

Isaiah David Hart was the next settler at the Cow Ford; he came in January, 1821. Hart was not a stranger to this locality, for he was a Patriot of 1812. Accounts of the store that had been opened at the Cow Ford reached him while he was living on his farm near the St. Marys River; hearing of Dawson & Buckles' success and that John Brady was doing well, he decided to move here and locate permanently.<sup>c</sup> On May 12, 1821, I. D. Hart bought 18 acres from L. Z. Hogans (bounded east by Market Street and south by the river), paying \$72 for the 18 acres, it is said in cattle. He built a double log cabin (about where the Church club now stands, on the south side of Forsyth Street between Market and Newnan); brought his household goods here by boat and his family across country. Daniel C. Hart, his brother, came at the same time.<sup>a</sup>

### First Hotel

Up to this time, the traveler wishing to spend the night in the future metropolis of Florida, had a miserable experience ahead of him.<sup>b</sup> John Brady was kind-hearted and offered such as he had, but his cabin afforded little that was inviting, and his guests usually slept under the trees with a saddle for a pillow. Often Dawson & Buckles came to the rescue by offering the use of the attic above the store, and occasionally in special cases spread stock blankets on the store-house floor for the comfort of some visitor. Dawson & Buckles were the first to see the need of better accommodations for those who wished to stay and see the country, and they built a frame house east of their store (at the southwest corner of Adams and Market Streets) for a boarding house. It was constructed of lumber sawed in a sawpit and was the first frame house in this section of the country. Upon its completion in 1821, its owners sent down to St. Johns Bluff for Mrs. Sarah Waterman to come and take charge. Upon her arrival the population of the settlement increased one hundred per cent, as she brought her four daughters and two young sons with her.<sup>a</sup>

\*They were Helen; Ann (married Joshua Hickman); Louisa (married Wm. H. Burritt); Lydia (married Milo Pinkston); Adin. The name of the other son is not known. Mrs. Waterman died Sept. 4, 1830. Adin and Lydia figured in the LaVilla land titles.