

The Truth About Florida

The Bunnell Home Builder

Edited by S. HOWARD

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THE EDITOR'S PERSONAL PAGE

400th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF FLORIDA TO BE CELEBRATED IN ST. AUGUSTINE

So many interesting stories have been woven around Florida, from its discovery in 1513 by Ponce de Leon, who was searching for the Fountain of Youth, through the stormy days when Spain, France and England were contending for her possession, and later when the Seminole Indians were being subjugated, down to the present time when this great State has been able to make a name for herself in agricultural lines.

St. Augustine is to hold a celebration in honor of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Florida. The celebration as planned will be most unique. It will continue for three days from April 1st to 3rd. The celebration will be in the nature of a carnival, a fete and an exhibition. The State will assist the St. Augustine people, who will raise at least \$10,000 for the occasion.

The fete will be a great advertisement for St. Augustine and Florida. Thousands of tourists will visit the ancient city upon that occasion and will tell their friends and neighbors about it when they return to their Northern homes.

This celebration will be of much interest to all Bunnell-Dupont colony land owners. St. Augustine is the county seat of St. Johns county, and is but a short distance from Bunnell. It is an interesting fact to know that our colony is not isolated from the things of interest in the world today, but is in close touch with this great anniversary.

On another page you will find an article entitled "Ponce de Leon Celebration" which recently appeared in a Georgia paper. It tells of Florida's marvelous growth as seen by the people of a neighboring state.

MANY INTERESTING LETTERS IN THIS ISSUE FROM FUTURE CITIZENS OF BUNNELL

Don't fail to read on another page of this issue the splendid letters from future citizens of the Bunnell-Dupont colony, who have inspected their farms and are pleased to recommend the colony. These letters are from thoughtful, intelligent men whose opinions are worthy of your consideration. They were written by professional men, farmers, business men, and men employed in the shops and factories.

We are pleased to reproduce the pictures of a number of these men, and as you look

into their faces and read their letters, you can form a good idea of the kind of men you will have for neighbors when you locate in the colony.

Some people are prone to believe that much which has been written about Bunnell-Dupont has been written with a view to the sale of its land, and is scarcely to be credited. But you cannot doubt such letters, written by men who have no land to sell, as we take pleasure in printing on another page. These men studied conditions in the colony and satisfied themselves of its merit, and their letters only verify again what we have told you from month to month in the pages of the Home Builder.

Winter Sunshine

OH, the winter sunshine's beaming
Like a benediction down
Upon the Land of Flowers,
In the country and the town.

THE mocking birds are singing,
Just as happy as can be,
While the roses all are flinging
Their fragrance rapturously.

OH, the rippling, dreamy river
Laughs and runs to meet the sea,
And Miss Florida's red lips quiver
As she says, "Come, come to me."

OH, the winter sunshine's beaming
And the place with joy runs rife,
In the land of milk and honey,
Where there's health and wealth
and life. —Exchange.

The editor will be pleased at any time to receive letters from men and women who have visited Bunnell and from the men and women who are now located there. The only difficulty in publishing these latter letters is that our colonists are besieged with letters of inquiry which they do not have the time to answer. The editor is ready to answer any questions regarding this colony, or to refer them to the officers of the Bunnell Development Company, but our readers must bear in mind that the colonists are busy men and women and do not have a great deal of time for letter writing, especially at this season of the year.

"A hint to the wise is sufficient."

BUNNELL-DUPONT COLONY FARMERS ARE NOT LEFT TO WORK OUT THEIR SALVATION ALONE The editor wishes to call your attention to the assistance which is given to the farmers around Bunnell and Dupont, the earnest men who are willing to work, but who do not have the means to cultivate their land properly.

The Bunnell Potato & Supply Company, which is composed of the officers of the Bunnell Development Company and other business men of Bunnell, was organized for the purpose of furnishing the farmers in their community with seed, fertilizer and barrels, thus enabling the farmers to plant and grow their potatoes without having any ready cash. Their plan of operation is as follows:

When they find a farmer who is willing to work, this company enters into a contract with him to furnish him with the necessary seed, fertilizer and barrels for the growing and marketing of his spring crop, and the farmer gives a promissory note due and payable when his crop is harvested and marketed; in other words, the company really takes a mortgage on the potato crop, not on the land.

When the crop is ready for shipment, the Bunnell Potato & Supply Company either handles the farmer's potatoes on consignment, or buys them from him at a stated price f. o. b. shipping point, said price to be the top of the market.

At the present time this company has over \$50,000 outstanding among the farmers of this community, which action proves stronger than words the faith these men have in the land and in the settlers who have located there.

The editor has studied conditions in various colonies throughout the State of Florida, but does not know of another community which receives such backing as is given to the farmers around Bunnell. The majority of land companies market their land and feel that all responsibility ends there. Men and women locate on their farms with a small amount of money and are not able to get along until their land is producing. They fail, and they often blame the entire State and declare that "Florida is no good," when if they had been so fortunate as to have been located at Bunnell, they would have received the assistance they so sorely needed.

To you, men and women who have already bought farms in the Bunnell-Dupont colony, I want to say that you have been fortunate indeed in your choice of a home; and to you men and women who expect to locate in Florida some day, but cannot decide where you should buy—consider well what I have told you and make up your mind that Bunnell offers you more today than any other community in Florida.

A FLORIDA BUNGALOW—No. 2

By GEO. R. TOLMAN, Architect, Washington, D. C.

This is the second article and plan for a Florida home furnished us by Mr. Tolman. The first sketch appeared in the February issue of the Bunnell Home Builder. We are sure that these articles will prove very interesting to those who contemplate the creation of a home in Florida in the near future.

We have here a somewhat larger bungalow than that shown in the February issue. The main piazza faces east, the southern portion to be a sleeping porch. Probably any one with incipient consumption could soon throw it off by sleeping here the year around, Bunnell being not only a future garden spot, but likewise a sanitarium.

The living room for universal use is the principal room, which together with the broad piazzas will afford ample space for lounging, or inviting one's soul to peace and rest. The back porch



Mr. Geo. R. Tolman in Florida

is the same handy affair as shown on sketch No. 1 for general domestic use. As it faces the west, it may be screened from the sun by trained vines with flowers.

Kitchen is large for the house, but not too large. Cool closet gives off from it with wire screened windows both sides for a play of cool air, also perpetual shade (shade in Florida is remarkably cool). All closets to have ample shelves.

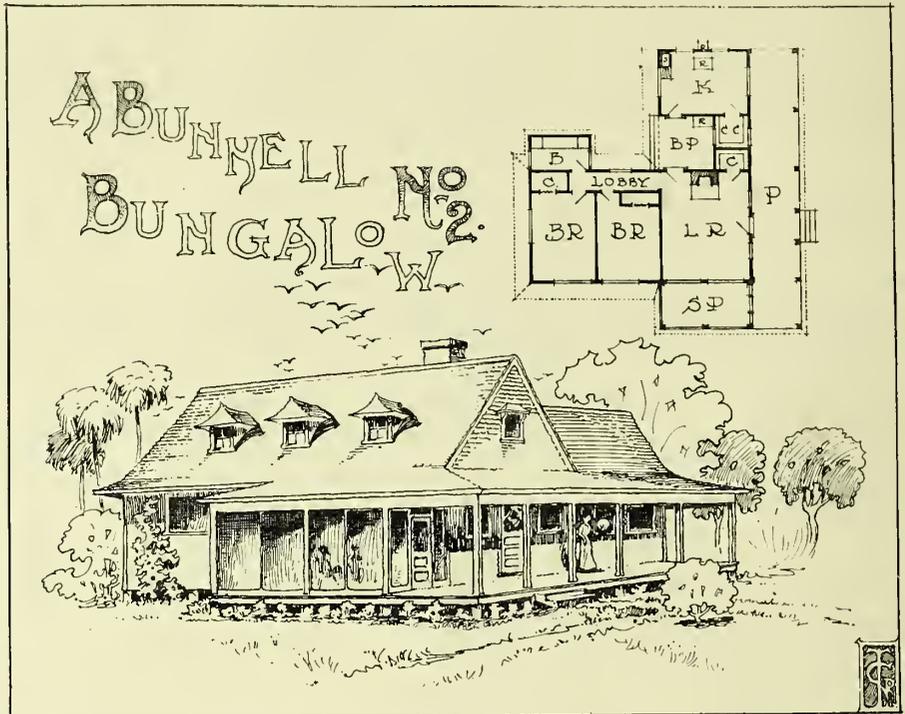
To return to the living room—no bedrooms give off directly from it—a very desirable feature. The lobby, or passage, will give access to all bedrooms and bathroom without passing through the living room.

The bathroom is something most of us are addicted to. It may be fitted complete with porcelain lined tub, bowl and water closet with first-class brass nickel plate adjuncts for \$150.00, hot and cold water laid on, including kitchen sink in same workmanship. Water to be heated by a water back in kitchen range, and conveyed in pipes underground to bathroom, enclosed in waterproof compo pipes of sectional form—all included.

The bedrooms are fair sized with ample closet room, latter to have portieres instead of hung doors.

The windows are shown high, covered with wire netting. They may have horizontal sliding glazed sash behind them for stormy weather. (To slide on truck rollers.) These pockets to be furred in, covered with compo board; the studs being set flatwise, forming a wall six inches thick on the frame at such points. If one prefers, they may have the regular double lung box windows set any height they like, but such windows will not give the same amount of light or air as the sliding ones may be made to give. In one case the whole opening is available, in the other only one-half of the window. The expense would be about the same in either case whichever form of window were to be used.

The sleeping porch should be enclosed plete with wire netting, entered by a fly door. Mosquitoes, by the way, are rare birds in Florida pine lands, at Bunnell, but



a few can be quite annoying, and therefore it is best to use precautions against them, the same as we do in the North, and all openings should be wire screened. Twelve meshes to the inch is usual—less will do.

The open fireplace is generous in width, with brick or tile hearth. Do not have the fireplace exceed thirty inches in height, less would be better, but you may have it as wide as you prefer. Old "Count Rumford," a wandering Yankee of pre-revolutionary days, who was indeed a rare bird for the period, being a thinker and experimenter in a day when they depended on prayer and not fertilizer for crops, experimented on fireplaces, wrote a treatise on them, and found the openings when exceeding the height mentioned, would not draw well. Modern practice has confirmed his conclusions.

Chimney to be one full brick thick in all outside walls. Lay the brick with wide white joints in living room, exposed to view, with a wooden or stone mantel; bricks all to be plain stock brick, but may be laid in an ornamental pattern. All this will be a sort of "hall mark" on your bungalow, which may be plain but of good pedigree.

The attic to be used for light storage, reached by a scuttle in ceiling of lobby.

The small dormer windows are not really needed, being kind of fifth wheels to the coach, applied for much the same reason as the devil painted his tail a sky blue—for style.

The outside weather covering of walls to be "ship lap" siding, laid about five inches to the weather. Roofs, shingles, or "rubberoid" or some of the numerous standard waterproof felt sheet material. All inside and outside work, except shingles, to be painted.

It may be well to bear in mind if finish and trim is called for to be painted, a less expensive quality of stock may be used. When wood is finished on the natural wood, in such a way as to show the natural grain, clear stuff free from knots and imperfections must be used, also greater care, which means expense, must be given in setting in place, and protecting from soiling and injury during the execution of the work.

However, if one can afford it, finish on the natural wood makes a more artistic and desirable job, that will improve with age and be a living joy forever.

Plant fruit and shade trees with plenty of flowers about this bungalow, and its homely lines will be in keeping with them.

FREE! THE BUNNELL HOME BUILDER is sent free each month to all Bunnell-DuPont Colony land owners. If you do not own a farm at Bunnell, but are interested in this colony, and would like to receive a copy of this magazine each month, also the interesting booklet, "A LITTLE FARM, A BIG LIVING," write to Thomas A. Verdenius, room 1103, 108 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

PONCE DE LEON CELEBRATION

AT ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

April 1st to 3d, 1913

Juan Ponce de Leon is heralded as preparing to make another visit to the scenes of his quest for the fountain of eternal youth. After a lapse of four hundred years, he is to visit the ancient city of St. Augustine and his discovery of what is now the great State of Florida is to be celebrated fittingly with a six-day series of interesting events, beginning March 31.

In the early part of the year 1513 Ponce de Leon set sail from Porto Rico in search of the fountain of youth, which tradition said existed somewhere in the direction in which the winds carried his ship. On March 27, 1513, he landed on what is now the site of St. Augustine. Shortly afterward he was wounded in a fight with Indians, and was carried to Cuba, where he died. Ponce de Leon was one of those Spanish adventurers—who incidentally became discoverers—who loved adventure for itself. It has been said by some historians that he accompanied Columbus on the great voyage of discovery, but that is not definite. He was, however, a member of an expedition to Hispanola and later became governor of a part of the island. Afterward he was sent to Porto Rico as governor, fell out with the powers above him and then set forth on the search that resulted in his discovery of Florida.

If Ponce de Leon had re-visited Florida even less than a hundred years ago he doubtless would have found little trouble in recognizing it, but when he comes next month he will find nothing familiar except

the wonderful climate and perhaps some of the tall palms that may have looked down upon him when he marched in search of the fabled fountain.

No other section of the country has developed more rapidly than has Florida in the past few years. It has grown and is growing rapidly in wealth and population. It is building great cities and substantial towns, and large sections that not many years ago were wildernesses now produce citrus and other fruits and truck crops which bring hundreds of thousands of dollars annually in the markets of the country.

An idea of the greatness and substantial character of the business growth of Florida may be gained from the fact that in ten years the resources of its banking institutions have increased from \$18,000,000 to \$85,000,000, a gain of nearly 500 per cent. The figures seem almost unbelievable, but they are official and accurate, having been taken from the records of the office of the state comptroller general. The resources of the banks consist very largely of their deposits—money which belongs to the people of Florida to whom practically all the capital stocks, surplus and undivided profits of the institution belong. So that the increase in the resources of the banks may be regarded as an indication of general business growth and prosperity in Florida.

Searching for a fountain of eternal youth might not have been a sensible thing to

do as considered by modern intelligence, but it is to be admitted that Ponce de Leon looked for it amid surroundings that seemed most favorable to its existence. The winter sunshine of Florida is like the balm of life and Florida flowers seem ever to proclaim the joy of living. In the blossoms of its orange groves and its great fields of clover and in countless other blooms the bees find nectar from which they make honey that must be as delightful as was the honey of Hymettus. The Florida orange is without a peer, and thus are produced ingredients of that ambrosia, which, though it did not produce the immortality of the gods on Olympus, aided them most delightfully in maintaining it.

No wonder that Ponce de Leon went to Florida in search of eternal youth. He did not find it, but after him great numbers of men have gone to Florida in search of homes amid pleasant surroundings, of occupation and opportunities for profitable investment, and they have found these things.

Thousands of others—men of wealth—have fled from the relentless cold of winter in other sections and gone to Florida in search of sunshine. They have found it, and they have built orange groves on the banks of limpid lakes and on the seashore magnificent residences that are like palaces in a pleasant land.

No wonder old Ponce de Leon will revisit Florida. He would stay if he could. Here's luck to him.—Industrial Index, Columbus, Ga.

DON'T FORGET THAT ANOTHER WINTER IS COMING

When winter snows were drifted high, how many times did you think of Florida? When the cold winds whistled about your home, and the winter's supply of coal grew less and less, did you not often turn with longing eyes to the land where "the sun shines always and where the mocking bird ever sings?"

Now the days are growing longer, and soon they will be growing warmer, and summer will be upon us; but don't forget that another winter is coming. Don't be like the man who could not mend his roof when it was raining, and who didn't need it mended when the rain ceased.

Don't put off buying a home in Florida because the weather is fairly comfortable in the North. Good weather don't last long in the northern states, and here we are always subjected to sudden changes in the weather, so harmful to those with delicate constitutions.

The very best time to buy a home at Bunnell is right now, and arrange to go to see your land during the summer. You know that Florida is perfect in the winter, and you will find it not half so bad as you expect in the summer. One great advantage in securing your home along the east coast is that you will have the cooling breezes from the ocean all during the summer months. It is always cool in the shade in Florida in summer, and the nights are pleasant and restful.

Don't wait until another winter comes to purchase your farm-home at Bunnell. The land will be considerably higher in price by that time; the best farms will be taken and you will be left wondering why you failed to take advantage of your opportunity.

Don't let the first robin of spring make you forget Florida—but remember, Another Winter Is Coming. Will you be ready for it?



Happy picnic party in orange grove near Bunnell

TRUCK FARMING IN FLORIDA

Today Florida is the greatest celery producing State in the Union.

Chase & Co., who handled a celery crop off 120 acres, after deducting their commission, returned \$106,028.16 to the growers; an average of about \$884 an acre.

Henry P. Chappell, nine years ago a railroad agent at \$65 a month, was one of the pioneers who planted celery. Today his income is \$25,000 a year—half as much as the salary of the President of the United States.

A. T. Rosseter, president of the Sanford & Everglades Railroad, has made \$50,000 in the last five years raising celery and lettuce on Florida land that a few years ago was considered worthless.

Last year George C. Chamberlain realized \$24,000 from ten acres of land. His celery yielded 1,650 an acre, followed with egg plant, which sold for \$650 an acre more.

L. C. Pace made \$40,000 net on forty acres of celery followed by lettuce. He then had one sure crop left, either corn or sweet potatoes, before it was again time to plant celery.

C. P. Williams, formerly a locomotive engineer, has made \$30,000 in the last three years raising celery on five acres of land.

Rudolph Warner obtained a net profit last spring of \$980 from a fraction over five acres of Irish potatoes.

These merely show what can be done. It takes brains, energy and a little capital, but the possibilities are here.—Exchange.

This is What Some [of] Your Future [Neighbors, Who Have]

MR. McELHERNE GIVES AN UNBIASED OPINION ON THE BUNNELL-DUPONT COLONY



Mr. F. S. McElherne

To the Readers of the Bunnell Home Builder: Having returned from a personal investigation of the Bunnell-Dupont colony, in Florida in February, and which resulted in my purchasing some land and town lots there, and having been raised on a farm in northern Illinois, and having later owned and cultivated lands in South Dakota, I feel that I am competent

to express an intelligent opinion as to the soil, products, climate, health, etc., in that colony.

After all that I had heard against as well as in favor of Florida, I must say that I was almost surprised to find the dry land and good soil I found at Bunnell.

Florida is not of great elevation above sea-level, is flat and much of it is wet and swampy, especially in the southern parts, but it has its high and dry tracts as well as its swamps and wet spots, like any other state, and wherever it is dry or even low and capable of being drained, and the soil good, it is very productive—three crops a year being the usual thing.

I found the soil in the above colony divided into two general classes: First, the dark, sandy loam famous for its great crop yields and especially of Irish potatoes, vegetables, etc., and second, the more light colored soil which is more adapted to the growth of the orange, grapefruit, sweet potatoes, etc.

But either of those soils will grow any of these and other crops with good returns. I am only naming the products that these respective soils are especially good for. Illinois has its "corn belt," but that does not mean that this "belt" will grow nothing but corn. It simply means that it is better for corn than other lands are.

The land west of Bunnell and the railroad track, sloping towards the St. Johns river and its tributary creeks as it does, is lower with some wet spots through it, but the farmers who have been cultivating this land for years claim that even the low spots on the land can be drained and I found every one of those farmers prosperous, enthusiastic and declaring this to be the best land in the colony.

The large acreage of potatoes, about 4 inches above ground in February, all over the colony, certainly looked fine, and as the farmers expect to have this great crop on the market by or before May 1st, and before the crops of most other states come in, their income from this early crop alone will be large, to say nothing of the two following crops in the same year.

Bunnell being but twelve miles in a direct line from Hastings, the most famous potato district in Florida, if not in the whole

South, and the soils being identical, the people of the Bunnell-Dupont colony will always have a separate, quick income aside from the citrus fruit enterprise, arising from this early marketable food product.

The company, too, aware of the approach of these great crops, has erected a barrel factory in Bunnell, where they are turning out sufficient barrels for the farmers to ship their potatoes in when ready.

As to the water, I found that of the surface wells a few feet deep, like the water in such wells in other states, not very satisfactory, but if the farmer there will just dig as deep as he has to dig in Illinois for good water, he will find it. Of course even then the water of some wells will be found to be better than that of others, but this is the case in every state.

I rode over most of the colony in an automobile and consulted with the farmers in actual cultivation of the soil only, and I did not hear one complaint as to the soil, crops, water, climate, health or treatment received by them at the hands of the colony company. All seemed peace and harmony among all the people there.

The people of Bunnell and vicinity are a courteous, refined and kindly people who impressed me very favorably. Upon inquiry I could hear of but one person in the whole colony who wished to relinquish or part with his land, and he was an old man who did not bring enough money with him to keep him until his first crop receipts. In fact, the only regret I heard expressed, and that from those longest there, was that they did not take up more land when they could have gotten it near them. All seemed to want more.

Most if not all of these farmers, expect to set out citrus fruit orchards when they get their farms in shape and when a few quick returns from their great potato crops will enable them financially to carry out their plans.

I also visited the famous Knox & Beach orange grove about ten miles from Bunnell. While by no means the largest, it is one of the most noted citrus fruit groves in Florida. The oranges, grapefruit, lemons, tangerines, etc., were all ripe and falling upon the ground almost faster than they could be gathered, while the delicate blossoms heralded the new fruit; and the sights in the adjoining buildings where were washed, assorted, boxed and shipped away those luscious beauties, all in February, presented to the northern eye and mind a rare and fascinating fruit dream.

The climate appears to be very healthy. I met several persons who went there with catarrh, etc., and who seem to have gotten rid of their afflictions. I was attracted to this particular section of Florida because it was to the Indians a noted spot before the discovery of this country by Columbus. It was within the boundaries of this county that their fabled legends induced Ponce de Leon to land in his pursuit of the fountain of perpetual youth. It was in this vicinity that the French Huguenots selected for their settlement. It was at St. Augustine, now the county seat of the county in which the Bunnell-Dupont colony land is located, the oldest city in America, and the most beautiful city in the South, that the

Spaniards selected for the site of their famous Fort Marion.

I reasoned that the particular part of Florida that had for so many ages constituted a magnet for so many races, savage and civilized, should not only be the safer place, but might also contain something good for me. I investigated personally and was not disappointed.

It is too bad that this good land, sold in 10 and 20 acre pieces, at \$30.00 per acre and payable at \$5.00 per month, and now being so rapidly taken up, is so limited in quantity.

Of course there will always be Florida lands of little value for sale, and across which railways run; and also good lands over which no railways run, and with nothing certain except a promise as to their ever coming, but this offer at Bunnell, of good land, bordering on the ocean, with its breezes passing over it; the great Florida East Coast Railway passing right across it; with two neat, new towns on that railroad, with necessary factories; the town of Ocean City on the east side and on the ocean coast, and the price of land but \$30.00 per acre, payable in installments of \$5.00 per month—is a combination of advantages that will rarely, if ever again, be presented to the homeseeker in Florida.

Yours respectfully,
FRANK S. McELHERNE,
(Illinois).

MADE GOOD FRIENDS AT BUNNELL

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,
Dear Friend—As I have just returned from a very pleasant visit to your colony, will say I was delighted beyond expression at the beauty and grandeur in and around your colony.

The climate is delightful in the extreme; the land is the most beautiful I ever beheld, and last but not least, your people gave us a reception and entertainment almost unequalled anywhere. I must say I was loathe to leave the kind friends and acquaintances I made while visiting your lovely little city Bunnell. Your field manager, Mr. Turner, is certainly the right man in the right place.

I expect to purchase land in your colony in the near future, just as soon as I can make some little financial arrangements.

Yours very truly,
J. S. TALLY,
(Mississippi).

DISLIKES COLD WEATHER SINCE VISIT TO BUNNELL

Dear Sir—I am once more back on the plank gettings things in order after my trip to Bunnell. We have six inches of snow, and it is as cold as dreamland up here. I did not mind it before I was down to Bunnell the same as I do now, because I did not know the difference. But to me now there is no place like Florida, and I will be back there as soon as I can get ready. I cannot praise Bunnell half enough.

I want to interest my friends in securing farms near me.

Yours very truly,
L. E. SPRINGER,
(Pennsylvania).

Recently Visited the Colony, Think of Bunnell-Dupont

DR. BUSSEN SAYS BUNNELL-DUPONT COLONY IS FAR IN ADVANCE OF OTHER SECTIONS OF THE STATE

My Dear Mr. Verdenius:



Dr. L. H. Bussen

As I have just returned from my inspection of Florida lands and colonies I will relate conditions as I found them. I traveled over the F. E. C. R. R. as far as Palm Beach and will frankly admit that I found no better nor more prosperous communities than Bunnell and Dupont. From my observations of conditions as they are in Florida, I concluded that the above named towns and communities are far in advance of most of the other places I visited. The land around these towns is well settled with contented, happy families and the towns, particularly Bunnell, are far in advance of most towns. For instance, Bunnell has wide, well graded streets, cement walks, electric lights and is in all other respects up to the mark for a town of its size and age.

What impressed me most, however, is the fact that the Bunnell Development Company is not only selling land, but they are doing all in their power to help the settlers in every respect, and are also building up Bunnell. That is the main reason why I would advise everyone who intends to, or would like to have a home in Florida to strongly consider Bunnell, because the Bunnell Development Company is not only satisfied to sell land, but they want every settler in their colony to succeed and they certainly do all they can to help the settlers. A good many of the Florida land sellers are only anxious to sell their land and don't care a snap what happens to the buyer after they have his money.

If people could see and study conditions as I did, I am sure they would be pleased to settle in a community like Bunnell, Florida.

I am well satisfied and pleased to have had the chance to see Bunnell and I am waiting anxiously for the time when I can go there and live on the farm which I bought while there.

Respectfully yours,
L. H. BUSSEN (No. Dakota).



Along the East Coast Canal, near Ocean City

BE A PRODUCER AND THEN YOU WILL NOT COMPLAIN OF THE HIGH COST OF LIVING

Mr. T. A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir—It is not my intention in writing you this letter to supply you with any information concerning the advantages of the Bunnell-Dupont Colony, for these you were familiar with before you undertook to market this fine tract of land; but there will be a great number of people who will read the Bunnell Home Builder who have not as yet investigated the possibilities afforded the homeseeker and investor by the Bunnell-Dupont Colony of Florida, and to these I wish to offer a few suggestions.

I have worked on a salary for large corporations, and know that it is practically impossible for a man with a family to save any of his earnings and live as an American citizen should live. The cause of this is laid to the high cost of living. This in a large measure is true, so my advice is—get on the right side of the high cost of living proposition, and then you will be all right. Be a PRODUCER, and then you will not complain of the high prices the consumers have to pay, for then you will be receiving part of them.

This brings up the much talked of back to the soil proposition. On all sides we hear the cry of "back to the land," and thousands of city bred people who are tired of the old hand-to-mouth existence are obeying this call, and are leaving the crowded streets and tenements.

Many, however, are making the mistake of settling in the far off northern wilderness of Canada and the United States, where they will have six months cold winter to combat. This is only leaving one struggle to take up another. These people should come to Bunnell, Florida, where they will find nature a kinder landlord, and the soil the most productive of the entire country and most easily tilled.

On the Bunnell-Dupont tract I saw vegetation growing as luxuriantly as I have ever seen it grow anywhere, and was told by the farmer that he had not used an ounce of fertilizer.

Of course Florida, like all other states, has its good and poor soil, but I found less poor soil on the Bunnell-Dupont tract than any other tract that I investigated while going over Florida, so I decided to buy before it was too late, and my advice to those who have not bought yet is to act at once, as I understand that there is very little of this tract yet for sale.

The fact that the farms in the Bunnell-Dupont Colony are very nearly all sold, and sold to a class of people who intend in the near future to make their homes here, is an asset that you should not overlook when buying a farm, as you will have near neighbors whose improvements will also add value to yours.

I have investigated the Bunnell Development Company, and find the officers of this company reliable men and abundantly able financially to make good any contract or guarantee they make.

With best wishes, I remain,

Yours truly,
H. T. HOTCHKIN,
Illinois.

EVERYTHING O. K.

To the Editor of the Bunnell Home Builder:



Mr. A. Belsky

I wish you would have this letter published in your paper, so people in the north can read my opinion of the Bunnell-Dupont colony.

I first want to say that all of this is talk, about Florida being nothing but swamps, snakes and malaria fever.

I went to Florida on the 28th of January, 1913, for the purpose of inspect-

ing my land in the Bunnell-Dupont colony, which I had bought without seeing. I found everything fine, and I was very pleased with my land and that allotted to my friends. We have dark sandy loam, and no swamps.

Mr. C. F. Turner of the Bunnell Development Company, took me out in the company's touring car through different sections of the colony which they have for sale. I saw the farms which were already planted to potatoes, and they looked mighty fine. I saw nice gardens with lettuce, radishes, pineapples, etc., and I saw nice orange and grapefruit groves.

The Bunnell-Dupont colony is very nicely located, with the railroad running through the colony. The climate in Florida is very nice, and the scenery is just grand.

Bunnell is a nice little town with electric lights, cement sidewalks, four general stores, barber shop, drug store, shoe shop, church, school house, bank, post-office and factories.

Now if any one wishes to buy a farm of the Bunnell Development Company he can safely do so. It is not necessary for you to go there first, if you haven't the money to spare to make the trip there and back. You can write to the Bunnell Company and send your first payment and they will reserve you a farm. I did not hear any one say they were dissatisfied. Everybody there seemed to be getting along all right and to be enjoying themselves.

My friends and myself bought our land through the Bunnell Development Company's representative, Mr. Verdenius, whose offices are at 108 So. La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill. He is a gentleman who believes in fair play. He gives you facts only as they exist.

Yours very truly,
A. BELSKY,
(New York.)

BUNNELL HOME BUILDER LIKE A LETTER FROM "HOME"

Dear Mr. Verdenius:

In subscribing for, and receiving the St. Johns Tribune, had concluded that the HOME BUILDER had merged into it.

As you are still publishing the Home Builder, will you be kind enough to send me the January and February numbers?

The paper seems so "Homey" that I want to keep all the numbers.

Sincerely,
G. MORSE,
(New Jersey).

More Letters of Interest. When You Visit Bunnell

"THERE IS MORE IN THE MAN THAN IN THE LAND"

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,
Chicago, Ill.



Mr. A. A. Allan

It is with pleasure that I look forward each month to my copy of the Bunnell Home Builder, which keeps me in touch with current events in and around Bunnell.

Some time ago I received some literature relative to Florida lands, Bunnell in particular, and which I must say was very interesting reading. I became interested and

wrote the Bunnell Development Company for further information, and on receipt of same decided to purchase a twenty-acre farm in your colony.

Like a good many more of your colonists, I was desirous of seeing what I was paying for, and particularly to find out if the literature I had read was not a little exaggerated, so I decided to make the trip and see for myself.

On arriving at Bunnell I was agreeably surprised to find quite a modern little town already built up, having a large hotel, fine residences, bank, office buildings, stores, etc., and which I must state are a credit to a new community, at that time scarcely two years old.

Accompanied by the Field Manager I went over the tract, and was greatly impressed by what I saw. Here was an immense tract of fertile land being developed by a number of new settlers; new homes were being built on every hand; road being made with a good shell surface, and everybody working with that contented spirit that leads to Success. I stayed in Bunnell several days and during that time I visited a number of the colonists, talked with them about their prospects and got their ideas as to what the future had in store for them.

Each and every one to whom I spoke gladly gave the information desired, and they were unanimous in declaring that Bunnell soil could not be beaten in any part of the country—they saw a bright, independent future before them, and they were in Bunnell to stay. They spoke very highly of the Bunnell Development Company's officials, and right here I wish to say from my own observation that I found Mr. Moody and his officers a very conservative set of business men, looking well after the colonists' interests and the welfare of all. The future of Bunnell is assured with such people as these, and I predict in a very short time that all the land will be settled and Bunnell will grow to be one of the principal towns of St. Johns County.

The location is all that could be desired, being only a few miles from the Atlantic coast, and one can enjoy the pleasures of a seaside resort—bathing, boating, fishing, etc., to their heart's content.

In conclusion, will say from a colonist's viewpoint, it is essential to bear in mind that the main requirements are intelligent brainwork, good judgment and the power to look ahead with a reasonable degree of

accuracy. In a country like Florida with an immense area of good lands that are still cheap and open to settlers on easy terms, the man who looks forward to a life on a farm should also resolve to become the owner and tiller of land. It is not a question of mere muscular strength and endurance, for the old proverb tells us "There is more in the man than in the land."

I am pleased to state that the conditions I found in Bunnell were as represented in the literature I had read, and I look back to my trip with interest and pleasure, for I formed the acquaintance of quite a number of mighty fine people which I hope to renew in the future.

Wishing the Bunnell Development Company and all the colonists every success, I wish to remain,

Yours very truly,
ANDREW A. ALLAN,
(Missouri.)

THE DUTY OF EVERY MAN TO PROVIDE A HOME AGAINST OLD AGE.

My Dear Mr. Verdenius:



Mr. A. W. Walshe

Allow me now the privilege of writing as a member of the Bunnell-Dupont colony of Home Builders, where myself and wife expect, about the end of this year, to permanently settle and take part with our future neighbors and friends in making our colony, "the premier section of the state of Florida."

My object in writing this little article for the pages of the Bunnell Home Builder, a journal which certainly reflects credit upon the members of the directorate of the Bunnell Development Company and all others connected with them, is to tell those who may be desirous of improving their present condition and are still hesitating about purchasing a ten or twenty acre tract in the Bunnell-DuPont colony, how it was I decided upon purchasing a twenty-acre farm lot for myself and wife, for both of us are believers in the doctrine of equal rights for men and women, though we decidedly disapprove of militant suffragettes.

The natural desire of all well-meaning, self-respecting men and women who have arrived at the years of discretion and are still engaged in the Battle of Life, is or should be (especially if God has blessed them with children) that they may be enabled to secure a homestead where in the declining years of their lives, they may be able to settle down at that critical time when their wage earning powers have become lessened and the manager or superintendent of the factory or the corporation to which they have given the best years of their lives, informs them, possibly in a very suave manner, but oftener in a brutal fashion, that they must give way for younger employees, as they were growing too old for their work. How many are thus turned adrift without one thought or care of what is to become of them from those for whom they have worked faithfully.

It is every worker's duty, whether he or she is in the factory, behind the desk or serving at the counters of our great stores, to provide for themselves and those dependent upon them, a home which they can in reality call their own.

I have been, in the earlier years of my life, a traveler in various parts of the world—Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, East and West Indies. Was also through the leading countries of Europe, including Holland and Belgium and the United States and Canada, where I am at present residing, though I trust that it will not be long until I exchange the rigors of a Canadian winter for the sunshiny climate of Florida, and often considered the advisability of seeking out a suitable location where I could secure a HOME in the true sense and meaning of the word, where my wife and self could settle, with opportunity afforded to have a few acres of good soil, where after years of toil and labor in the crowded cities, we could go in for rearing poultry and cultivating vegetables and fruits with a decent climate where one need not be frozen in for over six months of the year and spending our savings in the purchase of fuel, coal and wood, in order to keep the house warm and ward off those enemies that attack and claim so many victims—bronchitis, pulmonary troubles, asthma and the white plague, consumption, which is so prevalent in Canada.

After a great deal of inquiry and investigations in many parts, I am very glad that we have succeeded in obtaining what we needed in Bunnell, Florida, where climate, soil and opportunities exist. With fair amount of work and attention to our twenty-acre farm, we expect to realize a comfortable living without weariness or anxiety as to the future.

Yours very truly,
ARTHUR W. WALSHE,
(Canada.)

BUNNELL-DUPONT COLONY A DELIGHTFUL PLACE

Dear Sir—I visited your land in the Bunnell-Dupont Colony last week, and Mr. Turner was very nice and accommodating. He carried Mr. Tally and myself all over the Colony in the auto. He first took us to a number of the Irish potato and truck farms which was a show to us at this season of the year. He carried us to the orange groves and we ate oranges fresh from the trees, which was a treat to a north Mississippian. They are so much better picked ripe from the trees than pulled green and shipped to us.

Then Mr. Turner took us to the Atlantic ocean, and it was worth the expense of our trip to see that great body of water and enjoy the salt sea breezes. We next visited Ocean City and saw another young orange grove, and many other interesting things that I can't mention just now.

I visited your colony expecting to find some objections, for one will find them everywhere, but I can conscientiously say that my admiration overran any objections, and I want to be one of the colonists not later than October 1st.

With best wishes to you and all the colonists, I am,

Yours respectfully,
L. J. COULSTON,
(Mississippi).

We Should Like to Have a Letter From You

THE MAN THAT TOOK TWO CHANCES



Mr. L. S. Russell

Editor Bunnell Home Builder: When the herd law was passed in western Nebraska there were hundreds of thousands of range cattle to be moved across the line into Wyoming. By the fall and winter of 1888 there were but few "Slow Elk," as the grangers (homesteaders) call the range cattle, left.

There were already a large number of homesteaders settled here and there over the buffalo grass covered prairies, who, as the old saying went, "bet \$14.00 against the Government's 160 acres of land that they could stay on their claims five years and not starve to death."

Most of them came to the conclusion after a trial, if they "won the bet" they must restock the range and live off the increase of their herds, which proved a success for a few years, but as new settlers kept coming in the range was again overstocked. As long as there was grass enough left in the fall to hold the snow through the winter, there was plenty of moisture to start new grass in the spring; if not, there would be no grass the following year, and that was what happened. Consequently many were compelled to sell and that caused a big drop, but the big blizzard, as it is referred to, swept over that country a few years later, killing a large per cent, and that raised the price of cattle above normal.

Land was cheap in those days. But few considered it of any value except for the grass. I have seen many good quarter sections there (160 acres) sold at from \$500 to \$1,200. About that time irrigation was tried and proved a success, and this brings me down to my story.

There was a cowboy in these parts who had a small bunch of cattle of his own, but his ambition was to be a "cattle baron." Therefore, he interested a friend in the East in his scheme who furnished the money, and told him to go the limit, which he did. He bought cattle and was also compelled to buy land for a home ranch, hay land for winter feed and more range.

Cattle were already high in the year 1900; the B. & M. had just built a branch up the river from Bridgeport, and everybody thought that cattle were going to keep on going up—and they did go to \$44 per head for common stock.

This cowboy was considered a good stock man and conservative judge of cattle, but for some reason he got excited and paid these long prices for a large part of his herd. In a short time thereafter cattle commenced to drop in price and nearly every one in our neighborhood predicted that this man would go broke, but he didn't. We failed to "take notice" that land values were going up, and the first thing we knew the land that this man had bought for a small sum was worth from five to ten times more than he had paid for it.

I had the pleasure of hearing this man tell his own story one day, and this is what he said: "If I had depended on cattle alone I would have been broke and down and out

by now. But the land I bought has paid all the loss I had in cattle, and has made me a rich man besides. It was not my own smartness by any means that has made me rich. It was simply the increase in the value of my land. I took two chances and I won on the LAND."

How many, O, how many there are of us who will try anything and everything under the sun but fail to take the other "chance"—Land, when it has been proven over and over again that it is the one safe investment when all others fail.

There are thousands of acres of good land in Florida that can be bought on the easiest kind of terms, which will in a few years be worth many times what it is today. I refer especially to St. Johns County, and particularly to the tract owned by the Bunnell Development Company.

Take my word for it, and take the "other chance," and like the hero of my story, though you may lose in your pet vocation, you will win out on the paddle that says "Land." I have been over a large portion of the United States and Canada, and I honestly believe that land values in Florida are going to go up higher and faster than any other place I know of.

L. S. RUSSELL,
(Idaho).



The Verdenius family and a friend enjoying an outing in Florida

TEXAS DOES NOT SUIT THIS MAN—HE WANTS TO GO TO BUNNELL

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir—I received your letter a few days ago and am interested in securing a home in Florida. If you have a weekly paper published in Bunnell, I would like to have a copy of it.

You can tell the people in your town that there is a big snow on the ground here at this writing, and we are not done picking cotton yet. There is nothing green excepting a little wheat and oats.

Yours truly,

W. J. BLEWETT,
(Texas).



Picture made Feb. 12, 1913, by Mr. J. P. Parker. Over 12 feet of snow in Canada. Which do you prefer—winter snows or sunny skies?

ANOTHER CANADIAN WHO IS ANXIOUS TO RETURN TO BUNNELL

Dear Sir—I received the package of literature O. K. and thank you very much for it. Well, Mr. Verdenius, you want to know what I think of the Bunnell-Dupont Colony. I was at Bunnell from the 20th to the 28th of May, 1912. I went to see my 20-acre farm in Section 29, and after I had looked the land over and dug several holes down to the clay I decided to take 20 acres more. I asked your field manager if there was any vacant land alongside of mine. He said there was 20 acres to the south of mine, and so I took that.

I was very much pleased with the quality of the soil and I brought two small boxes of it home with me to show my friends.

I found the location of the colony ideal, and I was very much surprised at the prices the people were getting for their products. Everybody seemed happy and contented.

I believe the man that doesn't get a piece of Bunnell-Dupont colony land is missing a great treat and a big piece of money, for that land is bound to go up in price very rapidly.

I am going to try hard to be in Florida this coming summer if possible.

J. B. PARKER, (Alberta, Can)

WHY FLORIDA FARMERS BUY SEED POTATOES FROM THE NORTH

The question has arisen in the minds of some of our land owners, after reading the recent article on potatoes in the Home Builder, as to the reason for seed potatoes being purchased in the North? They have wanted to know if our people could not raise their own potatoes for seed.

For fear that this question may be puzzling other readers of the Home Builder, we wish to explain this matter more fully.

When the farmers in Florida raise potatoes and are ready to ship them North in the early spring, the prices they obtain are so good that they are not willing to keep any on hand as seed for the next crop. So all the good potatoes are barreled and shipped away to all parts of the North where people are ready to pay fancy prices for them.

Then when the North raises her potato crop the Southern farmers are able to buy enough for seed cheaper than they could afford to keep their own potatoes which are so valuable in the early spring time.

The whole secret of the Florida farmers' great success is they can raise things at a time when the North cannot, and are therefore able to dictate their own prices.

Every Day Happenings In and Around Bunnell and Dupont

As contributed by the Bunnell correspondent during the month

Dr. L. H. Bussen of North Dakota visited the colony recently. While here he purchased ten acres and reserved three hundred and twenty acres.

Mr. H. L. Graham, post office inspector, was in the city Thursday. While here he will go over the proposed rural route.

Mr. Kuhn and family of Rochester are building on their property near Mr. Cards, with whom they are stopping.

Mr. Chas. Weatherington of Kentucky was in the city for the past ten days. While here he purchased more land and expects to send several families down.

Mr. F. S. Crowson was in town Sunday. He was all smiles. Said he had a good stand of potatoes.

Mr. G. W. Moore of Ocean City was in Bunnell Monday with quite a string of trout which he caught in the canal.



New arrivals inspecting the Colony

Chairman Moody and Editor Boaz attended the meeting of the county commissioners at St. Augustine Tuesday.

Mr. H. V. Gillespie returned to his home in Tennessee Saturday after spending several days around Bunnell. He is very pleased with his farm here.

Mr. James Finch returned last week to Ambia, Indiana, after a visit of several days with Mr. W. L. Bartlett and family.

Mr. and Mrs. I. I. Moody were in St. Augustine to hear the speech of William Jennings Bryan last Thursday.

Mr. A. H. Willingham has opened a meat market in his building at the rear of the Tribune building.

Mrs. L. R. Bell has leased the Hotel Bunnell to Mrs. Joseph Conway, who took charge on the 1st. Mrs. Bell has leased the Cates house and moved in.

Mr. J. W. Molphurs was in town Saturday with a load of sweet potatoes which he shipped South. Mr. Molphurs is a great potato grower, having raised 1,000 bushels the past season.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Cisco, accompanied by Councilman Saalfield and wife of Ramsey, N. J., guests of Mr. Cisco and family, went over to the beach and orange grove Sunday. Mr. Saalfield expects to visit St. Augustine and other notable points in Florida before returning to his home in New Jersey.

Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Moody left Wednesday for Washington, D. C., where they go to attend the Good Roads Convention.

Messrs. Oliver and Wesley Silox while fishing in the canal at Ocean City last Saturday, caught 160 fish ranging in length from 12 to 24 inches.

Mr. Martin Nelson is enlarging his restaurant by building a kitchen in the rear. When completed it will give Mr. Nelson more room, which he very much needs.

Seven cars of Miami road rock have arrived and are being laid along the loading track of the Florida East Coast road, which will make the hauling easy for the potato growers this season.

Mr. J. S. Tally and L. J. Coalston of Mississippi were recent visitors to the Bunnell tract and were very pleased with the country here.

Mr. Walter Barnhill of Illinois recently visited the colony to inspect his farm. He was entirely satisfied with his land and conditions generally in the colony.

Mr. W. O. McLaughlin is a visitor to Bunnell. He is well pleased with his farm.

Mr. J. P. Schweier of Kentucky was a recent visitor to the Bunnell-Dupont colony and purchased ten acres of land.

Mr. F. S. McElhern spent a considerable time in the colony recently. He was pleased with the land and purchased a farm for himself.

Dr. L. A. Carter, our efficient druggist, has rented the storeroom recently occupied by D. M. Deen. His present storeroom has grown too small for his increasing business. He will enlarge his stock of drugs and add a complete line of paints, stationery and jewelry to his present stock.



Potato barrels on street of Bunnell, being hauled to the farm

A good road booster party composed of G. W. Waller, J. K. Owens, G. B. Lamar, N. L. Taylor, J. L. Middleton, W. B. Edminster, A. H. Fayer, Seth Perkins and I. I. Moody covered the route of the John Anderson highway from St. Augustine to Bunnell last Friday. They left St. Augustine in automobiles early Friday morning, inspecting the route as far south as Gofers Ridge. From there they drove to Bee Tree branch, and on to Bunnell, where Chairman Moody had dinner awaiting them at Hotel Bunnell.

The party reports favorably on this route as being the proper route for the highway to be built.

Dr. St. Peter knows how to grow strawberries to perfection. He has raised some fine ones in his garden this season.

Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Hubbard of Grand Rapids, Mich., after spending some time at Bunnell as the guests of their brother, Mr. L. F. Hubbard, left last week for other parts in Florida before returning home.

The Tribune office at Bunnell has just installed a new Fairbanks-Morse engine to pull the presses and is now prepared to do all kinds of job printing.

A party composed of Mr. George Moody and family, Mr. J. F. Lambert and family, and Mr. B. L. Lambert spent Sunday at Knox & Bead's orange grove.

Mr. J. L. McClellon of Daytona was in Bunnell Monday in the interest of his novelty mill.

Mr. J. F. Lambert has erected two water tanks, one at his home and the other at the home of Mr. J. B. Boaz.

Mr. Frank Vincent will soon open up a tansorial parlor in the building to be vacated by Dr. Carter. It will be up-to-date in every particular. He will install both tub and shower bath fixtures.

Mr. Edgerton, of California, was in Bunnell Friday looking for a business opening.

Mr. Ed. Johnson of Hohenwald, Tenn., will move his family to Bunnell in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Loughridge of Ocean City attended church at Bunnell Sunday morning.