

are no known copies of the paper in existence.^c The Tropical Plant was still going in December, 1844. Sometime after this Mr. Grouard changed the name of the paper to the Florida Statesman, and it was published under this name to at least September 13, 1845,^b the last definite record of it.

Florida Whig and People's Advocate—About April, 1845, T. T. Russell, formerly an editor of the St. Augustine News, came to Jacksonville to conduct a temporary political paper in the interest of I. D. Hart, who was running for public office. This paper was called the Florida Whig and People's Advocate, but the length of its name had nothing to do with the length of its life, for it was in existence only about a month. Temporary political papers were by no means uncommon in those days.^b

Florida News.—The News was moved from St. Augustine to Jacksonville in the autumn of 1845 and published by A. C. Gillett and A. B. Hazzard. It was an old, well-established paper, Democratic in politics and was the mouth-piece and did the newspaper fighting for the party in East Florida.^d Among the early editors after removal to Jacksonville were, George Powers, Dr. Charles Byrne, and J. F. Rogers.^e The News plant was burned out in 1854, but the paper was afterward reestablished, followed by a change of ownership and name.^d

Florida Republican.—This was a Whig paper established in 1843 by Columbus Drew, who was its editor until 1855. Mr. Drew was on the editorial staff of the American before coming to Jacksonville in 1848. With the establishment of the Republican the town of Jacksonville had two of the best newspapers in the State, one Democratic (News) and the other Whig; they were often engaged in bitter political controversies and fought a political war that was sensational in character. The editors, however, do not seem to have been involved in any duels. The Republican plant was also burned out in the fire of 1854,^d but was reestablished. For a few months in 1856 the paper was issued as a semi-weekly, possibly the first semi-weekly paper in Florida.^b Ownership changed to W. W. Moore,^e and about 1858 the name of the paper was changed to St. Johns Mirror.^d