

Beach Combings.

E. R. Sprague, of DeFuniak Springs, has been a Panama City visitor this week.

The government survey boat Santa Rosa put in to this place on Tuesday to get a supply of ice.

E. D. Neel, agent of the L. & N. R. R., at Cottondale, was an arrival on last evenings train.

M. A. Helms, of Florida, Ala., is a Panama City visitor, having come in on last evenings train.

Mr Henry Moore and wife of Culverton, Ala., are stopping at the Holiday home in Old Town.

Ben H. Thomas, of Pensacola, is a visitor in Panama City, having arrived on the Manteo today.

A. B. Steele, president of the Atlanta & St Andrews Bay R. R. was an arrival on the Manteo this morning.

Contractor Hall has the second cottage for Mr McKenzie well under way. They are very attractive buildings.

J. N. Hutchins, an attorney from Covington, Ky., who is stopping at St Andrew, made Panama City a visit yesterday.

E. R. Cobb, General Freight and Passenger Agent of the Mobile & Gulf S. S. Co., made the trip on the Manteo this week.

Ice cream made by Panama City ice has been one of the attractions at Hogeboom & Cos. restaurant on the dock this week.

W. D. Thompson, General Counsel of the Atlanta & St Andrews Bay R. R. arrived on last evenings train, and is a guest at the hotel here.

Mr Gillis is getting the lumber on the ground preparatory to erecting a building on the lot just north of G. L. Fenters & Co., on Harrison avenue.

Messrs Cawthon and Storrs were out early Tuesday morning after fish at the fresh water pond. They brought back a supply both of fresh and salt water fish.

West Florida's well known and popular banker, W. L. Cawthon, of DeFuniak Springs, arrived on the train Monday evening for a brief outing with his family here.

Editor Storrs, of the Breeze, DeFuniak Springs, arrived on the train Monday evening, and has since been putting in his time fishing and enjoying the gulf breezes.

F. B. Carter, Jr., of Pensacola, arrived on the Manteo to-day and will spend a few days in the bay country before leaving for Marianna, where he will spend his vacation.

Presiding Elder Cousins, of this District of the M. E. Church South, has been stopping here for a few days looking after the interests of the church about the bay. Rev Cousins preached here last evening.

The Tarpon yesterday brought in a goodly portion of the grocery stock of Mr Clingo. He will open his store in McKenzies new building just as soon as it is completed. His stock of dry goods, &c., will soon follow.

The steamer Manteo, which has been laid up for the past ten days, is again in commission and will resume her regular schedule from Mobile on Sunday night. She arrived to-day with a fair cargo and leaves to-night for points east.

Rapid progress is being made on the Hogeboom hotel building. The sides are up, verandah floors laid, and much studding in place on the interior. The building is a large one, and will, when finished, accommodate a great number of guests.

T. J. Farmer, of Shorterville, Ala., one of Panama Citys oldest and best friends, was an arrival on last evenings train. Mr Farmer finds much improvement here since his last visit, and prophecies that it will continue until we have a population of thousands.

As one gentlemen expressed it to-day, one cannot hear himself think now days along the lower part of Harrison avenue for the noise made by hammers and saw. There are a host of carpenters working in that locality just now, and they are hustling things too.

Capt J. Wills and Clem Gwaltney of St Andrew were visitors in Panama City to-day. The worthy captain says he can see much improvement here since his last visit.

Charlie Stewart, of the Pensacola Journal force, is looking after the interests of that paper in this section during the illness of Wallace Caswell. The PILOT office is indebted to him for a pleasant call.

Wallace Caswell who has just undergone a severe attack of typhoid fever was brought home on Friday evening, where he is slowly convalescing. He was at Chipley and Charlie Stewart, of the Pensacola Journal force, had been there with him during last week, and aided in getting him home. The many friends of Wallace are hoping for his speedy recovery.

Messrs Love & Grant have opened a meat market on the south west corner of Harrison avenue and Fourth street. Mr Grant furnishes the meat and Mr Love attends the market. The meat brought in by Mr Grant from his farm has been long and favorably known, and he promises to retain the good reputation which he has always had in this direction. Their meats will be ice cooled and customers can depend upon getting what they wish.

H. J. Bruton, of Bainbridge, Ga., was an arrival on the train Tuesday evening and is a guest at the hotel here. Mr Bruton is accompanied by J. S. Shingler of Ashburn, Ga., and T. J. Shingler, of Donaldsonville, Ga., both large naval stores operators, and Charles Evans, of the extensive lumber firm of G. S. Betts & Co., of Ashburn, Ga. All the gentlemen have been putting in some time at successful fishing since their arrival.

Col A. H. Perry, wife, and son Paul, of Oglethorpe, Ga., D. A. Taylor, wife, and daughter Gladys, of Vienna, Ga., and C. M. McKenzie, of Cordele, Ga., who have been visiting their relatives at this point for the past three weeks, and generally enjoying the pleasures and the beauties of the bay, left for their homes on Monday evening train. They all express themselves as delighted with the bright prospects of Panama City. Col Perry left orders to at once begin the construction of a cottage on lots which he has purchased.

The PILOT received a very pleasant call from Mr J. Stump, the oil well operator, of Orange Hill, on Tuesday. Mr Stump states the well is now down 1352 feet, with very good indications of soon striking oil. Several large deposits of gas have been struck, and it is the opinion of oil men who have visited the drilling that oil is present somewhere there in paying quantities. If such should be the case the oil will undoubtedly be piped to this point, thus adding another product to the vast number of probabilities in a business way for this port.

There are two prominent West Florida newspaper men in town this week, and the PILOT has endeavored to enlist them in getting out this paper, but Storrs of DeFuniak goes after fish each morning at 4 o'clock, then eats so many of them he cannot work any more during the day, while Thomas of Pensacola is that busy shaking hands with old friends that he does not get much of any time for anything else. If we could have induced both of these shining lights to have helped out, there might have been something doing in this weeks paper.

Building.

All our new buildings are making good progress this week. The roof is going on the new hotel; Fortners store will soon be under cover; G. H. McKenzies store building has received its finishing coat of plaster and paint; Russ Brothers store is being completed; while the many new residences are fast being put into habitable condition. The temporary depot at the foot of Sixth street is that far along that it will be occupied within a day or so by an agent of the company.

ICE PLANT COMPLETED.

First Ice Manufactured on St Andrews Bay Drawn Sunday.

PLANT NOW PREPARED TO FILL ALL SIZED ORDERS.

It is with pleasure that the PILOT announces the completion of Panama City's first important industry, the 30 ton plant of the Panama Ice Company.

The ammonia was forced through the pipes for the first time the latter part of last week, and by Sunday there was a supply of clear pure ice in the cans, and a little was given out to those who "just had to have some."

The plant is equipped with a 30 ton absorption ice machine made by the Columbus Iron Works, of Columbus, Ga., whose machines can be found all through the United States where ice is manufactured, from Texas to New York, and in Cuba.

It is claimed for the absorption machine that a purer quality of ice is made than by other systems, the steam from which the water is procured not passing at any time through oiled valves, or other places where impurities could be taken up by the water.

Another valuable feature of these machines is the low cost of building required, only the most inexpensive covering being necessary. All the different parts of the machine stand upon their own foundation, only carrying their weight, and if the building be burned over them, the machine remains but little injured.

The Panama Ice Company was organized but a few weeks since and is officered as follows: O. E. Williams, President; R. C. Williams, Vice President; A. L. Williams, Secretary and Treasurer; and the following Board of Directors: O. E. Williams, R. C. Williams, A. L. Williams and I. A. Hutchinson.

As soon as organized they closed a contract with the Columbus Iron Works for the plant, which was shipped in by the Tarpon, and the work on the putting in the foundations at once began.

The building erected is a wooden frame construction, 31 feet by 150 feet, with the boiler set in brick some little distance from the main building. The brine vat is 21 feet by 67 feet, and holds 602 two hundred pound cans.

The machinery is first class in every respect, as good as can be made by one of the best ice plant manufactories in the world, and is guaranteed to do the best of work. The boiler is of 150 h. p.

It took 18 drums of ammonia, of 750 pounds each, to charge the plant, and 12½ tons of salt went into the brine vat.

Specimens of the ice turned out are as clear as crystal, and as pure as science can make ice. Only dry steam is used, and this passed through cooling tubes which no impurity can enter, and finally, just before going into the cans, filtered through charcoal.

The work of erecting this plant has been under the charge of P. H. Laffiteau, an expert ice machine engineer, a very thorough mechanic, and a congenial gentleman. He has been with the company many years, and

the perfection of the work he has done on this plant shows that he cannot be excelled in his line of work. Mr Laffiteau is married, and has a pleasant home in Columbus, Ga.

It is with satisfaction that the PILOT chronicles such an important event to the entire bay country, and the fishermen of this portion of the gulf, as the opening of an ice plant of large capacity at this point. It means a better price for the fish caught; a stable supply of ice for domestic purposes; and the bringing to St Andrews bay of much business that has hitherto gone elsewhere for lack of ice for refrigeration.

With the opening of the pass fruit boats will be run in here from Central American points, as the railway can now secure a plentiful and economical supply of ice for their refrigerator cars. In fact the making of ice here marks the commencement of a new era in business for this port.

St. Andrew.

Mrs Smith, of Cromanton, was shopping here last Thursday.

Mr Crawford Fryer and party are camping near the sanitarium.

The schooner Cleo and launch Nancy Lee arrived this morning.

Mr Davis has been looking over the hotel situation here this past week.

The Misses Anne and Bettie Bryan of Greenwood, are stopping at Mrs John Gwaltneys.

Tom Dekle and Mr Royster, of Chipley, have been enjoying a brief outing on the bay.

Mrs Robert Baker Jr. left on the train Tuesday morning to visit her father in Birmingham, Ala.

Mrs Finney and party, of Bonifay, are guests at the Forrester house. They will remain a few weeks.

Mr John Schlegel and wife, of Bourneville, Ohio, are stopping with their daughter, Mrs A. H. Brake.

Mr Williams, of Millville, gave a very enjoyable dancing party to his friends last evening in Wares Hall.

Mrs Lydia Ware went to Apalachicola last week, on a visit. She is expected home on Friday of this week.

Mrs Charlie Davis and children were arrivals last Friday and are visiting with Mrs Davis parents the Brocks.

Mr Hugh G. Smith and wife of Dothan, who have been spending some days visiting the bay have returned to their home.

Mrs C. C. Lidden, of Marianna, is stopping with Mrs B. S. Lidden in one of the Doty cottages until she can secure a cottage.

Dr W. G. Mitchell and wife left on the train Monday evening for a two months visit with relatives in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Mrs Julia Ellis, accompanied by her sister, Miss Mary Wilson, and grand daughter Marie Ellis, of Quincy, Fla., are visiting Mrs H. W. Johnson.

Mr Coleman of Blakely, Ga., came in this week on the road to join his wife and daughter who are stopping with the Boyetts in one of the Doty cottages.

Mr Boyd, wife and children, of Blakely, Ga., are occupying one of the Doty cottages. Mr Fleming of the Blakely News is just now stopping with them.

Mike Calhoun, wife and children, of Marianna, arrived on Friday last, and are stopping at the Calhoun cottage. They will probably remain until October 1st.

Mr Alderman has been repairing his cottage in Old Town, and building a bath house and dock. All the family are now here and enjoying their very pleasant summer home.

Judge Richardson, of Greenville, Ala., is a guest of Capt Turtle on the Santa Rosa. The Judge is one of our kindest and best loved summer visitors and we trust that many Tarpon may come to his hook.

Dr C. T. Alexander and wife, of Blakely, Ga., who have been stopping with Mr and Miss Black in the Goddard cottage, returned last week by way of Apalachicola. Mr and Miss Black returned home yesterday.

Roderick Holliday, of Cottondale, arrived on the train Sunday evening and will remain a week. In the meantime his father and mother will care for the Cottondale home, having gone there on Sundays train to return in a week.

Rumors are in circulation to the effect that parties with capital are bargaining for the fine residence property of J. H. Brown upon the bluff, with the intention of adding to it, and converting it into a hotel. In connection with it there would be bath houses, a dock, tennis grounds &c. There is no finer location upon St Andrews Bay for a large hotel, and we trust that the negotiations toward securing this property for that purpose may be successful.

Post Office Robbed.

No little excitement was created in our quiet town on Tuesday morning by the report that the post office had been robbed the night before. It seems that an entrance was effected through a back door, by boring through from the outside and unfasting a screen door, and then breaking open money drawer. Postmaster Conely had been collecting for Woodmen, and also had quite a sum of post office money in the drawer, amounting altogether to about \$90 which was taken. Nothing else was disturbed. It is the impression that the work was done by some who was familiar with the interior of the office.

St Andrews Ice Plant.

There has been something of a rivalry as to which of the two ice plants being built upon the bay would turn out the first ice. The parties in charge of both have labored energetically to get their respective plants in operation so as to fill the summer demand for ice, and both have succeeded in beginning its manufacture within a few days of each other, this plant having been able to turn out the finished product last evening.

Mrs Drummond, wife of one of the proprietors, had the honor of turning on the ammonia at this plant the first of this week, and since then steady progress has been made in tuning up the machinery, and getting it down to work. Mr. McSween has had charge of its erection, and being an old ice machine man, with much experience, has done his work in a most capable and efficient manner.

The building is strongly framed, covered with corrugated galvanized iron, and the foundations of the vat and the floor are of cement. The boiler is placed to the south, and some feet from the building.

The machine is of the Columbus Iron Works absorption pattern of ten tons capacity. The description of the Panama Ice Companys machine, so far as its action and purity of product is concerned, applies to this machine.

The company have a first class dock extending out into 15 feet of water, and will be in readiness to supply their customers with ice in a very short time.

Railway Dock.

But little progress has been made upon this structure this past week owing to the pile driver getting too close in shore on the high tide of last week, since which time there has not been tide enough to float it. This is unfortunate for Mr Daniel and the Railway company. The abutment is completed, and the dock work will be rushed just as soon as a tide comes in sufficient to float the driver.

A letter from Hans Nass, Millville, tells us that he has given up the Hotel Germania at that place and will open a short order restaurant and a lunch room at Panama City, and that he will be ready for business in a few days. His restaurant will be built out over the water where patrons can enjoy the cool gulf breeze at all times. Mr Nass is a good caterer, and should do well in Panama City. When there call and see him.—Chipley Verdict.