

Their schedule to Palatka was the same and each round-trip was a race from which they frequently returned only a few minutes apart. The passengers entered into the spirit of these races with the greatest enthusiasm, and accounts of these exciting incidents, sometimes from the pen of nationally prominent people, often appeared in the Northern press.ⁱ We read "Hundreds of people go to the wharves to see the steamboats off. Strains of music fill the air and all is hurry and bustle. Just as the minute hand of the clock reaches the hour of departure, they are off; the music grows fainter and fainter as it recedes, and the crowds return to the fashionable promenade on Bay Street, to assemble again the next day".^j Everything was done for the interest and pleasure of the passengers, even the negro deck hands collected at night to sing their quaint, weird songs and lullabies for the entertainment of the tourists aboard.^k The Northern visitors returned to their homes carrying with them lasting dream-like recollections of these trips on the historic St. Johns.^l

With the building of the railroads southward from Jacksonville the passenger boats, one by one, were sent away to other waters.ⁱ

The D. H. Mount

In 1865 the D. H. Mount started running between New York and Jacksonville, but on her second voyage from New York she was lost, presumably off Hatteras on October 23, 1865. There were 23 persons on board bound for Florida, among them some prominent Jacksonville people, including S. L. Burritt, and Mrs. J. C. Greeley and son. Nothing was ever heard of the Mount and all of her passengers perished.^h

The following is a list of boats that have plied the St. Johns since the war.[†] At one time or another, some of these boats were attached to different lines, hence the duplication of names in the list.

Jacksonville-Savannah Service

This service was resumed after the close of the war. The boats that ran on this line were Helen Getty (old St. Johns), Lizzie Baker, Sylvan Shore (New York-Harlem

[†]Credit to Captain H. D. DeGrove (President of Independent Line of Steamers) for the greater part of this information.