the receipts and expenses are the same for the current year as last, the deficiency on the 1st of June, 1884, will be $4,146.31. There were, however, some extraordinary expenses incurred the past year which we hope to avoid the present year, and the receipts are steadily increasing, so that we may be able by close economy and an appropriation of $2,500 from the city, to operate to July 1, 1884."

The result of all this agitation was to create a spirit of retrenchment in the city's finances, and the retrenchment began as usual by reducing the police force.

Although the year was a most disturbing one for the politicians, private enterprises and business in general went right ahead. The movement of real estate was rather active. The Times-Union in November, published the following: "The number of buildings completed since June, or now in course of construction is 83; rooms added, 404; one paint shop; one blacksmith shop; one palmetto factory; one library; one school house, barns, stables, etc., in the construction of which $178,860 was expended. The statement includes all buildings within the territory bounded by Hogans Creek on the east and north, west by Clay Street, and south by the river. If the suburbs were added the list would be almost double. Yet with the increase, we have not enough accommodations even for our own people. Last winter saw people begging shelter at any price, and even now houses for rent or lease can scarcely be found."

In October, the contract was awarded for building the Jacksonville and Atlantic Railway to the Beach, the prime movers in the enterprise being Jacksonville men.

1884

January 23: Opening reception of the Jacksonville Club, one of the principal social events of the year. The club was incorporated during the preceding summer and purchased the Christy property at the northwest corner of Laura and Adams Streets as a club house. The Jacksonville Club went out of existence in November, 1886.

February 12: Opening of the 9th annual State Fair at the fairgrounds in Fairfield. The fair this year was not a financial success.