



HOMESEEKERS' OPPORTUNITY

Prospects of St. Lucie Country Offers Splendid Opening.

THE CITRUS COUNTRY

Transportation on the St. Lucie River Will Again be Resumed When Inlet to Ocean is Opened.

In our last communication we referred to taking a trip up the beautiful St. Lucie river in a canoe. but do not think because we chose the smallest craft for trips up the St. Lucie that there are shoals or shallows—not by any means—for long before the river was cleared of logs and debris by the Florida East Coast railway, even back to 1894, the first settlement of White City, on the Indian River schooners and several steamers, among them Capt. Vail's steamer boat came up to the main street of the then Magic City, and since then the river has been utilized for transportation purposes; a freight steamer regularly, connecting with the Indian River boats transporting crates of vegetables to Titusville for the northern markets, after which better arrangements were made for us by the Florida East Coast railway than previously. It is herein lies a suggestion that the St. Lucie river may some day be utilized for transportation and travel when that we sometimes hear of, shall have been built at or near the mouth of the St. Lucie river, which is only awaiting the cutting of the channel deeper through the coral reef to make a naval station as has been recommended by naval officers as of imperative need, it being the only feasible harbor between Key West and St. Augustine for naval vessels to enter in stress of weather or emergency. Aside from that, some are divining both the cutting a deep channel and city will follow the canal it is to drain the Everglades, in consummation of which events elements will spring up like mushrooms on the St. Lucie. But do not understand us as depending on any mere idle views of the future than the facts of to day as reasons why the homeseeker should settle here.

Pursuing our course in the unpretentious canoe, to take in all the beauties of nature first, and then see what man is reaping from the bounteous soil—and only so, but take a 75 ft. line and run along and you can have a fish in an hour or so of delicious fresh-water bass.

We pass, on the east side, several lovely set pines, the largest of which that of Dr. Platt; one may see pines that high only two years old. These pines however are hid from view on the river by the density of forest. About one mile from the Doctor's (on Fort Pierce road) is the old settlement of County Commissioner Bell. Bell is a type of the native farmer, being of a progressive nature because a subject for the citrus fever. He has a young and promising orange grove, the trees are of various ages indicating progressiveness on the tentative.

A fair specimen observed by the writer was pomelo or grapefruit budded the spring of 1900. It bore fruit the following year, though not much—yet in two succeeding seasons the yield amounted to \$15.00. This ought to satisfy the most fastidious—and this is not exceptional, but only a fair show of what the White City trees are doing. Mr. Bell says it would have done much better if budded on a sour orange instead of the lemon.

Five miles by water (two and a half land) brings us to the junction of the Five and Ten-mile creeks, head of the St. Lucie river. Here is the farm of the late Mr. Thompson, precisely four miles from Fort Pierce. There is a young grove doing fairly well though much neglected since Mr. Thompson's death.

This is the limit of the writer's experience upstream, but can state on good authority that about six miles by land the Ten-mile creek five or six beautiful orange groves are to be seen, especially the Williams grove, which is considered ideal. It is said that all that section has a

clay subsoil, and near the surface. The creek takes off the surplus water readily and the clay disposes of the balance.

These creeks take their names from the following circumstance: That it is five miles from Fort Pierce to where the Fort Drum road crosses one, and ten miles to where it crosses the other. Both take their rise in the Allapatta flats to the north, and flowing south, then the Ten-mile creek takes a turn eastward till they unite and form the St. Lucie—all together constituting the valley that is to be the garden spot of the East Coast.

BARNEY OLDFIELD PREDICTS DISASTER

Speaking of A. G. Vanderbilt's car and purposes at the Ormond-Daytona beach in a few days, Barney Oldfield says:

"If a car was built along practical lines that developed 250 horse-power and transmitted the power to the wheels and the car turned loose on the Daytona beach there is no human being that could steer it and, assuredly not the man Mr. Vanderbilt purposes to have guide his proposed record breaker.

"I long since learned that there was a limit to properly applied horse-power and that more horse-power is wasted in the average racing car than ever reaches the rear wheels.

"My Peerless Green Dragon is but 60 horse-power, and yet I hold with it every world's circular track record from one to fifty miles, and although there were cars on the track this past year with 110 horse power, these same records, which were established over a year ago, were never approached. It is possible for a machine of 110 horse-power to travel a mile on the Florida beach in thirty second, and such cars will triumph over freak horse-power machines during the coming meet. I never realized it was possible for motorists to be inoculated with the speed-mad germ as seems to be the case.

"There are men going to race on the beach this year that have no more idea of pace, distance or speed than a school boy. I dislike to predict disaster, but there will be lots of accidents on the beach during the coming tournament, and three or four drivers will pay the penalty of speed craze with their lives.

"But to return to the high power question, I will be on the Florida beach as a spectator, and if Mr. Vanderbilt's 250 horse-power car shows up for the races I will never get closer to the beach than the Daytona railway station. It will be safer for me."

GILBERTS BAR CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

The annual meeting of the Gilberts Bar Yacht Club was held at the club house last Saturday. The governing board and officers were unanimously re-elected.

The officers are: Henry Sewall, commodore; Harry Jennings, vice-commodore; Jerome Twichell, flag officer; Hubert W. Bessey, measurer; Charles S. Schuyler, secretary-treasurer.

The club is taking an active interest in the movement to make St. Lucie Inlet a harbor of refuge for vessels, which will be a great benefit to commerce of the eastern coast of Florida.

Will Return to Florida.

Charles Hineman, a former resident of Fort Pierce, was a passenger on Monday's northbound train en route north and was met at the depot by a number of his old time friends. When Mr. Hineman left here in 1903 he sold his place to G. W. Ruple, going to Cincinnati and later to Indiana. Mrs. Hineman died October 25, 1903, but their friends here were not notified. Since his wife's death Mr. Hineman has traveled a great deal, having spent the past summer in Germany, and the fall in Cuba. He informed his friends here that he would return to Indiana and dispose of his property and return to the Indian River to make his future home.

Board of County Commissioners.

There will be a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Lucie County January 22, at the Clerk's office, to examine plans for jail building and to attend to any other business which may come before them. W. R. HARDEE, Chairman.

INTERESTING PARAGRAPHS

Items About People You Know and Those You Do Not.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

People and Events That Are in the Public Eye—Doings of the Week Told our Readers in Short Notes.

N. J. Trowell made a business trip to Cocoa Tuesday, returning the same day.

F. R. Trice and John Sorensen, Jr., of Jensen, were in town last Saturday.

Adam Eby, and D. E. Beeghly, winter residents at Wabasso, were in town Wednesday.

Durkee & Goodwin have the contract to paint the Baptist church, and are now at work.

Henry Anderson, of Jacksonville, representing Red Rock Gingerale, is in town today.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Backus and sons, of Jensen, were in town yesterday, shopping and visiting friends.

Mrs. P. L. Lardner, who has been visiting at the home of her niece, Mrs. A. M. Sample, is now with Mrs. D. T. McCarty.

Fort Pierce has a new blacksmith shop, the firm of Smith & Faulkner having opened in the building adjoining Hall's livery stables.

D. H. Sample, manager of the ice department of the Indian River and Lake Worth Fish Company, Eau Gallie, was in town last Monday.

R. L. Moss is at Daytona, St. Augustine and other resorts up the line this week, making large panoramic views for the Florida Photographic Concern.

Mrs. M. A. Tyler and Mrs. F. M. Tyler went to Palm Beach Tuesday, where they joined Mr. and Mrs. Van- Antwerp, and will return with them Saturday.

The weather has been decidedly warm the past week, so much so that Col. Fred Fee was obliged to adorn a black sky piece yesterday to protect his brain from the sun's ardent rays.

A letter from J. A. Soper, of Owatonna, Minn., who spent a part of last winter here, states that he will pass through Fort Pierce Sunday or Monday en route to Homestead, where he will spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Coggs, winter residents of Stuart, from Groton, N. Y., were in Fort Pierce last Friday. Mr. Coggs and his brother are the largest bee owners in the United States. They are among the valued subscribers to THE TRIBUNE.

Fort Pierce has reasons to be proud of its marshal. Mr. Alderman is performing the duties of the office to the satisfaction of everyone. All cattle and stock have been kept off the streets, and when same have come in town, from outside, the marshal has driven them out. Our people should lend Mr. Alderman every assistance in the performance of his duties.

Jas. E. Dodge, of Stanwood, was in town Tuesday, with a load of vegetables and fruit, all of his own productions, which he disposed of to our residents at good prices. His load consisted of fifteen kinds of vegetables and three fruits, and was composed of collards, kohlrabi, oyster plant, turnips, parsnips, rutabagas, celery, carrots, string beans, tomatoes, radishes, lettuce, onions, mustard, eggplant, oranges, grapefruit and tangerines.

GRAND LODGE MEET IN JACKSONVILLE

The seventy-seventh annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida convened at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning in Jacksonville, Grand Master C. W. Johnson presiding.

At the first meeting there were 107 lodges represented by 146 officers, and five petitions were presented for charters of new lodges.

The annual address of the Grand Master was interesting to all present, and showed that the outgoing officer was heart and soul in the work for the

betterment and upbuilding of humanity. All the committees were appointed Tuesday and work was begun at once.

The Fort Pierce Lodge, No. 87, is represented by Worshipful Master James E. Andrews and Senior Warden A. M. Sample.

Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Planters' Security Bank will be held at the office of the institution at Jensen, Fla., on Monday, February 5, at 2 o'clock p. m.

THOMAS HELLIER, Cashier.

THE CHAUTAUQUA OF THE TROPICS

The Chautauqua of the Tropics, Melbourne, Fla., is to be held this year on March 4 to 18. The new board of directors is busy getting everything in readiness. Dr. W. L. Davidson will be the superintendent of instruction again this year, which insures a good program. Some of the finest attractions to be had are already engaged and the session of 1906 will be up to the high grade of other years.

From one to two board meetings are held every week now and no stone will be left unturned to make this the red letter year of the Chautauqua of the Tropics. The plan is to suit the taste of every body and to furnish a program that will be uplifting and entertaining.

The board of directors recently elected is as follows: Wm. T. Wells, president, Dr. L. A. Peek, vice president, Rev. J. B. Hawk, secretary, E. P. Branch, treasurer, R. W. Goode, J. E. M. Hodges, Nathaniel Downey, R. E. Mims, Sr., W. I. Metcalf, F. H. Fee, Dr. Geo. W. Holmes.

Winter Tourists at Stuart.

Stuart is becoming quite a place for tourists, and this winter quite a number of Northern people are there, and some of them are building winter homes. The following are the arrivals at the Hotel Danforth for the past two days: W. Mullins, James Walsh, Brooklyn, N. Y.; John P. Boyle, Newark, N. J.; L. C. Seaten, Louisville, Ky.; W. H. Grunthal, Jacksonville.

Notice of Annual Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Fort Pierce Land and Improvement Company will be held in the office of the Company at Fort Pierce, Fla., on Tuesday, Feb. 15th, 1906, at 10 o'clock A. M.

E. A. EISNER, Secretary.

CONGRESSMAN CLARK INTRODUCES BILLS

Hon. Frank Clark, Congressman from the Second Florida District, on January 4 introduced in the House of Representatives three important measures, as follows:

A joint resolution, proposing an amendment to the constitution, making postmasters, revenue officers and other like federal officers elective by direct vote of the people of the town, city, district or state where such officers are to perform the duties of their respective offices.

A bill to provide for the construction of public highways within the different states, and making appropriations therefor.

A bill to provide for and levy an import duty on Egyptian and other long-staple cotton imported into the United States from foreign countries.

A Jolly Fishing Party

A party composed of Mr. and Mrs. Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Day, Rev. and Mrs. J. Brown, Miss Annabel Brown, Mrs. H. B. Paxton, Mrs. J. D. Almond and W. I. Fee spent Wednesday at Ten-Mile Creek. The party report fish as scarce, but say that grape fruit and turnip greens were plentiful.

Yacht Club at Titusville.

The Indian River Yacht Club is being organized in Titusville. J. Lorillard, Jr., is the promoter, and all the citizens are enthusiastic over the move and expect to have a membership of over fifty to start on. The flag proposed for the club is a white field with the head of a Florida Indian in red in the center.

Mrs. A. K. Hogg left yesterday for a visit with her daughter, Mrs. E. C. B. Tyndall, at Jensen.

INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA

Starts Out the New Year in Most Excellent Shape.

NEWSPAPERS LEND AID

Every Department of Endeavor Shows Enterprise—Some of the Progress Being Made by Railroads.

Florida starts out on the New Year in splendid shape.

Her turpentine industry is in the zenith of its splendor and is flooding its patrons with a stream of wealth almost equal to the stories told of Standard Oil.

This is not a fiction of the imagination, but the doubting Thomas has but to open his eyes to see that it is true.

The lumber industry is better than it ever has been; the demand is ever increasing and the prices are satisfactory. The man who owns a saw mill and timber lands in Florida has a fortune at his finger tips.

The phosphate industry is now controlled by a few operators, and those who are fortunate enough to be members of the syndicate need not consult a palmist, for this product is active both in the foreign and domestic markets, and the prices remunerative.

More than this, chemical factories are being erected near the mines for the manufacture of the product, which will make the mining more attractive and profitable.

Railroad building for the New Year promises to tell a wonderful, almost fairy-like story, for Floridians.

The Florida East Coast Railroad is to be extended from the mainland to Key West. It is to buffet the depths, as well as the waves and tides of the sea. It will not only be unique and marvelous in its construction, but in view of the completion of the Panama Canal, will be entirely practical in its results. It will become the key to trade and traffic and its daring and picturesqueness will draw travel from all lands.

Down the west coast the Seaboard Air Line Railway is being extended to Boca Grande Pass, the most southerly point for a deep water outlet. It is said to be one of the finest harbors on the coast of Florida, and the extension of the Seaboard railway to this point will increase our traffic with Cuba, South America and other foreign markets.

The orange industry of Florida is rapidly recuperating and most of her groves have been rehabilitated since the great freeze of 1895. No fruit equals the Florida orange and it will continue to occupy the front place in the markets.

The pineapple industry continues to widen its acreage, and the fruit is so choice that it enjoys an almost exclusive monopoly in the markets and is driving out all competition.

The vegetable industry, while it has had some severe setbacks, still holds out attractive inducements to its votaries. If freight rates can ever be equitably adjusted, the raising of early vegetables will always be a tempting Florida industry.

In no department of endeavor is more enterprise shown than in her newspapers, and in this field Florida occupies a front place, and her enterprise in this, as in all other lines of industry, corrects and sets at naught the story that her climate is enervating and her people shiftless.

The population of Florida is increasing; her cities are rapidly building up; her educational facilities are being enlarged and improved, and her charities are not overlooked.—Ocala Banner.

Married at Stuart.

A very pretty wedding occurred at the Methodist church at Stuart Wednesday evening, Rev. T. W. Tomkies performing the ceremony. The contracting parties were Miss Amy Kitching, the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus Kitching, and Mr. R. Robertson, the popular railroad agent at Stuart.

Mrs. L. W. Bartlett, of Buckhannon, W. Va., arrived last Monday to spend the winter with friends at St. Lucie.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Heavner and Miss Eva Stewart, of St. Lucie, were in Fort Pierce last Tuesday.