fields always clothed in green, its shady tropical walks, comfortable residences, contented and hospitable people make it truly a favored spot. With its name spread far and wide for the great quantity and superior quality of its pineapples, its people should feel justly proud of the reputation it has acquired.

Less than five years ago its shipments amounted to nothing; to-day thousands of "pines" find their way to northern markets realizing ready sale and good prices.

Shipments for season of 1891 amounted to nearly 7000 crates averaging about 500,000 pineapples, realizing an income of \$25,000.

This section being the natural home of the "pine," it is considered "King" and little or no attention has been paid to other fruits, there being only one orange grove within Eden's precincts.

Many small fruits for home consumption are produced which are of minor importance.

The vegetable industry is making rapid strides and ere long it will form an item within itself.

With a tri-weekly mail, telegraph office, steamboat landing with good steamboat service, Eden is within easy reach of the busy world.

And to appreciate the beauties and possibilities of this garden spot one would have to come and see for himself.

JENSEN

is the most southerly postoffice in Brevard County, about two and a half miles south of Eden, and, like the latter place, devoted chiefly to the cultivation and shipment of pineapples for which the soil seems admirably suited. The settlement, which three years ago consisted of one house and now numbers a dozen, is prettily situated on the west shore of Indian River, and within easy walk of the settlements on the St. Lucie River. Opposite, on the east side, is Hutchinson's Island across which the trade winds blow ozone-laden, refreshing breezes and the many voiced tones of the sea. 1,500 crates of pineapples were shipped from Jensen this year (1891), and next year the amount will be doubled. Besides pineapples there are several hundred orange trees in grove here, too young to bear, but which seem to be vigorous and healthy. But little attention has been paid to vegetables as yet, but the few attempts made have been so successful that the industry is likely to be taken into favor as an alternative to pineapple growing. The hammocks on Hutchinson's Island make excellent vegetable and banana land. "Uncle Joe's" place, opposite Waveland, is well known to Northern visitors.

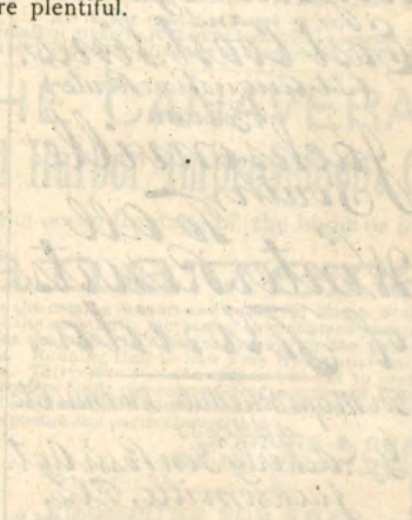
THE ST. LUCIE RIVER.

Rising in the Halpatiokee Flats, an insignificant "branch" or stream fed by two other streams, and taking a southeasterly direction within a few miles of its confluence with Indian River, it becomes a wide river and deep enough to float an ocean steamer. It joins the Indian River a little south of Waveland; and there, not so many years ago, it rushed to meet Old Ocean at Gilbert's Bar, then a deep and navigable inlet, but now closed by a sand bar and converted into dry land. Through this inlet and up this river, in old times, came Spanish cavaliers in tall ships, and here they landed their troops and marched forth on conquest bent. Here also the English pirate, Capt. Gilbert, built his fort and made his stronghold, giving his name to the inlet through which his ships found access to a safe harbor.

As we enter the St. Lucie River, at its mouth we find on the right hand side a beautifully wooded point, and north of it some rich high hammock lands, but these are soon left behind, and pine lands and spruce ridges, with occasional tufts of low hammock, become the rule. These lands are being rapidly taken up, for the St. Lucie River Country is in the famous pineapple belt and only needs assured means of transportation (which cannot much longer be delayed) to become one of the wealthiest and most populous parts of the County. At present river fronts are selling for from \$20 to \$40 per acre; and plenty of land may still be had at \$25.

Besides pineapples, guavas, mangoes, sugar-apples, alligator pears and cocoanut and date palms grow here to perfection; and as soon as satisfactory transportation is supplied the low hammocks will be taken up for market gardening.

There is a splendid opening for a good general store, and a small saw mill in skilled and energetic hands would do well. At the head of the river is an unlimited range for cattle. Fish and game are plentiful.



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Than Algiers or Cairo,
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There's no hot Sirocco,
As in Morocco,
Your lungs to shock, oh!
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Nor no ice winds harming,
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You couldn't spend in
A better climate
The winter time.

And as for Phthisis,
Dread Waster! this is,
In its early stages,
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It beats the Bosphorus
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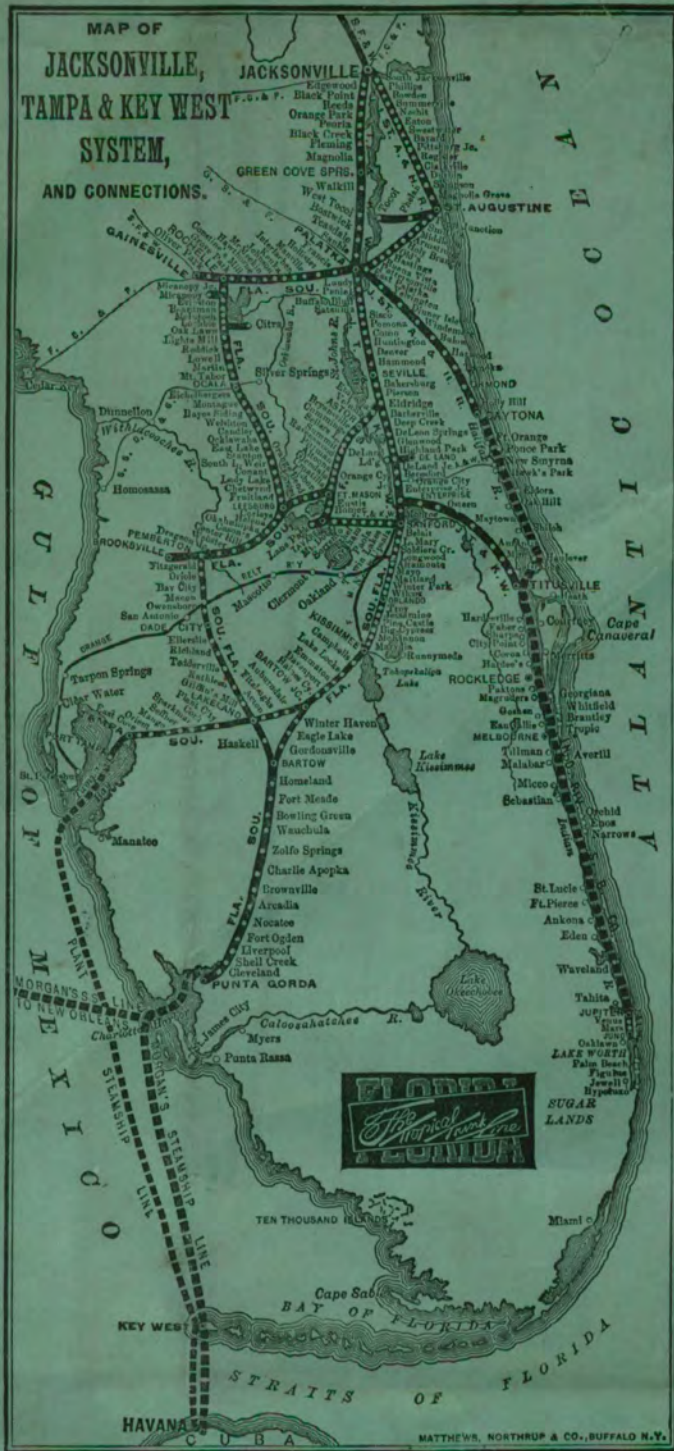
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