citizens in regard to the building of jetties at the mouth of the river.

October 24: State Park Association incorporated with a capital of $100,000. Stock was subscribed by 41 prominent citizens. Articles of incorporation approved December 2, 1878. The purpose of the association was to promote the agricultural, horticultural and industrial interests of the State of Florida and to prepare and keep in order suitable buildings and grounds in the vicinity of Jacksonville for the permanent exhibit of the products of Florida.

1879-1881

This was an epochal period in the history of Jacksonville, for it was the beginning of the transportation development that made this city the gateway to Florida. Two main causes attracted this development, namely, the tourist travel and the orange industry of the St. Johns River section.

The Tourist Travel

The tourist travel to Florida had grown constantly during the decade 1870-1880, each winter season showing a large increase in visitors. The journey south was a tedious one and when the final change of cars was made at Live Oak and the last lap finished over the Florida Central into Jacksonville, the tired tourist breathed a sigh of great relief. The hotels were here to take care of him, but even in that day they were often filled to overflowing. Jacksonville was headquarters. The side trips were up the St. Johns and Ocklawaha Rivers, or to Tocoi, thence to St. Augustine. The circuit was a small one and he soon returned to Jacksonville for the winter.

Jacksonville was a winter city four times its summer size; it was known in those days as "The Winter City in Summer Land". Its municipal attractions were few and the whole interest of the tourist seemed centered in the climate and the fact that he was in Florida. The hotels and the steamboats got a considerable portion of the tourists' spendings, but they did not get it all. The figures are not available, but large sums were spent here in what may be called the romance trade. On Bay Street were bazaars and stores filled