The Mallory Line

In 1878, the government began dredging work at the mouth of the river to deepen the channel at the bar. With this improvement the Mallory Line opened a steamer service to Jacksonville, on November 5, 1878, when the Western Texas came in. This was the largest vessel that had ever entered the river up to that time and her arrival was marked by a great celebration in Jacksonville. The completion of the Fernandina & Jacksonville railroad in 1881 caused the abandonment of the service in April of that year. The steamers engaged in the Jacksonville service were: Western Texas, City of Dallas, City of San Antonio.

Clyde Line Passenger Service

The first steamer of the Clyde Line, the Cherokee, Captain Leo Vogel, steamed up the river Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1886, amidst the boom of Wilson's battery and a boisterous welcome by river craft. The arrival of the big steamer was celebrated by a banquet and a general jubilee. The line opened with one ship a week, the Cherokee and the Seminole being assigned for this purpose. The Seminole's first arrival was on December 1, 1886.

During the yellow fever epidemic of 1888, the Clyde service was discontinued for three months. At its close in December, the service was resumed and two new ships were added, the Iroquois and the Yemassee, with a schedule of two sailings a week. The Delaware was assigned to the Jacksonville service for the winter of 1889-90, and a schedule of three sailings a week was maintained during that winter. The Algonquin was built and placed in the service, her first arrival being on October 3, 1890. The Comanche arrived on December 7, 1895. These additions gave Jacksonville a permanent schedule of three sailings a week to Charleston and New York. In 1901, the Apache and the Arapahoe were both built and placed on the line, the Apache arriving on her maiden voyage June 22, and the Arapahoe on August 5. In 1905, the Huron was converted from a freighter and placed on the passenger run for a number of years. Then the Mohawk came, making her first entrance into port November 10, 1908, just 20 years after the inauguration of the service, and again the occasion was celebrated. Last in the list was