

The Truth About Florida

The Bunnell Home Builder

Edited by S. HOWARD

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THE EDITOR'S PERSONAL PAGE

HAVE YOU WONDERED WHY the editor of the Bunnell Home Builder does not give the complete addresses of the men and women whose letters are appearing in the pages of the Home Builder each month? Several times we have been asked the reason for this omission, and shall tell you WHY.

It has been our experience in the past when publishing names and addresses in various literature, that the writers of such letters have been deluged with inquiries. They have written us that every mail brought letters from all over the country, which they did not have the time to answer. Naturally the people who asked these questions felt a little hurt if their letters were unanswered, and thus it made unpleasantness all around.

You can understand that if a man knows he will be swamped with mail should his name appear in print, he is loathe to write us anything for publication. The omission of these addresses has been for the protection of our contributors.

The editor wishes to say that the originals of all these letters are on file in this office, and if any of our readers especially wish to write to some one whose name has appeared in the Home Builder, we will furnish complete address upon request.



Roasting Oysters near Ocean City



Florida Home of Thomas Edison

MANY MEN OF WEALTH ARE BUYING PROPERTY FOR WINTER HOMES ALONG THE EAST COAST OF FLORIDA

James Deering of Chicago recently purchased sixty acres of land south of the Miami river, from Mrs. Mary E. Brickell, for \$180,000, being about three thousand dollars an acre. A few years ago this no doubt could have been purchased for a few dollars an acre. It is stated that Mr. Deering intends to make this one of the most beautiful home places in the state, and perhaps in the United States, even superior to the Busch home at Pasadena, California, because of natural advantages of beautiful Biscayne Bay and other favorable features, including climate and location.

Many wealthy families in different cities are buying property and preparing homes for all the year as well as winter homes. The Deerings, McCormicks, Matthewsons, Collins and many other wealthy and well-known world travelers and tourists are among the investors and new homeseekers along the Florida east coast.

William Jennings Bryan, Secretary of State, has a home at Miami. He purchased what is known as the Punch Bowl property, south of Miami, last summer, and is now starting improvements for a beautiful winter home and a home any time of the year. Mr. Bryan has also purchased an additional 40 acres of land, and it is said

that he intends clearing it and planting it to grapefruit and other citrus and semi-tropical fruits.

These noted men, financiers, travelers, tourists and real estate investors placing their money in this section of Florida, preparing for future homes, gives further evidence that our claims for climate and other attractive features are reasonable and valid. These men are familiar with popular cities over the world, and perhaps no one is better posted, in a personal way, with all the cities in the United States than William Jennings Bryan.

From the fact that for about twenty years he has traveled and lectured and made speeches in every state and all the principal cities, surely Mr. Bryan's decision to make his home in Florida and to invest his money in unimproved land should be considered worth thinking over. In fact the favorable publicity created by these well known manufacturers, publishers, statesmen and capitalists is helping to increase realty values in this section of the state.

WHAT A WOMAN CAN DO IF SHE TRIES

An interesting feature of the Home Builder in its recent issues has been the splendid letters from people who have visited the Bunnell-Dupont Colony. These letters have given our little magazine a real "personal" touch, and you will enjoy the ones in this May issue we are sure, especially the ones which have come from the pens of women who have purchased farms at Bunnell.

We have long been told that "Where there's a will, there's a way," and these letters were written by women who had foresight and courage enough to make a way, when they were convinced that they should purchase homes at Bunnell.

Their letters should be an inspiration to other women who long for independence, but who have hesitated to take the first step towards gaining it. They should put to shame some of the big, broad-shouldered men, who know that it would be a good thing to buy land in our colony and make homes for themselves and their families there, but who are not willing to make any present sacrifice which might be required to pay for such a home.

There are many splendid, intelligent women who have purchased farms in the Bunnell-Dupont Colony for themselves. There are other women who have encouraged their husbands in making such an investment, and are bravely doing their share in saving, planning and working, that they may ultimately obtain independence and be able to enjoy the comforts of old age together, without the fear of an empty larder or unpaid landlord.

Every Day Happenings In and Around Bunnell and Dupont

As contributed by the Bunnell correspondent during the month.

Mr. W. M. Woodruff and son, of Idaho, both of whom own farms here, arrived Monday to be here for a short time.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Becker, of Maxwell, Florida, who own considerable property around Bunnell, were here Saturday.

Mr. H. C. Fadness, of South Dakota, arrived Monday to make Bunnell his home. Mr. Fadness bought land here some time ago.

The local Knights Templar, I. I. Moody, W. H. Cochran, George Moody, W. C. Heath and W. A. China, worshipped at the Methodist Church here Easter. Easter is greatly revered by Knights Templar everywhere.

Mr. I. I. Moody attended the County Commissioners' meeting at St. Augustine on Tuesday.

Mr. L. A. Szabelski and Mr. D. F. Sokolowski of Chicago, were recent visitors to the colony. Both are great believers in Florida and each one bought forty acres of Bunnell soil. They expect to make this community their future home.

Miss Buddell, of New York State, is the guest of her uncle, Mr. T. S. Doty.

Mr. W. A. China, cashier of the Bunnell State Bank, has recently purchased a small farm in section 14, southeast of town.

Rev. L. D. Haynes, of the Bunnell M. E. Church, will preach at Volusia next Sunday afternoon.

Mr. M. Stone has just added three new show cases to his store fixtures.

Mr. William Hatch and wife, of Portland, Maine, are spending a few days in Bunnell.

Mr. Husic and Dr. Park, of Kentucky, returned to their homes Sunday, after spending several days around Bunnell. While here they reserved several acres of land.

Mr. F. S. Eckel, a prominent business man of Hastings, has purchased from the Bunnell Development Company a number of town lots on the Moody Boulevard. This property has a frontage of three hundred and sixty-five feet on Moody Boulevard and runs back thirteen hundred and fifty feet to Osecola Street. Mr. J. B. Boaz, of the St. Johns Tribune, has purchased a similar tract just east of Mr. Eckel's.

Mr. W. O. Laughlin, of Iowa, who owns a ten-acre tract near here, was in the city Monday and expressed himself as being well pleased with his property.

Mr. C. E. Cisco made a business trip to Jacksonville Monday.

Rev. C. F. Blackburn, Presiding Elder of this district, preached at the Methodist Church last Thursday night.

Mr. G. D. Johnson, of Atlanta, Georgia, is spending some time around Bunnell in the interest of "Southern Farming."

Misses Irene Bettes, Lillian and Marguerite Cochran and Sam Newbill spent Saturday afternoon at Ormond Beach and Daytona.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Johnson and Miss Anne Bardin spent Sunday on an outing at Ocean City.

Mr. J. D. Curran, of Canada, arrived Saturday to make his home near Bunnell. Mr. Curran is the owner of 20 acres of land on the Moody Road.



Mr. R. Beeman's beautiful farm in Section 29

BUNNELL BASEBALL TEAM TO BE ORGANIZED

A baseball team will be organized in Bunnell next Saturday. There is plenty of material around Bunnell to make up a good nine and after practicing some they intend to show their championship over St. Johns Park, Dupont, Espanola and all other neighboring teams.

Anyone desiring to get on the team should make it known to Mr. C. F. Turner.

Miss Clara A. Towns, of Philadelphia, was in Bunnell Tuesday. She contemplates building a winter home here.

Messrs. J. L. and G. P. Yonkers, who are recognized as two of the best potato growers in this section, were in Bunnell on business Tuesday morning.

Mrs. H. A. Gates and daughter, of Kansas, have moved to Bunnell to make their future home.

Mr. D. F. McDuffy has purchased the residence property of Mr. T. S. Doty on the west side of the railroad, and will move his family here in the near future. The deal was transacted through the F. L. Byrd real estate agency.

Mr. A. J. Philips, of Sparks, Neb., the owner of twenty acres of land east of town, arrived Tuesday to locate here permanently. He expresses himself as being well pleased with his land and realizes that this is a fine country to live in. Mr. Philips will move his family here as soon as he has made some improvements on his place.

The Ladies' Aid Society held a meeting at the Methodist Church Monday afternoon. Besides the regular order of business the ladies made preparations for the miscellaneous sale and box supper to be held at the school house Friday evening.

The Tribune building is going up fast now. The brick work will soon be completed. The proprietors expect to have the building completed by May 1st, at which time they will give the first dance in the new hall, which will be free to all.

Mr. Walter Barnhill, of Illinois, is a recent visitor to the colony, and expresses himself as very pleased with his land and the conditions generally in the colony.

Mr. J. M. Gaston, of Canton, N. C., who owns considerable St. Johns dirt around Bunnell, arrived in the city Saturday and spent a few days here.

Mr. J. W. Justine, of Dupont, attended the meeting of the Bunnell Masonic Lodge Tuesday night.

Mr. A. K. Dombrowski spent some time at Bunnell recently and purchased one quarter section of land in our colony. He is so enthusiastic that he will contribute an article for our June issue.

The office of the Bunnell Potato & Supply Co. is now located in the room of the Bunnell State Bank Building made vacant by the moving of Carter's Drug Store.



Unloading car of gravel for new roads at Bunnell

OCEAN CITY BREAKERS

Our little city is fast becoming quite popular, as the number of visitors here the past week will go to prove. Early in the week quite a delegation consisting of 15 or 20 people from St. Johns Park came in and camped on the broad street, known as Lambert Avenue, which is being cut through, and makes an ideal place for campers.

Friday and Saturday people came in from Bunnell and surrounding country until the number had swelled to between 50 and 60. There was a merry time along this street. Hunting, fishing and oyster roasts were the main attractions; also boating for pastime was indulged in.

Thursday quite a party went to the beach. Those in the party were: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laughridge, of Granville, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Ned Loughridge, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cookman, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Moore, Mrs. E. M. Humphrey and Mr. Johnny McCloud. At noon all enjoyed a dinner of oysters, fish, salads, pies, cake and coffee, radishes, and lettuce from the Cookman garden.

Mrs. Humphrey and Mrs. Moore took a trip to Daytona on the passenger boat Republic Friday, returning Saturday. They report a delightful time.

Mr. McCloud made a flying trip to Gainesville on business last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Boaz and little son were Ocean City visitors Saturday afternoon. Mr. Boaz was quite proud of a fine string of blue fish.

FIRST POTATOES

Mr. A. J. Smithers made the first shipment of potatoes from Bunnell Thursday morning. The shipment consisted of 15 barrels of No. Ones and two barrels of No. Twos. They were shipped to John Nix & Co., New York, via Clyde line.

JOHNSON LUMBER & SUPPLY CO.

Opens for Business with Mr. Ed Johnson, Proprietor.

A new firm for Bunnell is the Johnson Lumber & Supply Co., with Mr. Ed Johnson, who recently moved his family to this place from Hohenswald, Tenn., as proprietor. The company will manufacture building material, such as flooring, ceiling, moulding and all kinds of rough and dressed lumber, and will handle all other essentials for the building of a home.

As soon as the Tribune building is complete the office of the company will be located there, where a line of general hardware will be carried.



Little Miss Rich of Bunnell with her ponies

FLORIDA POTATOES MOVING FAST NOW.

Thirty Carloads or More Were Shipped from Our Territory Wednesday.

Hastings, Fla., April 9.—With a movement totalling twenty-seven carloads yesterday and shipments which will probably total between thirty and thirty-five carloads today, the Hastings potato crop is now moving rapidly. Prices today remained at \$3.50 for No. 1s and \$2.50 for No. 2s. New York prices are \$4.50 and \$3.50. Traffic through to the west is improving and this will probably bring prices upward during the next few days.

The following telegram was received by John Nix & Co.:

AP Seattle WN Apr 4-13
Jno. Nix & Co. Hastings, Fla.
Book us for first car potatoes coming Seattle suitable long distance shipment. Want number one stock. Minimum car. Confirm, wire price at time of shipment. HAMILL BROS.

Bunnell potatoes are moving in small lots. Car load shipments will not begin to move before April 21st.

MR. GEORGE W. NIX VISITS POTATO BELT. HE IS AGREEABLY SURPRISED AT THE RAPID GROWTH

George W. Nix, vice-president of the well-known firm of John Nix & Co., commission merchants of New York City, was a visitor at Hastings and nearby points last week.

Mr. Nix had not been in the State of Florida for the past sixteen years and he was agreeably surprised at the remarkable growth of this section of the State. He was engaged most of the time looking over the potato crops, of which seventy-five per cent. will be handled by his house. He seemed to be well pleased with the situation.

He said, "Everything looks good to me, and while it is impossible at the present time to determine what prices will be realized, a great deal depends on weather conditions, both here and in the North and West at the time of shipment."

HOGS ARE GREAT MONEY-MAKERS FOR FLORIDA FARMERS

With prices for beef and pork ruling so high in the markets of the United States, with the almost certainty that these prices will never be lower for an extended period, with the fact that beef can be and is being produced in the South for one-half the cost in the North, and that pork can be and is being produced for three cents and less per pound in the South, it would appear that our farmers who can spare or secure the money should invest in the best thoroughbred stock they can get, as early as possible, in order that their returns may come in as soon as possible.

Hogs can be fattened for the market very cheap in the following manner: First, plant your corn and cultivate it a few times. Next plant peanuts between the rows of corn. As soon as the corn is gathered, turn your hogs into the field and they will soon grow fat on the peanuts.

Some Florida farmers buy up cheap hogs and fatten them in this manner, and sell them at a profit of 100 per cent. However, a better breed of hogs is greatly to be desired throughout the state, and colonists from the North are giving their attention to this matter.

Greater quantities of pork are eaten by the native Floridians than one who is unfamiliar with the subject would imagine, and there is therefore a ready market for all the hogs which can be raised.

The man or woman who does not feel inclined to make a living in our colony from trucking or general farming, should give his or her attention to hog raising, as well as to the poultry industry.

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.



Potatoes and hogs are great mortgage lifters, but the little old hen with her cackle will do her share towards paying for your farm

More Letters from Future Settlers

MR. YARNELL, OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY, TELLS OF HIS IMPRESSIONS OF BUNNELL

To the Editor of the Bunnell Home Builder:

I would like to say a few words about the Bunnell Development Company and the land in the Bunnell-Dupont Colony, through the pages of the Home Builder. If the Northern people could fully realize what they can do on ten acres of Bunnell-Dupont land, they would not have to be told twice about it.

I left New York last August, the worst time of the year to go and see the land I had bought from the Bunnell Development Company. Nothing much was growing at that time of the year except cow peas for hay, although one man was cultivating sweet potatoes as late in the year as it was. His farm was next to my 30-acre tract.

We passed through Hastings, the great potato country, 12 miles north of Bunnell and the place looked like a western land opening, people all looking prosperous, driving up to the station in automobiles. It certainly looked good to me. When I arrived there and found that all these people owned was a potato patch, and that they only worked in the winter months, I increased my holdings in the Bunnell-Dupont colony from 30 to 60 acres, as soon as I saw what others were doing.

There were people staying at the Bunnell Hotel from all over the West, who had come to buy land, and none of them took less than 40 acres. It rained every day while I was there, heavy afternoon showers, but the water soon soaked away in the sandy loam—no mud and no stones in Bunnell.

Before I made this trip a man who had been in Florida told me that the mosquitoes there were six inches long, but I only saw one or two small ones. I saw lots of quail and other small game, which can be shot in season. It is about eight miles from Bunnell to the Atlantic coast, and there is nearly always a breeze from the sea. I hope to be able to run over there after I go down to stay, which will be in a few months now.

I want to say that I was shown generous treatment by the representatives of the Bunnell Development Company. Bunnell is a growing town for only three years old, modern and up-to-date for its size. They give you a square deal there. It is surely a poor man's chance. I don't believe one could find a better spot with all the facilities that go with it.

In the Bunnell-Dupont colony they have early crops, and big prices, from the New York early markets. The shipping facilities for one's truck are the very best, and the climate is ideal. They have a barrel factory at Bunnell now, and there a man with slender means can get his barrels, fertilizer and seed on time, also can sell his crop there to advantage.

Yours very truly,

S. K. YARNELL,
(United States Navy).



Mr. S. K. Yarnell .

"THE JOY OF LIVING WITH ONE'S FEET ON THE GROUND AND HANDS IN THE EARTH, BUT WITH MINDS ELEVATED TO THE SKIES"—WRITES MRS. VANCE IN THE FOLLOWING LETTER

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir:—Since apologies seldom are satisfactory, I will just say I have carelessly neglected my duty, and will amend by telling you that I am not only satisfied with my purchase of land in the Bunnell district, but am proud of it, and feel "puffed up" with myself for having the sagacity to have made the purchase on the faith I have in men's honesty. I believed you had what you advertised to have, and bought on that faith. Then when I visited the colony a year ago I found I had not misplaced that faith, which did not surprise me in the least.

I visited a great portion of Florida, and I found Bunnell the neatest, most progressive town in all my trip. The man or woman who owns a tract of land in this colony need have no fear, for the men behind the enterprise are on the ground and are colonists with the rest. If I were a man I would be in Florida instead of shivering here in Illinois. We are still having snow squalls here when we should be in the fields, but as yet (March 26th) not a wheel has turned on the farms of Illinois and it will be ten days at least before the fields can be entered.

I have talked Florida to everybody I meet, and one man has bought on the strength of my recommendation, but he allowed a man who is selling Florida land in a nearby town to persuade him to invest in Everglade land, which I do not recommend, because that land did not have to be cleared of timber.

I have almost persuaded others of my acquaintance to buy, but there are so many

people here who have spent winters in Florida who can't see any agricultural possibilities in sand. Because I am a woman men think I am no judge, but I know that what has been done can be done again, but I know, too, that money does not grow on weeds or trees in Florida any more than it does in Illinois, and one must work wherever he goes—even the rascals who live by skinning other men, have to work to save themselves from the law, which I call a precarious way of gaining a livelihood.

There is a fortune for any one who will go to Florida and accept the conditions as they are and who does not insist on pursuing the same methods he has always followed in the corn belt. I find that the most successful farmers everywhere are the men who go on to the land without prejudice or preconceived ideas of farming, but with minds amenable to the teachings of science and common sense, enthusiasm, energy and the joy of living, with one's feet on the ground and hands in the earth, but with minds elevated to the skies.

Shakespeare says, "What fools these mortals be." That is just what I think of these people who are allowing the last opportunity to escape them for obtaining land at reasonable prices. There are women on the farms of Illinois, renters, paying \$8.00 per acre rent at that, who by their individual efforts make \$600.00 to \$1,000.00, who never invest a dollar for profit. They might just as well buy homes for themselves as to allow all this money to slip through their fingers foolishly. It certainly is foolish to spend so much money without having something permanent to show for one's labor.

The opportunity for making money by women on the farm is limited only by their strength and financial ability. What can be done in Illinois can so much more easily be done in Florida, where their activities are not restricted by the rigors of winter.

It seems I have not said what I intended to in this letter, but I hope you can read between the lines and learn that I am glad, truly, that I own one little ten-acre lot in the Bunnell colony and am talking and boosting for Florida. Some day when I get money enough I am going onto that little ten-acre lot myself.

Suppose I tell you how I am buying my land. I am buying two other lots the same way, but Bunnell is my favorite. I am paying for all of it by the quarters and dimes I can save from my butter and egg money, which I sell from the farm here. If you think that easy, I can tell you that it takes work, good management and courage. I get very little encouragement from most of my friends. I think they think I am either crazy or a fool, but I feel proud of myself because I shall have something I can call my very own, and if that time ever comes when I find myself in need of it, I shall know where to find rest and a—HOME.

I thank you for all the kindness which has been shown me, for the privilege of owning a tract in Bunnell, and for the courtesy of the officials throughout.

Yours truly,
(MRS.) ELVIRA E. L. VANCE,
(Illinois).

in the Bunnell-Dupont Colony

WHERE A WOMAN "WILLS" THERE IS ALWAYS A "WAY"
Dear Mr. Verdenius:



Mrs. Oscar Buckley

I have just received your last letter, and I am glad to hear that Bunnell land is on the boom. Yes, I receive my Bunnell Home Builder every month, and it seems to me that that little paper alone ought to sell every foot of land that is unsold.

I would give anything in reason to be one of the busy bees in the Bunnell

just now, but circumstances are such that we cannot be for a while yet at least.

Now, Mr. Verdenius, I have received three or four letters from you making me some very good offers and urging me to purchase more land, and now I shall tell you some facts. Did it ever occur to you that the Oscar Buckley you have been writing to is a woman? Well, it is so. Now, I will try to tell you how I came to purchase 10 acres of land at Bunnell, and I will also try to tell you how hard it is for me to sell any of your land for you.

When I first saw your ad. I tried to get Mr. Buckley to purchase a piece of land. He said, "No, it might be a humbug." Then I wanted him to go down and look at the land and if it was all right to buy 40 or 80 acres but he would not. Well then I wrote for an order blank myself filled it out and sent it back with my first payment, and you would hardly believe me when I tell you that I had paid in \$100.00 on my ten acres before my husband learned what I had done.

You see, the cows and poultry are mine, and what money I derive therefrom after supplying my house, so I was able to send in my monthly remittances without him knowing it. Well, when he did find it out he only laughed and said that he bet I had bought a blind pig. So you see, Mr. Verdenius, the rest around here are like my husband, they will not spend the money the trip would cost them to go and look at the land, nor will they buy without seeing it. They would rather pay landlords around here \$1,000.00 a year rent, as my husband is doing, than to buy a little home for themselves, but you must not think that I have not tried to get some of them to buy, for I have, but they are afraid. However, my husband is perfectly willing now to move South, and we are going to try to move after we get there and he had seen move next winter. He said he would buy more after we get there and he had seen the land, so you see he is afraid even now to take the step.

You see, the busy crop season is now on, and the oats are to be put out and then follows other crops, so Mr. Buckley could not get away now, but one thing is sure, after the busy work is over if he will not go down and see for himself I will, and I

want to promise you right now that when I go if that land is only one-third as good as you claim it is, I will come back to Illinois with more land, that is, as the purchaser of more land. I don't care if it is \$40.00 an acre, and I told him so, for as the fellow said, I am "dead tired" of paying rent and giving all to the landlord.

Respectfully yours,
(MRS.) OSCAR BUCKLEY,
(Illinois).

A GOOD REPORT FROM BUNNELL

Dear Mr. Verdenius:—

Will you please send me one dozen copies of the April issue of the Bunnell Home Builder? I think that it is a good one, and I have places to put a few.

I want to tell you that my son, who visited Bunnell last fall and went out to see my tract when he was there, is back from Florida for the summer. He intends to return next fall and may locate there permanently. He brings good reports for Florida, and especially so for Bunnell. He says that Bunnell is the prettiest little town that he saw in Florida.

Very truly yours,
LEROY N. WALLING,
(Kansas).



THERE is all the difference in the world between a DREAM and a PLAN. Don't read this magazine from month to month and dream about owning a little home of your own in Florida—some day.

But begin to SAVE and PLAN for that home right now. Invest \$5.00 or more in it, while it may be purchased at a reasonable price.

You can do it. Once you begin to save for your HOME, a dozen plans will suggest themselves to you for saving additional dimes, quarters and dollars, every week or every pay-day.

It is all right to have your Day Dreams, but make definite plans to have

YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE.

THIS LADY IS VERY MUCH PLEASED WITH THE COLONY AFTER A PERSONAL INSPECTION

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir:—I want to say that last October I went to Bunnell to look at my land which I had purchased there, and I was very much pleased with it. I want to thank you for giving me such a nice ten-acre tract.

I think Bunnell has a great future. It is all you say, and what is more, the company is reliable and will do justice to any one.

I like the Home Builder and look forward to it the first of every month.

Yours very truly,
MRS. R. A. HAWKINS,
(Massachusetts).

CONFIDENCE WAS NOT MISPLACED
Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,
Chicago.



Mr. C. W. Weatherington

Well, Friend Verdenius, as it has been some time since I wrote you, I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know that I have been down to Bunnell, Florida, to examine my ten acres, which I purchased from you by mail about a year ago.

My friends told me at the time that I was foolish to

buy something that I had not seen. Well, of course, sometimes it is not real business, but I had confidence in your company, and will say right here that I found everything just as it was represented to me in every respect.

I looked over two or three hundred acres of your land. I found, I think, as good land as there is anywhere, a fine climate, and as fine a set of gentlemen as I ever met in my life, and I have met several. Well, Mr. Verdenius, I just thought enough of your country to buy ten acres more. I took a friend with me and he bought ten acres.

I got changed from my original location so that I could have twenty acres in one body. I think I got a fine location north of town. I met several of the farmers while there and every one of them seemed to be satisfied with their land and home. I am sure I am with mine. The only regret I have is that I am not able to buy fifty instead of twenty acres.

When I went down I expected to stay quite awhile, do some fencing and set some fruit trees on my land, but when I got there the people told me that it was too late in the spring to set out the trees, so I had to come back home; but if nothing happens I will go down next winter and do some work. If I had had my family with me I could just have stayed there forever.

I am doing all I can with my friends to get them interested, but it seems as if they can't understand the possibilities of the country some way. I am getting the Bunnell Home Builder all right, so just keep sending it. I love to read it. I got an issue of the St. Johns Tribune, as I was there at the time they printed the first issue and I subscribed for it for a year.

If you care to do so, you may publish this letter in the Home Builder. When you write to your Bunnell office please give my respects to your field manager, Mr. Turner, as I think he is as fine a gentleman as I ever met. He certainly made me feel at home in Bunnell.

I will do all I can for the colony. Hoping I may be one of the colonists in the near future, I am

Your friend,
C. W. WEATHERINGTON,
(Kentucky).

Wealth Pours in for Florida Farmers

The agriculture of Florida has never been put to anything like its possibilities. In the old time land was hardly regarded as capital to be increased, but considered as a part of current expenses; the negro help was the capital.

Even today land with soil so improvable and yielding products so valuable is not appreciated at its true values and prices are trifling compared to values in the north and northwest, where climatic conditions and market advantages are poor when considered in comparison with Florida.

What Florida needs most is well skilled labor—men with a little capital—farmers, dairymen, fruit raisers, and poultrymen and women who will handle their business in conformity with the requirements of climate and plant and animal growth.

More attention is now being directed to Florida than to any other State. There is a reason why its resources have not been better known. It is an old State and its location was against it. The people living in the States north of Florida had a vast country west of them. Into that western country the overcrowded east has sent its surplus. The west is now pretty well filled and values of land have gone to high figures.

In easting about for new fields Florida was again discovered, and facts concerning it are spreading over the east and west and people are coming to see the State and inquiries about it multiply.

It has been discovered that Florida has cheap lands as compared with other sections of the country. It has the widest diversity of product. It is in a latitude and has a climate which makes the harvest time earlier, with a large part of the product going upon the market with little competition, thus securing the best prices. It has a longer growing season, with as high as four crops from the same land during the year.

It is found, too, that Florida is one of the best timbered States, the cost of building material is reasonable, that it is unnecessary to build expensive frostproof houses, that the winter brings no heavy fuel and clothing bills, and both home building and home supporting expenses are at the minimum.

Immense Wealth in Florida

With her system of rivers and inland navigable waters, her extensive coast line and her great ocean ports at Jacksonville, Tampa, Pensacola, and Miami, cheap transportation is an assured feature and complete control of railroad rates is had.

Concerning the State let us quote from an article in Munsey's Magazine from the pen of Herbert N. Casson:

"Florida is a land of many colors—a rainbow land of green palms, red poinsettias, blue waters, white beaches and yellow oranges.

"Men are now finding gold in Florida—not in mines, but in forests, farms, fisheries, factories. Not all the gold that was found in Nevada and Arizona last year, for instance, would equal the wealth that went

to Florida for her fruits and vegetables; nor would the total output of Alaska gold mines be enough to buy the cigars of Tampa and Key West.

"There are enough golden oranges and grapefruit in her groves this winter to pay the price—\$5,000,000—that the United States paid to Spain for the territory in 1821. She will have enough cotton and tobacco, both of high quality, to bring her \$5,000,000 more; and the lumber that Floridians shipped from their five seaports in 1908 was sold for \$10,000,000.

"Phosphate is probably the most precious product to the State. It is a plant food,



Cultivating Irish Potatoes. Picture taken about month ago

used to enrich the soil. A village doctor was the first to discover it, thirty years ago, and since then Florida has sold \$60,000,000 worth, mostly to Germany and other European countries. This sum seems large enough, but it is a trifle compared to what Florida will make from her phosphate when she learns to use every ton of it, at home, enriching the soil of her own farms and gardens.

"What with the buried treasure of phosphate, the riches of her soil and trees and waters and workshops, and the earnings of the tourist season, the people who now live in Florida have a yearly income of more than \$125,000,000. This amount, we may observe, to the countrymen of Ponce de Leon, is very nearly equal to the present governmental revenue of the kingdom of Spain.

"It can be said that no other State is farther from the gates of death than Florida. Her average death rate is about six per 1,000, and she has seventy-one veterans who have rounded out a full century and are still in the land of the living.

Spirit of Progress Everywhere

"She allows the soil and sunshine to work for her every day, so that farming becomes a continuous performance. If a crop fails, there is no need to wait until next year; you can plant a new crop tomorrow."

The growth of Florida is noteworthy. In the twenty years just gone by its strides

have been wonderful. The increase in population has been large.

The entire east coast of the State, from Jacksonville to Miami, has been entirely changed from wilderness to civilization. Nor did the march of progress stop at Miami. It extended southward to the extremity of the mainland and leaped across to the heretofore inaccessible Florida keys, causing them to reflect the light of electric lamps, to echo the whistle of the iron horse, and give place to busy and profitable industry.

In no less remarkable degree the west coast has also shown development, while in middle Florida the growth in all lines has been phenomenal.

Railroad building has been carried on at a rapid rate, and is still being pushed and will continue to be pushed until the steel rails penetrate every section, and every navigable river, stream, and lake will pulsate with commerce.

Towns and cities have grown up everywhere, and still others are growing and striving for supremacy. Almost every setting sun records the information of a new community. New industries are being established in all quarters of the State. Thrift and enterprise are notable everywhere. Land is being cleared; new groves are being planted, and new enterprises of



Field of Potatoes near Bunnell, now about ready to be shipped

every nature are springing up all over the State, and the busy hum of industry goes on in every section. The spirit of progress is not confined to any one section of the State—it is State wide and State long.

The cause of all this is attributed in a measure to the influence of the natural growth of the country at large, but it is due mainly to the superior advantages which are causing new settlers to rush into the State singly and by families. Almost countless numbers of people in the north and west have had the wonders of Florida revealed to them, and they are coming to take advantage of and to enjoy them.

As the population of the United States increases and the communities of the north become denser, the necessity for engaging in agriculture seems to impel thousands to go to the farms, where life is easier. New England, the Middle States, nor even the great West seems to satisfy these people. Nor are the experienced farmers of those sections satisfied with their surroundings. They are seeking to better themselves. This is possible in Florida.

—Chicago Tribune

"Don't Be a Slave to the Whistle and the Bell, or the Nickel Alarm Clock."

Read the Following Splendid Article by Mr. J. H. Peardon, Who believes That Every Man and Woman Should Have a "Chance."

The April number of the Home Builder came the other day like a warm breath from the South, and renewed in my veins what I call the "Florida fever."

Maine is a delightful place for a month or two in the warmest part of the summer, but for about nine months of the year we must wear heavy clothing and huddle up to fires in order to be comfortable.

Last year we had no summer at all, there being, if I remember aright, just two warm days. I do remember distinctly that the frost took my sweet corn before I got a taste of it. Was he not right who said that it was a great mistake that the bears and Indians were ever driven out of this part of the country?

Have you ever noticed the effect of the weather upon human spirits? When the sun rises bright and clear, the people you meet have a hopeful face and a cheery "Good-morning," but blot out the sun with clouds, and let the air be raw and penetrating, and fewer persons are abroad and they are morose, moody, pessimistic and ready to take offense. I believe that the sun piercing the clouds at the right moment has been the author of many a good resolution.

Florida is remarkable for the number of its clear days. It is the gem land of the South. It is the Egypt for sunshine and balmy breezes, but, unlike Egypt, does not depend for its sustenance upon a river Nile. Tickle its sands and you get a luscious crop; bore down almost anywhere, and up gushes an eternal fountain.

It isn't living to be confined within walls the greater part of the year, or to shiver in wind and fog when one goes about his avocations. I call that imprisonment, and I often pity the great mass of men and women who work for others in factories,

offices and stores, for they are prisoners all their days. They are the slaves of the whistle and the bell, or of a nickel-alarm clock. Rising before it is day, and returning home in the darkness, they are driven like beasts of burden.

They are driven by the owners of the machines, who appropriate all they earn, handing back only enough to keep soul and body in condition for further service. And



Mr. J. H. Peardon

if they strike and win, the master adds the amount he is obliged to pay in extra wages to the price of the goods produced, and the man who buys those goods passes on the burden to the one who must have what he has to sell, and so on—until it gets back to the striker in the form of increased cost of living, and he is just where he was before.

Those who work for others are in the same class with horses, oxen and donkeys. Working animals must be housed and fed, but we figure out to a nicety how that can be most cheaply done. So do our bosses figure out their business and determine the

least amount that will keep the workers coming to do their bidding.

If this is not true, you may call me a liar. I have worked in a factory and I have worked as a clerk. Only a few, the necessary few, get anything like a decent wage. The masters and their hired writers encourage us to work harder and get one of the high-paid jobs. "There is room at the top," they tell us, which is on a par with telling all the boys in school that they can become the President of the United States.

Land value is the foundation of all value. If we would be independent we must have access to the land and own the tools with which we work. And a better day will come when the workers wake up to the truths which I have here presented. But just now let every one who can, get a foothold on the soil under the most favorable conditions possible.

Others have written about the advantages of the Bunnell-Dupont region. I do not know that I can add to what they have said. I visited the colony last June. I found the village up-to-date and as represented. The weather was lovely, none too warm to suit me, and the cultivated lands were covered with growing vegetables. The people already settled there were for the most part from the North and West, and were the sort of people one meets with at home.

If I were alone in the world I should not fear to go to Bunnell with very little money, but with a family I should want to have enough to put my land in shape and tide me over the first season. The failures in Florida are due to getting into the wrong place, and to not having sufficient means to properly prepare the new land.

Herein, then, lies the reason why I am now paying for my little Bunnell farm, and why I am still digging in the North instead of transferring my labors immediately to the South. As James Whitcomb Riley says: "I got to thinkin' of it—and it happened thataway."

Yours truly,
J. H. PEARDON, (Maine).



Train Load of Gravel on Side Track at Bunnell.

HARD SURFACE STREETS AND SIDEWALKS FOR BUNNELL

Messrs. Lambert and Moody continue to improve the city. The latest improvements made by these gentlemen is the laying of concrete sidewalks and shell streets on the following streets: State street from Moody boulevard to Lambert avenue; Church street from Moody boulevard to Lambert avenue, and Lambert avenue from Main street to Church street. The people of Bunnell should be proud of the many improvements that these two gentlemen have made in the city.

ANOTHER LETTER OF PRAISE

Ronceverte, W. Va., Mch. 26, 1913.

Bunnell Development Co.,

Dear Sirs:—I am sending you P. O. money order for \$20.00 final payment on my land. Please send deed to the above address.

I wish to thank you for the kind way you have treated me in regard to payments, etc. The \$200.00 that I paid for this land is clear money to me. I would have spent it and could not have had anything to show for it now; but thanks to your easy payment plan I now have five acres paid for. I will not be able to visit your town before next winter on account of my business here, but want to spend a while with you next winter. With best wishes for a greater Bunnell,

I am yours very truly,
C. L. SWEET.



Beautiful Road Bordered by Date Palms, Three Miles From Bunnell Colony.

AMBITIOUS ORANGE TREES

Something unusual in the shape of an orange tree has been reported this week by Mr. Montgomery, on whose Sanchez Street place the little trees are growing. The two trees, which are about nine inches high, are eleven months old and are in blossom. To those who are familiar with orange growing this is quite unusual and numbers of people have visited Mr. Montgomery's place during the past week to view the wonder.—*St. Augustine Record.*

The independent man is the man who owns himself and a little productive land

MR. MILLER GIVES HIS REASONS FOR
LIKING FLORIDA BETTER

THAN OREGON

Dear Sir:—

I have been asked why I like Florida better than Oregon, and I am going to tell you some of the reasons:

First. It has a better climate. In Florida you do not have to wade through snow, slush, and mud six months in the year, and dust six inches deep the other six months.

Second. Florida is a better vegetable country, where three crops can be raised on the same land each year, while here in Oregon we can raise but one.

Third. There is a better market in Florida. There is no decent market here. Portland is the only market we have.

There has been no sale for potatoes here since last September above 50 cents per cwt., and very slow sale at that. Mine are all in the cave yet from last year—90 sacks—no one to buy them. There are thousands of sacks in cellars and caves in this country that must be fed soon or they will spoil.

Fourth. There is better transportation from Florida.

Fifth. Florida has better wagon roads than we have here.

Sixth. You can raise a variety of fruits in Florida which we cannot here, such as Japanese persimmons, figs, bananas, pecans, grape-fruit, and the best oranges I ever ate.

Seventh. And last but not least, it cost \$100.00 an acre here to clear land, while in Florida you can get it cleared at an average cost of \$15.00 to \$20.00 per acre.

Yours respectfully,

E. E. MILLER,
(Oregon).

HAPPY REMEMBRANCES OF BUNNELL

Dear Sir:—

We reached home safely and found this State pretty cold. I certainly can look back with pleasure to my visit to Florida, for we have here today about an inch of snow.

I should enjoy being there again today, to go over to the grove and enjoy some more of those fine places.

I am enclosing you a few pictures which we made while in Florida. I think they are pretty fine and will keep some of them to look at when I feel that I want to refresh my memory of Bunnell.

Will be glad if you will kindly arrange to have me receive a copy of Home Builder when you have these pictures reproduced.

Very truly yours,

JAMES I. HOSICK,
(Kentucky).

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Montreal, Canada, Mch., 1913.

Bunnell Development Company,
Bunnell, Fla.

Gentlemen:—Enclosed find \$25.00 which cancels our indebtedness to your company.

I wish to thank you most heartily for the generous consideration you have shown me and I hope to know you personally before long, for you certainly do things on the square.

Sincerely yours,

CLIFFORD DEMPSEY.

A Wise Man Changes His Mind—A Fool Never.



The picture above is of a man who was born and bred in Florida. He could have bought land around Bunnell for a few dollars an acre some years ago, but he failed to see his opportunity.

By and by, the Bunnell Development Company was organized and began selling land for \$20.00 an acre—still he did not buy. Then the price of the land was advanced to \$25.00 an acre and he began to wake up and bought twenty acres of land at \$25.00 an acre, on April 3, 1911.

Why did he change his mind? Because he saw the same kind of land only twelve miles from Bunnell, which he could have purchased for a few dollars an acre a short time ago, selling for as high as \$200.00 and \$300.00 an acre.

The above picture shows this farmer hauling to town a wagon load of potatoes for which he received in the neighborhood of \$3.50 per barrel this year, as potatoes are cheap. He can raise sixty barrels of these potatoes on an acre of the same land he could have bought once for the price which two barrels of potatoes bring him this year.

Since this man secured his land at \$25.00 an acre, the price has been advanced to \$30.00 and on June 1st will be advanced again.

Are you wise enough to see your opportunity? If so, send in your order at once, if you have not already purchased a farm.

If your order is mailed before June 1st, you will secure a choice farm at \$30.00 an acre.

Don't delay like the man above—you will always regret it if you do. Send your orders to

Thomas A. Verdenius, 1103, 108 So. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.