Supplement to The Daily Sun, Gainesville, Fla.

# FLORIDA.

## **ALACHUA COUNTY**

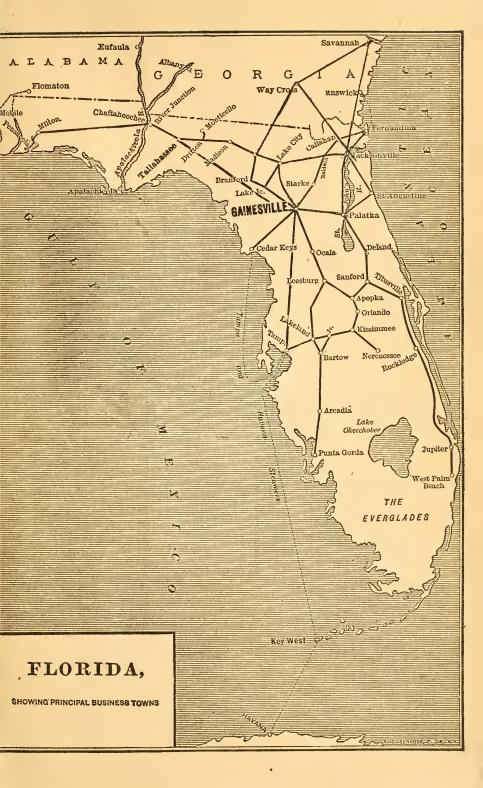
ITS RESOURCES AND ADVANTAGES.

# GAINESVILLE,

A HEALTHFUL, PROGRESSIVE CITY.

GAINESVILLE, FLA.
DAILY SUN BOOK PRINT,
1898.







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## PREFACE.

No pretense is made in this publication to furnish rapturous descriptions of the advantages offered by Alachua County to Home-Seekers or Investors, but rather plain facts in regard to its resources. Those who contemplate visiting the State or becoming inhabitants thereof, will do well to consider Alachua's advantages before investing elsewhere.



## FLORIDA.

Florida was first discovered in 1497 by John Cabot, a Venetian mariner in the service of Henry VII, King of England, but more completely discovered in the year 1512 by Jaun Ponce de Leon, who gave it the name of Florida because it was first seen in Easter, called Pasqua de Flores in the language of his country, or as Herreva alledges, because it was found to be covered with flowers, and the most beautiful blossoms. Although it has been four hundred years since its discovery, until within a comparitively recent period it has been almost an unknown country even to the American people, but, during recent years, the state has made rapid progress in population and wealth, and to-day stands the peer of any in all the elements requisite for the establishment of happy and prosperous homes.

Florida is the largest State east of the Mississippi river, having an area of 59,268 square miles. Its shape is very much like "the boot of Italy," and the average width of the peninsula is 120 miles. It is bounded by the Gulf of Mexico on the South and West, the Atlantic Ocean on the East, and Georgia on the North. It lies nearer the equator than any other portion of the United States, or the most southerly part of Europe.

The following article recently appeared in a leading Northern paper: "The state of Florida is boasting of the great progress it has made in every I ranch of industry, in wealth, population, etc., and it has good grounds for its boasts. Its progress has been as rapid as any portion of the Union, and challenges comparison with the most prosperous states of the North and West, while its educational advancement has been such as to show that it goes forward mentally and materially at the same time."

The population of the state today is 500,000; as compared with the population in 1885, it was 342,000; and in 1880, 269,000. This shows a high rate of increase.

In railroads are seen wonderful improvements. There are today 3,174 miles in operation and the value of rolling stock \$2,370,000, as compared with 1688 miles in 1885, and 528 in 1880.

In public schools the comparison is as follows: Number of schools in 1880, 1,131, attendance 39,000; number of schools in 1898, 2,538, attendance 108,455.

The per cent. of increase in enrollment between 1888 and 1898 was 32. The per cent. of increase in the United States for the same period was 13.

#### FLORIDA FINANCES.

The state's entire debt for all purposes is \$1,232,500. Of this sum the state holds in her educational funds and under her control, \$850,800, and in her internal improvement fund, \$25,000, leaving in the hands of individuals \$356,700. The bonds representing these amounts are held at a premium, although they have but a few years to run. The debt of the state is not over \$2.50 per capita, being less than any state in the Union, and her state tax proper smaller than any Southern state.

The total value of all taxable properties in the State for 1897 was over \$95,000,000.

The acreage and value of farm products for 1895, the latest report obtainable, as follows:

Total area in cultivation 827,286 acres.

Total value of field crops\$8,085,313.
Vegetable and garden products \$1,288,356
Fruit crops, 651,590
Live stock,
Poultry, 608,483
Poultry,         608,483           Dairy Products,         892,638
Miscellaneous products,
Total,\$18,638,805

#### RESOURCES.

Florida is one of the richest states in the Union. Capital and labor only are necessary to develop its vast resources. In no other state will with so little labor produce as much. What is needed first is population; industrial development will be accompanied by capital. Its resources for manufacturing purposes are varied, and practically without limit. There are hundreds of water powers lying idle as on the day of their creation, awaiting the development that a new era of progress must certainly bring.

In addition to the wonderful fertility of lands, there are rich and extensive deposits of phosphate, kaolin, ochres, fire and alluminum clays, gypsum and fullers earth, whose value cannot be overestimated. Vast forests of pine, oak, hickory, bay, magnolia, ash, gum, cypress and cedar, form in the aggregate a great storehouse of well nigh inexhaustible supply for utilization in arts, and the development of industrial enterprises.

#### CLIMATE.

The climate of Florida is generally misunderstood by residents of Northern states unacquainted with its character. The majority believe that the weather is fearfully warm in the summer and almost unbearable by white people. A greater mistake could not be made, for the summers

are never oppressively hot, and are cooler than those of any state in the union. If the thermometer goes up to 96° the weather is considered fearfully hot, yet it would not be thought so by those from the North, for they would appreciate the brisk sea breezes that blow almost continually from the gulf or ocean, or the pleasant coolness which is always found in the shade, even during the most torrid portion of the day. Summer is also the rainy season in Florida, and showers are almost daily from June to September. These cool the atmosphere immediately and often make it seem chilly. The winters are mild and pleasant; the thermometer seldom falling lower than 32. As compared with the winter weather of more Northern states there is a vast difference in favor of Florida. The difference in the mean monthly temperature the year around is seldom more than 30°.

It may be asserted without fear of contradiction that Florida posesses a more agreeable climate than any other state in the Union.

As respects health, the climate of Florida stands preeminent. That the peninsular climate of the state is much more salubrious than that of any other state in the Union, is clearly established by the medical statistics of the army. These records also show that the ratio of deaths to the number of cases of remittent fever has been much less in Florida than among the troops stationed in any other portion of the United States. In the middle division of the states the proportion is 1 death to 36 cases; in the Southern division 1 to 54, while in Florida, it is but 1 to 287.

The atmosphere of Florida is a medicine that has cured thousands of patients. For consumption and all pulmonary diseases whatever, for nervous disorder, and for the aged whose vital forces begin to shrink before the austerities of the Northern weather, the climate of Florida is a fountain of healing and new life. Scattered all over the state are men and women healthy and vigorous, who, in years gone by, came to Florida as a last resource from death. There are several excellent reasons which will account for the ex-

traordinary healthfulness of the people, and among them may be mentioned the equibleness of the climate, the persistent sea breezes, the abundance of ozone—produced from forests of pine, the well drained sandy soil, freedom from caretaking, pleasant occupations, the absence of pinching poverty, and the abundance of life giving sunshine throughout the year.

#### ALACHUA COUNTY.

Alachua, one of the largest counties in the State, lies just south of the 30° of north latitude, and between the 82° and 83° of longitude west from Greenwich; it is bounded on the north by Suwannee, Columbia and Bradford counties; east by the counties of Clay and Putnam; south by Marion and Levy; and west by LaFayette, from which it is separated by the Suwannee river. Its area is 1,260 square miles, or 806,400 acres. The population is estimated at 32,500 as compared with 28,207 in 1895.

It is 250 feet above the ocean's level, and far enough south to be free from the ice, snow and chilling winds of the north, and is fanned by the gentle breezes from the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean, the distance to either being about 45 miles. For natural beauties, fertility of soil, perfect drainage, a light, dry and invigorating atmosphere, good water, good society and educational advantages, the county is not excelled by any portion of the State, and the healthfulness of the county is not excelled by any portion of the United States. Physicians all testify that any disease in Florida is less liable to terminate in death than the same in higher latitudes. For a territory so

large the average annual death rate is exceedingly small, being only 11 per 1,000. The pine lands, which are unusually healthy, are nearly everywhere studded at intervals of a few miles with rich hammocks varying in extent from twenty to forty thousand acres. Unlike the hammocks of other sections of the State, no marshy or flat lands are found, the absence of which make them healthy and habitable.

#### COSMOPOLITAN POPULATION.

There are in Alachua County, like all places of mixed people, representatives of nearly every sect in the Christian religion, and in the larger places a goodly sprinkling of Jews. The Churches are principally Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal, all of which are well supported. The White people represent every State in the Union, from Maine to California, and are, in their moral and intellectual status, of the advanced classes of the old States. Intelligence predominates in all the essential avenues of business and principal occupations of life. There is no ostracism of settlers from other places and all worthy comers are heartily welcomed, and will meet with well wishes on every hand.

### FINANCES.

The assessed valuation of property in Alachua is \$3,856,938, which represents about one-third of its value. The tax rate for all purposes is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  mills. The county is out of debt, with funds on deposit. This is due entirely to the economy and care that have characterized the expenditure of funds by the County Commissioners. At Gainesville, the county seat, is the Court House, one of the most imposing structures in the State. It was erected in 1885 and [is fitted with all modern conveniences. Cost \$60,000]

Those who contemplate removing to this county will not have to assist in the payment of a county debt, but will be called upon only for their pro rata share necessary to the maintenance of county and State.

#### EDUCATION.

No county in the State can boast of better educational advantages than Alachua. At the head of this department are men who have the sole interests and advancement of the youths at heart.

There are today seventy-three white schools, with an enrollment of 3,500, and forty-six colored schools with an enrollment of 3,000. The total expenditures for educational purposes annually aggregate the handsome sum of \$50,000.

#### AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

It is confidently believed that no county in the State, nor elsewhere, can boast of a greater variety of products than Alachua. Wheat is the only cereal that cannot be abundantly produced. Cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, vegetables, grain and fruits can be raised in the greatest profusion. So can stock of all kinds be reared in great numbers. While Alachua is far ahead of any other county in the State in truck farming and fruit culture, general agricultural statistics on record in the office of the Secretary of Agriculture show that she also ranks first in general farming. This is due altogether to the thrift, enterprise and persistency of her farmers, which is responsible for their success; this county has within her borders vast tracts of lands which can be cultivated with profit by any intelligent farmer.

Not only is nearly every acre adapted to the cultivation of general farm products, but the remarkable fertility of the soil has made possible many great successes in farming. Corn for meal and hominy, oats, rye, rice, sugar, syrup, to-bacco and potatoes can be produced in larger quantities on any good land, than may be required for home use, and the excess can be readily sold for good prices. From this reve-

nue the farmer can supply himself and family with flour, coffee and many luxuries of life. Pinders, pumpkins, chufas, potatoes, etc., all easily raised, will fatten hogs necessary for meat or to sell.

Corn on ordinary pine land yields from twenty to thirty bushels to the acre, and on good hammock land from thirty to sixty.

Rye and oats average from thirty-five to one hundred bushels per acre.

Rice is raised principally for domestic use and yields from twenty-five to seventy-five bushels per acre.

The average yield of sweet potatoes is 200 to 400 bushels, and peanuts seventy-five bushels per acre.

Casava of the very best quality, arrow-root, castor beans, grasses, millet, fiber plants, etc., are grown and assist materially in the reduction of farm expenses.

The advantages this county offers to those who prefer the general farm life to Truck Growing or raising an Orange Grove, Orchard or Vineyard, are excelled by no part of the United States. Any farmer in this county can make his occupation self sustaining and independent of the fatal system of credit, and the county challenges the state as to the prosperous condition of her farmers.

#### COTTON.

The soil throughout the entire county is especially adapted to the cultivation of Sea Island Cotton, producing a staple that will grade fully equal to that of South Carolina, which is acknowledged to be the home of the cotton plant, when proper care is taken in the selection of seed and cultivation. This fact is being realized to a certain extent abroad, and as a result Messrs. H. F. Dutton & Co., of Gainesville, ship large quantities of Alachua seed into other portions of the State and lower Georgia. At the Paris Exposition, Messrs. Dutton & Co. exhibited cotton raised in this county that was awarded a gold medal for the "Highest Award Merit," as to the length, strength and fineness of staple, over all other cottons. Cotton from this county

has also received gold medals and special notices at various expositions, Philadelphia, Chicago, Atlanta and New Orleans, and is favorably known to the manufacturers all over the world. The average annual production of cotton is 5,000 bales, valued at \$275,000 or more.

#### TOBACCO.

The development of Tobacco culture in Florida is now no longer a matter of theory or sentiment, but is a practical enterprise. The amount of tobacco grown in Florida has increased so rapidly, and to such an extent, that its culture is now one of the most important industries in the State. The quality of Florida tobacco grown from imported Vuelta de Abajo seed is very fine and the largest leaf dealers are giving it a very prominent place in their combinations for fine cigars. Florida Havana wrappers have been sold for the imported article very extensively during the last two years. The soil for tobacco culture should be rich in vegetable mould or humus and of a reddish, chocolate or grayish color, with a yellowish clay or hardpan subsoil, not too near the surface. Such lands are found in abundance in Alachua County.

The manager of the tobacco warehouses in Gainesville, where most of the Alachua County crop is sorted, bituned and bailed, has had years of experience in handling all varieties of cigar tobacco, both imported and domestic, and is also a practical cigarmaker. He pronounces the best tobacco grown in this county equal to any grown in Cuba. The fillers are of fine flavor and aroma, and the wrappers thin and silky, of fine texture, very elastic and fine to burn. A vast mine of wealth awaits those who will come to Alachua and interest themselves in the cultivation of this article.

#### SUGAR CANE.

The growing of sugar cane in the State of Florida is assuming larger proportions each year. No State in the Union has soils and climate better adapted to its growing. It is a crop easily and cheaply grown and convertable into a

marketable product, and one that commands a ready sale in any market. Much interest is now had in beet culture and sugar making in the West. Were it generally known that larger amounts of better sugar could be made in Florida, at a much less cost per acre, with much less labor, and with but little skill in growing, with far less capital required for machinery and manufacturing than in beet sugar-making, vast sums would be invested in the business. Alachua is one of the largest sugar cane producing counties of the State, and there are within her borders thousands of acres admirably adapted to its culture, awaiting development.

### TRUCK FARMING.

No industry in the State offers greater inducements for capital and labor than the growing of early vegetables for the Northern and Western markets, and no section of the State offers such great natural advantages for early vegetable growing as the county of Alachua. Nor is there a county in the State so extensively engaged in the business. Here are located the most extensive vegetable fields in the South, and this may properly be denominated a "Garden County." Truck farming is an industry that has grown to wonderful proportions within a few years, paying large profits of several hundred dollars per acre. The vegetables which can be most profitably grown are: Artichokes, Beans, Beets, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Cucumbers, Egg-Plants, Irish Potatoes, Lettuce, Mustard, Okra, Onions, Parsnips, Peas, Pumpkins, Radishes, Squashes, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatoes and Turnips.

#### FRUITS.

Fruits of the following varieties are grown: Apricots, Berries of all varieties, Figs, Grapes, Oranges, Pears, Peaches, Persimmons, Plums, Pomegranates, Quinces and Melons of the different varieties.

Strawberries are raised in large quantities, and are a sure and good crop, netting most growers from 10 to 20 cents per quart during the shipping season. They ripen

early in February until July, and are shipped to Northern markets in refrigerator boxes or cars.

There are several varieties of grapes that thrive, of which the Scuppernong is the most hardy and yeilds the best returns.

Oranges can be more extensively grown in Florida than in any other State of the Union, and from the advantages which the State enjoys in certain peculiarities of climate, soil and season, it is more than likely that it will ever retain a superority over competitors. In Alachua County are many of the finest groves and fortunes have been made and are being made by the industrious horticulturist.

Watermelons and Cantaloupes are extensively planted and are a source of great profit to those who study their culture. Hundreds of cars are shipped out of this county during a season, bringing in return many thousands of dollars. Mr. C. A. Colclough of Gainesville is one of the most successful growers in the State. From forty-five acres of Cantaloupes in cultivation last season he netted over \$10,000.

Peaches do well with proper attention, and considerable revenue is derived from the shipment of the early crops to Northern markets. Many varieties are grown and ripen early enough to be placed on the New York market in May.

The LeConte and Keifer Pear do exceeding well and furnish the table with fruit for nearly six months. The shipping season begins in June. Pears are used at home for canning, preserving and vinegar making.

There is an inviting field in Alachua County for a first-class Canning Factory. Vegetables and fruits could be secured with little effort and at very low prices after the best of the shipping seasons are over.

#### PHOSPHATE.

One of the greatest and most profitable industries in the State today, is the mining and shipping of phosphate. This is an industry that in recent years has assumed mammoth proportions. In Alachua County are the most extensive deposits and plants in America. Statistical reports of phosphate shipped out of the State show that this county has, during the past three years, shipped nearly one-half of the entire output.

#### TIMBER.

Nature has covered thousands of acres in Alachua County with a growth of timber rarely seen. Hickory trees from one to seven feet in diameter; oak two to four; ash one to three; magnolia one to five, and a multitude of other varieties of hardwood trees, suggest the character of forestry. The accessibility, and character of the timber makes this section peculiarly desirable for the location of factories requiring hard wood, and no section of the State offers better inducements than this to the manufacturers of Wagons, Carriages, Baskets and Woodenware, Furuiture, Agricultural Implements, etc., because the woods with which to make them are convenien, cheap and easy of transportation.

The supply of Florida Pine is abundant, and many mills are being successfully operated along the lines of railroads passing through the county. The product of these mills is principally for export, but building mate-

rial is of a necessity very cheap.

The manufacture of Naval Stores from the Florida pine has recently come into prominence in this State. Since the pine forests of the Corolinas began to deterioate and business in those States wane, many large operators have sought Alachua County's magnificent timbered tracts and begun manufacturing on large scales.

#### STOCK RAISING.

This is one of the most profitable incidents to a farm life, and occupies the time of many. The beef cattle of this county have always commanded the very highest prices in the State markets. Many farmers are breeding standard stock. The cheapness of corn, oats, and hay, together with the right prairie pasturage, and the climate produces excellent animals.

Sheep do well on grasses. Climatic conditions are so favorable to this animal that shelter is non-essential, The soil does not produce any of the dreaded "loco" weed of the Southwest and West.

In addition to the prairie grasses there are a number of perennial grasses forming a close, heavy sod, which bears treading and constitutes a permanent pasturage for stock.

There are four annual grasses—the "Crab," "Crowfoot," "Barn" and "Water," which furnish the principal hay supplies. The grasses abundantly seed themselves, coming up when the land surfaces are stirred, from February to October.

#### TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

The transportation facilities in Alachua County are unsurpassed by any portion of the State. Two lines of the Plant System pass through the county, one through the phosphate section, the other through Gainesville and on to Tampa. The Florida Southern Division of this system also enters the county, and terminates in Gainesville. The Florida Central & Peninsular Railroad has two lines passing through the county. The Gainesville & Gulf Railroad extends South from Gainesville toward Tampa, through some of the best vegetable lands in the State. The Atlantic, Suwannee River and Gulf Railroad farnishes transportation for the Northern portion of the county.

There is now in course of construction a railroad extending from Tallahassee, Fla., through Alachua County, which will probably terminate in Gainesville, and the Georgia Southern & Florida Railroad will eventually extend its line into this county.

The assessed valuation of railroad property in this county, not including terminal facilities, is \$1,072.843.

### ROOM FOR ALL.

Any man can succeed in Alachua County by industry, economy and application to business.

Come, if you have capital to lend or invest in legiti-

mate manufacturing or industrial enterprises.

Come, if you are willing to assist in developing the wonderful resources of this county.

Come, if you are plucky, energetic, and know how to

embrace an opportunity when you see it.

Come, if you are a practical horticulturist, vine grower, truck gardener or business man.

Come, if you like a mild climate better than a cold

one—a good "all the year round" climate.

Come, if you desire to live a retired life among nature s fairest flowers.

Don't come empty handed. Capital is just as necessary to get a start here as any where else.





ALACHUA COUNTY COURT HOUSE.



## GAINESVILLE,

## THE QUEEN CITY OF THE PENINSULA, COUNTY SEAT OF ALACHUA COUNTY.

Gainesville is a growing manufacturing center where excellent opportunities are awaiting men of energy, skill and capital. It is situated almost geographically in the center of the State, on the main lines of the Plant System of Railways, the Florida Central and Peninsula Railroad, and the Gainesville & Gulf Railroad.

1,080 miles from New York, or thirty hours.

850 miles from Washington, or twenty-four hours.

1,148 miles from Chicago, or forty-one hours.

1,025 miles from St. Louis, or forty hours.

24? miles from Savannah, or seven hours.

70 miles from Jacksonville, or two hours.

It is the terminus of the Florida Southern division of the Plant System, and headquarters of the Gainesville and Gulf Railroad, which is being extended toward Tampa Bay. The Gainesville, Tallahassee and Western Railroad is now in course of construction, extending from Tallahassee. This road will develop a rich section of country, and assist materially in the advancement of Gainesville and Alachua County.

The Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad Company

will eventually extend their line to this city.

#### PROSPERITY OF THE CITY.

Backed as it is by fertile lands, progressive farmers and truck growers, the phosphate industry, naval stores and milling interests, it has always been considered one of the most progressive cities in the State. The index of its prosperity is the character of its homes and business houses. The latter are of the most substantial kind, all built on modern styles, mostly of brick. The merchants carry unusually large and up to date stocks, and can please the most fastidious tastes. One cannot fail to be impressed with the beautiful homes of her people. They are well kept, and in the majority of cases surrounded by green lawns and gardens, rich in flowers and shrubs.

The principal streets are broad, most of them 100 feet wide, regularly laid out, and shaded by hugh water oaks. These streets are paved with Alachua County rock, and

lighted by electricity.

The Water Works plant is one of the finest and most complete in the State. It is the property of the city, and was constructed at a cost of \$60,000, for the payment of which there was issued 6 per cent bonds. This constitutes the only indebtedness of the city. The supply of water is pumped from the renowned "Boulware" Springs, and is as pure chemically as any in the United States, and its purity has gained for Gainesville an enviable reputation.

Chemical analysis of "Boulware" Springs Water,
made by H. Herzog, Jr., Analytical Chemist and Mining
Engineer, Gainesville, Fla., July 25th, 1898:
Total solids, parts per million
$4\frac{1}{2}$ grains per gallon.
Organic matter, parts per million 2.97
Oxygen required to Oxidize, parts per million 1.45
Albuminoid Ammonia, parts per million
Free Ammonia, parts per million
Nitrates, parts per milliontrace
Nitrites, parts per millionnone
Alk-Chlorides, parts per million 8.63
(Chlorine, 4.08.)
Silica, parts per million 5.21
Alumina, parts per million
Calcium Carbonate, parts per million34.81
Magnesium Carbonate, parts per million 21.44
Sulphuric Acidnone
H. HERZOG, Jr., Chemist,

EAST MAIN STREET LOOKING SOUTH.



### BUSSINESS ENTERPRISES.

The enterprises and business houses of Gainesville may be divided as follows:

- 2 Banks.
- 2 Building and Loan Associations.
- 1 Cotton Ginnery.
- 2 Moss Ginneries.
- 2 Wagon and Carriage Factories.
- 2 Ice Manufactories, capacity twenty tons each.
- 2 Cigar Factories.
- 1 Fertilizer Factory.
- 1 Electric Light Plant.
- 1 Gas Plant.
- 1 Tannery.
- 1 Sash and Door Factory.
- 2 Planing Mills.
- 1 Basket and Package Factory.
- 1 Bottling Establishment.
- 1 Wholesale Grocery House.
- 2 Wholesale and Retail Hardware Stores.
- 15 Grocery Stores.
- 7 Dry Goods and Millinery Stores.
- 9 Gents' Furnishing Stores.
- 2 Seed Stores.
- 3 Racket Stores.
- 4 Furniture Stores.
- 1 Bieycle Store.

- 2 News Depots.
- 4 Drug Stores.
- 3 Barber Shops.
- 4 Saloons.
- 4 Fish and Meat Markets.
- 2 Tailor Shops.
- 3 Jewelers.
- 1 Dying and Cleaning Establishment,
- 3 Photograph Galleries.
- 2 Restuarants.
- 2 Bakeries.
- 3 Livery Stables.
- 1 Music Store.
- 2 Telegraph Offices.
- 1 Daily and Weekly Newspaper.
- 1 Express Office.
- 1 Opera House.
- 3 First-class Hotels.
- 10 Private Boarding Houses.

#### TO THE INVESTOR.

The population of Gainesville comprise about 5,000 people, the majority of whom are fully alive to the natural advantages and resources of their surroundings, that await the coming of more capital, and earnest, industrious men to assist in developing them. Capitalists and Manufacturers who are seeking investment sites on which to locate plants will find many opportunities in Gainesville that will assure them of profitable returns. Its central location and healthfulness are superior advantages. A number of factories of various kinds could be profitably operated from this point. Among them, cotton, cotton seed oil, glucose, cigar, canning, cider and vinegar, wood working, boot and shoe, and also a foundry and Machine shop. The largest factory of its kind in the State is that of the Florida Fertilizer Manufacturing Company, located here.

There is also a grand opening for investments in city and suburban property.

EAST MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH.



#### TO THE HOME-SEEKER.

No city in Florida offers better inducements to the Home-seeker than Gainesville. Her people are well bred, polite and kindly in manner and feeling. The social sentiment is most liberal, and there exists that pronouncedly warm hospitality to every wellbred stranger, so characteristic of Southern manner and custom.

In addition to healthfulness, there is nothing more necessary to the advancement of a community than good schools and churches. Of these Gainesville is well supplied. Her churches are elegant brick structures,

with large congregations ably presided over.

The educational advantages offered by Gainesville are not surpassed by any city in the State, and by few in the South. In addition to the City Graded and High School, there are a number of private schools and kindergardens in charge of thoroughly competent instructors.

### EAST FLORIDA SEMINARY.

The East Florida Seminary is a State Military and Collegiate Institute, of which the citizens of Florida are proud. The Seminary buildings, consisting of an academic building and a dormitory for the residence of students and teachers, are handsome, commodious, and admirably adapted to the purposes and regime of a military school. The grounds are ample, and the drill grounds are the finest in the State.

The branches of study taught at this Institution are grouped under the following department: Mathematics, Science, English Language and History, Latin, Greek, Bookkeeping, Military Science and Tactics, Calisthenics, and Modern Languages.

The Instructors are thoroughly competent gentlemen and graduates of the leading Colleges of America.

Opinions of Some of the Officers of the Army and Navy Who Have Been Connected with the Seminary in the Capacity of Instructors in Military Science.

From Major A. L. Wagner, United States Army, first commandant of cadets at East Florida Seminary, late superintendent of United States Infantry and Cavalry School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, now in Adjutant General's Department, Washington, D. C.:

"As to the management of the East Florida Semin-

ary, I have no comment but unqualified praise.

The military department of the seminary is not merely an adjunct, but is 'bone of its bone, flesh of its flesh.' Military system and regularity pervade every branch and feature of the school, and promptness and decision are virtues inculcated in every phase of the cadet's existence. The drills furnish healthful exercise of the best kind; and though constituting an extended course of military training, they are not allowed to trench upon the time required for studies. The discipline is firm and exacting, but gentle, and is based upon the principle that a boy's self-respect must be thoroughly cultivated in order that it may be the solid foundation of a true manhood."

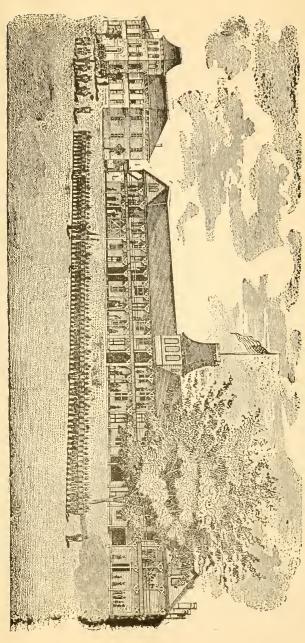
From Captain Charles A. Curtis, United States Army (retired):

"I have for twenty-five years been under detail as military instructor, and during that time have been attached to four different military schools, in as many quarters of the Union, three years of which I spent at the East Florida Seminary. The seminary, in my opinion, compares favorably with the best institutions in all that constitutes a good school, and especially in its military feature, which is much above the average.

"The school is well managed under its present head." From Captain F. J. Kernan, Acting Judge Advocate. United States Army:

"The East Florida Seminary, with its central and unsurpassed location, its long years of useful work behind

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ACADEMIC HALL.

From Photograph.

DORMITORY.



it, and its military feature, deserves well the patronage of those parents who have boys to educate."

From Lieutenant Charles G. Morton, United States

Army:

"In my opinion the East Florida Seminary is now, and is destined to continue, one of the finest schools in the South."

Col. Edwin P. Cater, Superintendent, will cheerfully furnish additional information.

Among the benevolent societies having florishing lodges in Gainesville may be mentioned the Masons, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Knights of Honor, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

#### TO THE TOURIST.

The hotel and boarding house accommodations of Gainesville are excellent, and good board may be had at prices ranging from \$4.00 to \$8.00 per week. The hotels are conveniently located near the business portion of the city. The boarding houses are well kept, most of them with much elegance and by refined ladies. Board may also be had with private families by those desirous of avoiding publicity. These houses are all fitted with modern conveniences, such as bath rooms, eity water, electric or gas lights, etc.

The charms of Gainesville as an inland winter resort, attractive in many ways to tourists and visitors, have become so generally known that but little comment is necessary. Especially has Gainesville gained popularity among those who visit Florida to enjoy the hunting which the surrounding country affords. Quail, snipe, duck, turkey, squirrels and deer are plentiful. Fishing in the two large lakes near Gainesville also affords much amusement. To all lovers of out door sports there is no better opportunity afforded than by

spending a winter here. The distance is short, quickly traveled, and may be made by land or water, and the fare is easily within reach of a moderate purse.

#### TO THE INVALID.

The impression has been created that a winter spent in Florida is a luxury that only the rich can afford. This is by no means true. The necessaries of life are not at all expensive, but luxuries and novelties impoverish the purse—and Florida is no exception to the rule.

There is but little rain during the winter and the air is beneficial to deticate lungs. The days are generally warm and pleasant and the nights cool enough to insure

comfortable sleep.

The physicians of Gainesville are among the best in the country, and the drug stores first-class and well equipped. Livery stables are conveniently located, and their charges are very moderate.

Located in Gainesville is the National Sanitarium for Odd Fellows, an imposing brick structure erected in 1893. This in itself speaks volumes of praise for the healthfulness of the city. This institution opens November 1st and closes June 1st.

#### CONTEMPLATED IMPROVEMENTS.

The natural drainage of Gainesville is good, but will soon be improved by the construction of a first class system of sewerage.

A forty-acre Magnolia grove adjoining the city has been selected as a suitable location for a Public Park. This will add greatly to the attractiveness of the city.

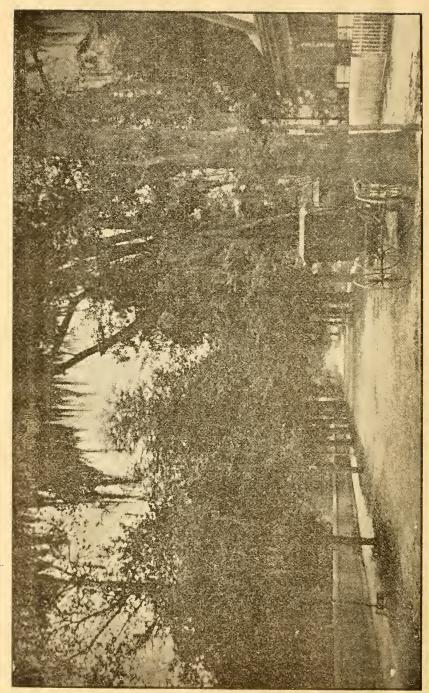
For any information not furnished herein write Griffin & Co., Gainesville, enclosing a stamp for reply.



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SEMINARY STREET LOOKING EAST.



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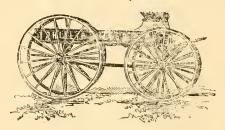
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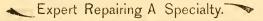
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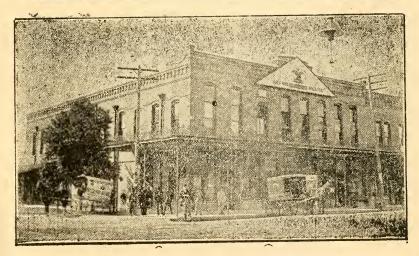
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