

1903

the warship "Alert". The city was fully decorated. The stage lay between the St. Johns River and the carnival grounds on Eighth Street, and for five days the crowds surged back and forth with a spirit of fun and frolic and such good nature that during the week the police made only 75 arrests. Each night the festivities closed with a spectacular display of Pain's fireworks. There were elaborate coronation ceremonies: W. F. Coachman was King and Mrs. W. Pruden Smith Queen of the Carnival.

1904

April 29: First games of the South Atlantic Baseball League: At Macon, Macon 10, Jacksonville 2; at Augusta, Augusta 7, Columbia 8; at Savannah, Savannah 0, Charleston 3.

August 30: The new Duval theatre was christened by Jacksonville Rifles' Home Minstrels.

September 20: New ferryboat Duval, built at Jacksonville, made her first trip on regular run between South Jacksonville and Jacksonville.

October 24-29: Trades Carnival. The carnival this year was successful, but not as elaborate as that of 1903. Rain interfered considerably with the festivities.

October 25: Fire in the E. O. Painter fertilizer plant in the viaduct section caused a damage of \$30,000.

1905

March 5: A boiler explosion in the city electric light plant in Springfield at 4:45 p. m., caused the death of Fred W. Ellis, chief engineer; L. N. Cairo, a visitor, and John Davis, negro fireman at the plant. A part of the building was wrecked by the explosion.

March 16: The owners of the old St. James hotel property (the entire square bounded by Duval, Church, Laura and Hogan Streets) offered to convey the property to the City of Jacksonville for the sum of \$75,000 if the city would accept the same and forever maintain it as a public park to be known as St. James Park. There were no strings tied to