

**SOME "FLORIDA INCIDENTS."**

BY COL. O. T. GREEN

Practical Joke that Became National.—How a Florida Citizen Removed a United States Official.

Written Especially for the Ocala Banner.

Of Captain Albert Willard many good stories are told.

Among others, I now recall one which happened shortly after the civil war when Willard was residing in Cedar Key. He was a good sailor and had commanded a steamer in the passenger trade between Havana and Cedar Key, but at that time was in the mercantile business at the latter point.

Three or four of his friends from the north came down on a visit to him and he took them on a cruise in a very handsome, staunch sail boat that he had, fishing and hunting along the gulf coast, with which coast no man was better acquainted than he, being a thorough hunter and fisherman.

It happened that at that time Anclote light had a change of keepers, and the old keeper that had been there twenty years or more had, through a political deal, been removed and a new keeper established, who had been in the position about a week. The old keeper had removed with his family to the main land, about a mile away. Captain Willard landed at the lighthouse and telling the keeper that this was a board of lighthouse inspectors he proceeded to examine the lights, etc., and finally gave instructions to the keeper to come before the board on the main land for examination and trial.

The old keeper prepared a sumptuous repast under the great live oak trees, and produced some of the finest of smuggled brandy, wine and cigars. The new keeper came before the pseudo board, was examined at length and learnedly by the members thereof; was dismissed from his position as incompetent, and ordered to leave the lighthouse immediately, which he did, and the old lighthouse keeper was re-established.

Hoisting his sail, the captain was cruising down the coast when he noticed afar off a sail. On closer examination through his glasses he found out that she was a lighthouse tender. Turning to his friends the captain said:

"Boys, we are in trouble, and the best thing for me to do is to land you all on an island here, while I go in and find out what the results of this boat's trip is."

Now it happened that these same friends, a few years before, had taken their friend, the captain, with them to Niagara Falls, and carrying him under the water fall had suddenly extinguished the lights, and with the guides had left him there to two or three hours' solitude. The result of which joke had cost the captain many a bottle of champagne; and so the island that he chose to maroon his friends on was a sandy island with a few piles of oyster shells to form high spots above high water, and a very few stunted trees, and—solitude.

The captain sailed away, and that night ran into Cedar Key, hid his boat and proceeded to call on his friend, the collector of the port.

Here he found that his action had created a great furor. Orders had been received from the treasury department to capture him at any cost, whatever. The whole patrol of the gulf coast had been ordered to be on the lookout for him, and the collector said to him:

"Captain, you have played the very devil this time, sure!"

After waiting a day or two for better information, the captain sailed back to his Robinson Crusoe friends and found, as he expected, that they had had experiences which more than compensated him for his trip under the waterfall. Between the deer flies, sand flies and mosquitos their faces were hardly recognizable; but they were so glad to see the captain and get away from the island that they very shortly forgot all their troubles, and the new dangers which the captain told them of were as nothing to those of the Devil's island which they had left behind, and as

one of them stated, he "would rather spend ten years in the penitentiary than one more night in that cursed place."

The captain took them to Cedar Key at night, locked them in a box car attached to a freight train, and supplied them with food and drink, and imposed the necessity of the greatest quiet upon them. The captain who had taken the engineer and train crew into his confidence, then went back and went to sleep in the caboose.

Arriving at Baldwin, Florida, near Jacksonville, the captain got together five or six of his old friends, and telling them that they must act as United States marshals, he had them seize his box car friends and lock them up as prisoners of the United States government, charged with treason, allowing no communication with the outside world.

He then proceeded to Jacksonville, and after an interview with his senior United States senator, made arrangements to go on to Washington with him. Before doing so, however, he went down to Baldwin and had a jail delivery, shipping his friends away to their Northern homes, very much delighted with their escape from the toils of the law and Florida adventures.

Arriving in Washington the captain with the Senator called on the assistant secretary of War, who was a very estimable gentleman. The senator introduced to the secretary his friend Captain Albert Willard of Florida. Jokingly the secretary said, "You are not the desperado of that name who is now being hanged for in Florida?" The captain assured the secretary that he was. He was very much astonished but after he had listened to the captain's story of the trial of the light house keeper, of the plight and of the flight of his friends the secretary laid back and laughed and laughed and said that on account of the story he would have to see that he was forgiven, and this was done, but not until the captain had told the secretary of War, the head of the light-house department and the President, his story, which in his droll manner and inimitable style caused them to be convulsed with laughter and he was allowed to go thence warned never to repeat the offense.

**In Honor of Two Future Brides**

One of the most fashionable and brilliant entertainments ever given in the handsome rooms of the Phoenix Club was the ball given Wednesday evening in honor of the engagement of Miss Sadie Goldberg with Mr. L. Fendig, and Miss Rosalie Benjamin with Mr. Morris Moss, of Atlanta, by their friends who are members of the club. Miss Sadie Goldberg's handsome toilette of red crepe de chene was exceedingly becoming to her brunette beauty, and Miss Rosalie Benjamin never looked lovelier than in her dainty costume of white silk. Till's full orchestra supplied music during the evening, and Fried furnished a most delicious supper. The supper, which was served in courses, included all the delicacies of the season, and many toasts to the young people were drunk in champagne. The tables were beautifully decorated, pink carnations and asparagus ferns being lavishly used. Mr. Moss, Miss Rosalie Benjamin's fiance, came down from his Atlanta home especially for this entertainment.—Jacksonville Metropolis.

Miss Benjamin is well known in Ocala, this having formerly been her home.

Mr. W. C. Bull, the contractor and builder, who has for some time been in Crystal River engaged in erecting residence buildings, came up Saturday to spend Sunday with his family. He is a firm believer in the virtues of printer's in as a business stimulant and his card will be found elsewhere in today's paper.

**A PROBLEM SOLVED**

A Car Which Makes Perishable Stuff Imperishable.

The Florida correspondent of the New York Packer gives the following description of a car which will interest Florida shippers:

The new Johnson Automatic Refrigerator Line cars which made a trip from Chicago to Tampa loaded with meats for Swift & Co., is attracting much attention. This car left Chicago March 6, and was exhibited at Tampa, Plant City and Lakeland after being unloaded and the ice boxes were still half full on March 18. The intense cold, dry air is generated by a blower attached to the car axle and operates in either direction the car may run.

The self registering thermometer in this car shows from 32 to 34 degrees since the car started, and surely this is a fine record for vegetables. The car originally carried out 6,000 pounds of ice and the trip from Chicago consumed 2,075 pounds. This car was patented three years ago by D. E. Johnson, at that time general constructing engineer for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad.

Since then he has been carrying on extensive experiments until now he has a car as nearly perfect, apparently, as can be constructed, and in carrying fruits and vegetables with pers have a positive record every hour of the day or night while en route. It is expected they will load this car at Lakeland with strawberries for the north.

As an attempted solution of the problem of transporting perishable produce from Florida, a great deal of interest is felt in this car and it is thought that it meets all the requirements for carrying all kinds of fruits and produce properly, as it is of a distinctly new type, carrying many valuable yet simple improvements over all others. This car is similar in appearance to all other refrigerator cars.

**HOW COLD AIR IS OBTAINED.**

The apparatus which renders the car so superior is located on the axle and is a simple bearing, which adjusts itself to all rates of speed of the train, and to all sharp curves and switches. The movement of the axle furnishes power to a roller bearing, frictionless connection, which operates a fan forcing the air through the coil of pipes where it is chilled and dried by the action of the ice, the moisture deposited being carried off by a patented device. The dry, cold air is then forced through the car, driving out the moisture-laden air through radiators in the bottom of the car, through which it is led back to the coils and then passes through the same process.

The chill and cold air in the car is not only furnished by ice, but tanks under the ice boxes in which the air coils are located, having a capacity of ten barrels of ice water, save all the melted ice and this increases the amount of chill derived from the cargo of ice taken aboard at the starting point. The result of this process is to keep the temperature even all over the car and to carry away the natural moisture and steam arising from the latent heat always found in all perishable fruits and vegetables.

"Woodmar," in the Ocala Banner is explained. It is one of the loveliest spots on earth, the winter home on Lake Weir of David S. Woodrow, a Florida phosphate prince, who seeking to have good neighbors, has platted the property and is offering to sell a few lots to desirable people for homes. He adopts the unique word, "Woodmar," which constantly appearing in the Ocala Banner provokes the reader by "damnable iteration." That's why this paper denounced the reoccurrence of the word as an unmitigated nuisance, but it is a very pretty name and the location on Lake Weir is one of surpassing loveliness. — Punta Gorda Herald.

Mr. Edward Hiller, of this city and Mr. Harry P. Johnson, of Asheville, N. C., returned home Saturday afternoon from a brief business visit to Gainesville.

**AN OIL GUSHER**

IN OLD HERNANDO

Great Excitement Prevails Around Fivay—Flow Was so Strong Pipe Had to be Capped.

Brooksville, March 30.—(Special to Times-Union.)—In boring for water at the new plant of the Aripeka sawmill today, at Fivay, thirty miles south of here, on the Brooksville & Hudson railroad, a fine grade of oil was struck at a depth of 200 feet. The vein was so strong it had to be capped. Great excitement prevails. Fivay is the present terminal of the proposed railroad from Brooksville to Tampa.

**Ambidexterity**

Sir James Sawyer recently gave a lecture on the use of both hands. He said that if this science should be taught it would be easily seen of what great service the equal use of both hands would lead to. He says that the best exercise is writing with the neglected hand; that if a man learns to write well with either hand almost all the other unimpaired graces will be added unto him.

**A Very Pretty Compliment.**

In renewing his subscription to the Ocala Banner, an old time friend writes as follows:

"After my best wishes, find check for \$1 for the 'Ocala Banner.' May it never cease to wave, and may it be years yet before its editor will need Dr. Osler's prescription."

Mr. James R. Moorhead, of Ocala, was in town Sunday on his way to Port Inglis to do some work on the Barker Chemical company's works. Mr. Moorhead was at one time county surveyor of Marion county, but is now doing engineering work with his headquarters at Ocala. At present he is engaged in putting in a spur at Holder for the Dutton Phosphate Co.—Dunnellon Advocate.

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N. C. Apple Brandy	3.25	3.25	4.85	9.70
Eureka Malt	4.00	4.00	6.00	12.00
Eureka N. C. Peach Brandy	4.75	4.75	7.00	14.00
N. C. Peach Brandy	3.25	3.25	4.85	9.70
Eureka N. C. Corn	3.25	3.25	4.85	9.70
Eureka N. C. Corn, XX	3.00	3.00	4.60	9.30
Eureka N. C. Corn, XXX	2.75	2.75	4.15	8.30
Eureka N. C. Corn, XXXX	2.50	2.50	3.75	7.50
Old Crow Bourbon	4.50	4.50	6.75	13.50
Sunny Brook Rye	3.75	3.75	5.65	11.30
Sunny Brook Sour Mash	3.75	3.75	5.65	11.30
Echo Spring	4.50	4.50	6.75	13.50
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Apple Brandy	Victoria Rye, Special Drops Rye, Medical quality
Holland Gin	LEMP ST. LOUIS BEER
Geneva Gin	Per doz.
North Carolina Corn	Falstaff
Mountain Corn	Extra Pale
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Medford Rum	Malt, extra dark
Grape Brandy	Coburger, imported
King of Kentucky Bourbon	Basu Ale, pints
Assortment Allowed on all Goods of Same Price.	Gauness Stout, pints

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