

THE OCALA BANNER.

The paper "Of the People, for the People and by the People."

ESTABLISHED 1866.

OCALA, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 1901.

DOLLAR A YEAR.

OUR OIL INDICATIONS!

WITHLACOOCHEE VALLEY SAID TO ABOUND IN PETROLEUM

OIL COMPANY BEING ORGANIZED IN OCALA FOR THE PURPOSE OF BORING WELLS—NO ONE INTERESTED WILL GIVE INFORMATION

Options Secured on Thousands of Acres of Land in the Western Portion of Marion County—A Beaumont Oil Man Inclined to Think Florida Oil Find a "Fake"—People, However, Seem Willing to Put Cash into Prospecting Outfits. No Gushers Reported at Present.

The reported discovery of oil in the Withlacoochee valley by Mr. Albertus Vogt is supposed to be in township 15, range 18, and is not more than a mile distant from the identical spot where hard rock phosphate was discovered by the same gentleman in the year 1889.

HOW DISCOVERED.

Different stories are told as to what led to the discovery. The following is believed to be the most authentic:

It seems that near the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Vogt is a pond. Mrs. Vogt noticed for a long time that neither horses, dogs nor cows would drink the water. She called Mr. Vogt's attention to the fact, so one day when they were passing by the pond he got down and put his arm up to the elbow into the water, and when he withdrew it discovered an oily substance clinging to it, which had the smell of kerosene.

When the excitement of the oil gushers at Beaumont were filling the newspapers, Mr. and Mrs. Vogt instantly thought of the pond near them and an analysis of the water followed, which showed the prevalence of oil, and the matter somehow and in some way became a matter of public notoriety.

OIL COMPANY BEING ORGANIZED.
Albertus Vogt, of Dunnellon, Samuel R. Pyles, of Ocala, Gaston Drake, of St. Louis, and other parties interested in the supposed discovery of oil in the Withlacoochee valley, are in this city, and have been for several days past. It is surmised that they are perfecting the organization of a company for the purpose of boring for a "gusher."

They are closely closeted, examining maps, recording options and consulting with their attorneys, but are not giving out anything for publication.

A BEAUMONT OIL MAN INTERVIEWED.
George Ware, a gentleman from Texas, passed through here Tuesday and submitted to an interview, which precipitated the excitement from the standpoint in which it has since been discussed.

Mr. Ware is fresh from the oil fields of Beaumont. He was there during all the stages of the oil discovery, from the time the surface indications were first made known until the gusher ceased all doubt as to the existence of oil in Texas.

For ten days or more Mr. Ware has been in Dunnellon, and gives, or attempts to give, the alleged oil discovery in that region "a black eye." He

says there is not a particle of doubt about the surface indications of oil being visible in the region named. He says it can be seen oozing out in the ruts of the roadway, in ponds and running streams, and can be smelled for a distance of many yards, but he says it is refined oil, the oil of commerce, old fashioned kerosene oil, pure and simple, the same as you purchase from the stores.

The plain inference, of course, is that the oil find in that region is a "put up job," that someone has "salted" these supposed "finds," or, more properly speaking, has "kerosened the earth," and is playing the world for suckers.

A story has also gained publicity that a barrel of oil mysteriously disappeared from the railroad station at Dunnellon about six weeks ago, which heightens the color of the story of the gentleman from Beaumont. Let's seriously see if this story will bear analyzing.

A FAKE STORY EXPLODED.

The reported finds of oil in the Withlacoochee valley are widely separated from each other. It is therefore seen that it would require large quantities of kerosene to saturate the earth. It is known that kerosene oil evaporates very rapidly, hence the places where these finds are reported would have to be constantly supplied with fresh oil if the supposed discovery is a fake and a fraud.

Then, too, for the past six weeks we have had unusual and unparalleled rains. In some places as much as fourteen inches of rainfall is reported in a single day. It is not too much to say that in the six weeks past we have had enough rainfall to wash to "smithereens" all the loose kerosene that could have been "sneaked" into the bowels of the earth.

We have taken pains to investigate the alleged missing barrel of oil from the railroad station at Dunnellon and find it to be entirely mythical. The agent reports that no barrel of oil has been missing at that station, and that every barrel shipped there has been properly accounted for.

So, instead of being a fake, the interview of the gentleman from Texas strengthens, rather than weakens, the faith of the people here as to the genuineness of the oil discovery in the Withlacoochee valley. If the oil is there in quantities and in remote places it is clearly evident that it could not have been placed there by individuals.

OIL OZZING FROM ROCKS.

Capt. John L. Inglis was in Ocala Wednesday from Port Inglis, near the mouth of the Withlacoochee river. From the very start of the supposed oil discovery the captain has been a "doubting Thomas" and has "taken no stock" in the genuineness of the discovery. He believed implicitly in the "missing barrel of oil" story, but says now that he does not know where it comes from but that when he left home yesterday he saw oil oozing from the rocks on the river banks and running down into the river.

"OIL SLICK" OFF CAPE ROMANO.

On the Ocala House piazza Tuesday night the oil discovery was the chief topic of conversation. Among the persons gathered there was Dr. William Anderson. The doctor has spent most of his life on the seashore, and is a lover of Old Ocean. He has a brother in the navy and is himself an excellent sailor. He says that when he first came to Florida he was told that there was an "oil slick" off Cape Romano covering such a large area

that during the most tempestuous storms it never becomes disturbed, and the sponge fishers flock there in great numbers, and, however wild the waters may be raging around them, on the bosom of this "slick" they always find a haven of perfect safety.

OIL TWO MILES FROM OCALA.

Joseph A. Reynolds and his son, Henry L. Reynolds living about two miles south of Ocala, believe they are living directly over an oil or natural gas deposit. Some years ago they dug a well to the depth of eighty-five feet. In a few hours an oily scum would form on the top of the water drawn from this well. It was undrinkable for man or beast. The well had to be abandoned. The man who dug it was from the oil regions of Pennsylvania, and declared it as his belief that this scum was oil, which could be struck if the well could be bored deep enough.

WELL DIGGER OVERCOME BY GAS.

Another story is told that the late Dr. Daniel A. Vogt, an uncle of Albertus Vogt, was having a well dug on his plantation not far from the Reynolds place by a colored professional well digger. The man lived some distance and knocked off work one Saturday at noon, and did not begin operations again until the next Tuesday morning. He was let down into the well and before reaching the bottom gave the signal to be hauled up. Ere this could be done he was completely asphyxiated, or, to use the term then in vogue, was "overcome with foul air." When the man was resuscitated and before going down again, a bundle of fodder was set on fire and thrown into the bottom of the well to purify it. The "foul air" ignited and burned for a considerable time. It is now believed that this "foul air" was natural gas.

REPORT FROM PORT TAMPA.

Still another story comes from Port Tampa. It is said that the Plant System artesian well there was bored by a man who had had great experience in boring wells in the oil regions, and when a flow of water was obtained the oil indications were so great to persuade the management to permit him to bore four or five hundred feet further down, giving it as his belief that a genuine oil gusher would be the result. But the management stated that they were after water and not oil.

OIL NEAR GULF HAMMOCK.

And yet another story is told by Editor C. Y. Miller, of the Dunnellon Citizen. He says he was driving two Pennsylvania Dutchmen from Dunnellon to Gulf Hammock, and when crossing a small stream one of them got out of the vehicle and made a superficial examination, and remarked to the other one, "John, if there is not oil here, then I am very badly mistaken." The other one replied that the "indications certainly looked that way."

IS HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF?

Capt. Samuel R. Pyles and others, who are putting out their good money in securing options on supposed oil lands, are receiving the commiseration

of a good many of their friends. It may be history repeating itself. In the early days of the phosphate excitement the same state of feeling existed. Many of his friends believed that the late and lamented John F. Dunn had "lost his head," and was recklessly throwing away his money; that he would wreck his bank and finally end his career in disgrace and ruin. Being a close friend of many years' standing, the writer was selected to hold a conference with him and try and "check him in his wild career." We cornered him one day in the rear of the Ocala House and plead with him with tears in our eyes almost as big as horse-apples. He was very much amused. In a few days afterwards the Dunnellon Phosphate Company was organized and its stock rose as high as \$250 per share, and made Mr. Dunn one of the richest men in Florida.

So all indications seem to point to the fact that oil abounds on the Gulf coast of Florida and the surface indications are sufficient to justify the sinking of wells.

A Sprained Ankle Quickly Cured.

"At one time I suffered from a severe sprain of the ankle," says Geo. E. Cary, editor of the Guide, Washington, Va. "After using several well recommended medicines without success, I tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm and am pleased to say that relief came as soon as I began its use and a complete cure speedily followed." Sold by the Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.

Options in Demand.

Will Ross, of Heidsville, the center of the supposed oil discovery was in town this week. He has given an option on his land for \$36,000, and the option has been placed on record.

A great many persons are busily examining maps, scouring the woods securing options, and where the indications are particularly favorable, are buying the lands outright. There is no abatement in the excitement, and even those whose faith is not strong are parting with their hard-earned dollars in securing options.

Another Mineral.

J. F. Titcomb, an attaché of the Dunnellon Phosphate Company, whose headquarters are at Rockwell, was in this city Saturday, and says that phosphate of alumina, an important discovery, is also announced in his section. This mineral is said to be worth considerably more than \$50 per ton, and if found in quantities will add immensely to the mineral wealth of the interior section of the state.

Columbus, Ga., Aug. 24, 1872.

Dr. C. J. Moffett—Dear Doctor: We gave your Teethina (Teething Powders) to our little grandchild with the happiest results. The effects were almost magical, and certainly more satisfactory than from anything we ever used.

Yours very truly,

JOSEPH S. KEY,

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The Ocalians a Wonderful People!

Beneath the soil and crust of the somewhat peculiar geological formation constituting the peninsula of Florida, there may be hidden reservoirs of mineral oil that will yet bring millions and billions of dollars into that state. In fact mineral oil may exist in almost any part of the earth's crust that hasn't as yet "gushed"—and why shouldn't Florida, with quite as many possibilities in the way of undiscovered oil as any section possesses, get in promptly on the ground floor of an oil boom?

It is announced in all seriousness from Ocala—from which city, it will be recalled, the famous Alliance "demands" went out to the world in 1890—that for some weeks past a "quiet but energetic search for oil" has been going on in the region round about; that a Texas "oil expert" has declared that the lay of the land there is not unlike that of the Beaumont fields; that no "gushers" are as yet in evidence, although borings are going vigorously on; but that, in consequence merely of these primary efforts at discovery, options on possible oil lands to run thirty, sixty and ninety days are being actively traded in at high prices, that the excitement is intense, and that options on two hotels in Ocala and on other real estate there have already been sold. In other words, because somebody is trying to find oil—but hasn't—an oil boom is actually on! That must be a rapid country down there, and of what an abiding faith the people!—New York Commercial.

Goods would frighten many people who are not afraid of germs. Yet the germ is a real danger. If this microscopic animalism could be magnified to a size in proportion to its deadliness it would show like a giant python, or fire breathing dragon. The one fact to remember is that the germ is powerless to harm the body when the blood is pure. It is far easier to keep the germ out than to drive it out after it obtains a hold in the system. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the most powerful and perfect of blood purifying medicines. It increases the quantity as well as the quality of the blood, and enables the body to resist disease, or to throw it off if disease has obtained a footing in some weak organ. Wherever the digestion is impaired the nutrition of the body is diminished, for the blood is made from the food which is eaten, and half digested food cannot supply the body with blood in quantity and quality adequate to its needs. For this condition there is no remedy equal to "Golden Medical Discovery." It cures ninety-eight out of every hundred persons who give it a fair trial. When there is constipation Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets will promptly relieve and permanently cure.

Our seemingly prosperous little neighbor, Ocala, is going to have a gala time on the Fourth of July, the program consists of races, baseball and many other attractions, all of which will be free. What is Palatka going to have? Can't some of our enterprising citizens get up something that will bring the people.—Palatka Times-Herald.

Mr. W. S. Whelon, cashier of the First National Bank of Winterset, Iowa, in a recent letter gives some experience with a carpenter in his employ that will be of value to other mechanics. He says: "I had a carpenter working for me who was obliged to stop work for several days on account of being troubled with diarrhoea. I mentioned to him that I had been similarly troubled and that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy had cured me. He bought a bottle of it from the drug-gist here and informed me that one dose cured him, and he is again at his work." For sale by the Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.

Ira D. Reekard, Duncombe, Ia., writes: "My little boy scalded his leg from the knee to the ankle. I used Banner Salve immediately and in three week's time it was almost entirely healed. I want to recommend it to every family and advise them to keep Banner Salve on hand, as it is a sure remedy for scalds or any sores." Anti-Monopoly Drug Store.



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suitable for any size or style of room and something in prices to suit any size pocket book. The designs are on graceful lines, but neither strength nor durability has been sacrificed in making them handsome. Here are some figures

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LOVELY LAWN.
Those who have seen our new stock of lawns pronounce them beautiful. They are not only delicate and attractive, but they are full of quality which will make them wear. They are satisfactory to us and we can guarantee them to you. We want you to see them.

A SUMMER WAIST.

You can easily have a waist that is fashionable and comfortable if you select from the material we are showing. There are many beautiful patterns here in summer weights and colors, and women of taste speak enthusiastically about them. Prices quite small.

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It requires care in fitting you with a skirt that is all ready to wear. We are particular about this matter, because we are anxious that the fit shall be perfect. We have a more than ordinarily complete stock of ready-to-wear suits, and it is very probable that you can be suited here better than elsewhere, at a price that will suit you, too.

M. FISHEL,
Ocala - - - Florida

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Dr. Thacher's Liver and Blood Syrup
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Your Druggist has Dr. Thacher's Liver and Blood Syrup and Dr. Thacher's Liver Medicine (dry) or he can get them. If he won't, send us \$1.00 for a package or \$5.00 for a bottle. See Try Your Druggist First.

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On the

FOURTH OF JULY!

We have determined to help the people of our neighboring towns to come to Ocala and spend a grand holiday on the Glorious Fourth. We will refund the price of your round trip ticket on the following conditions:

- If you live less than 5 miles from Ocala, and your purchases at our store amount to \$5.00
- If you live less than 10 miles from Ocala, and your purchases at our store amount to \$7.50
- If you live less than 15 miles from Ocala, and your purchases at our store amount to \$10.00
- If you live less than 20 miles from Ocala, and your purchases at our store amount to \$12.50
- If you live less than 25 miles from Ocala, and your purchases at our store amount to \$15.00
- If you live less than 30 miles from Ocala, and your purchases at our store amount to \$17.50
- If you live less than 35 miles from Ocala, and your purchases at our store amount to \$20.00

We make this proposition in order to get better acquainted with the people of Marion and adjoining counties, and will do just as we promise. Trade here on the Fourth and save railroad fare.

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Ladies' & Gents' Ready Made Clothing

in the city, and at prices that cannot be duplicated in this section of the state. While in the city, call and see

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