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Editorial Notes

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Editorial Notes.

Arrangements have been made by which the room occupied by the Florida Historical Society at the Jacksonville Free Public Library will again be open to the public. The room was formerly open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 9 to 1, but through lack of means to employ a custodian the room was temporarily closed some months ago.

Friends of the late Governor Fleming, realizing what a deep interest he took in the society from its organization, have enlisted the gratuitous help of six prominent young ladies of this city, who have been generous enough to donate their services one morning every two weeks in acting as custodian of the property and keeping the room open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 to 1. These young ladies are Miss Elizabeth Fleming, Miss Irene Bacon, Miss Emma Maxwell, Miss Gertrude L'Engle, Miss Fannie Holt and Mrs. William Barnes. We are sure there are other young ladies who would gladly volunteer their services as custodian for one morning each week, in which case it might be practicable to open the room every morning of the week instead of only on three mornings.

An attractive show-case has been purchased by the society, partly with funds furnished by interested members, for the display of the rare and interesting curios now deposited in the room occupied by the society. This case will stand in the vestibule on the second floor of the public library building; where it will be accessible to the general public.

The collection of curios includes relics of the Florida Indians, territorial bonds of Florida, Confederate notes and bonds, relics of early Spanish occupation, rare photographs and other miscellaneous items. The society would be glad to increase this collection very materially, either by gift or by loan, and you are earnestly asked to assist the Executive Committee in this matter. Such articles will be much safer deposited with the Florida Historical Society in the fire-proof building of the Public Library than they are in private residences.

Correspondence of early Florida throwing light on any phase of the state's history is particularly desirable, and there surely must be a great mass of valuable and neglected letters and documents hidden away in private ownership that would become extremely valuable to the future historian. Can you not help the Historical Society to bring to light some of this material?

We publish in this number a biographical sketch of Senator David L. Yulee by his son C. Wickliffe Yulee which, for the first time, so far as we are aware, deals comprehensively with the romantic life of this distinguished representative of Florida. The sketch was the result of a request to the author by the Executive Committee for an article on this subject, and the loving care, thoroughness and biographical ability of the son presents a finished sketch of the father, which enriches the historical data of the Society and of the State. Mr. Yulee has also sent the Society certain valuable papers concerning early Territorial history of which we will give more particulars in a later number. His interest and co-operation is greatly appreciated by the Society.

So much which relates to the past history of the state is hidden away in pigeon holes, and so much has never been written, and can be obtained only from those who have either received the tradition from their ancestors or have witnessed the events in their early days, that the Executive Committee is endeavoring to collect this data, by the appointment of Secretaries in every County. We are glad to report Judge E. C. Maxwell has become the corresponding secretary for Escambia and the Hon. John G. Detwilder for Volusia. We shall be glad to receive any authentic information from any source. Our object is to collect unpublished historical data and to preserve it for all time, by publishing it in our quarterly.