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BY THOMAS W. PEGUES,

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From the Washington Globe.

THE PENINSULA OF FLORIDA.—Great is the error which has prevailed as to the value and importance of this peninsula.—It is a division of territory of great commercial, agricultural, political, and military importance, and the highest considerations of national policy require it to be reclaimed from the savages, covered with our population, and made subservient to all our views of strength, security, and interest.

In the first place, it is a country of great extent, not less than forty thousand square miles, counting what is east of the Suwannee, up to the Georgia line. This great extent of country is, what its descriptive appellation imports, almost an island, being surrounded by the sea, except where it touches Georgia and West Florida. It presents a sea coast of nearly one thousand miles in circuit, and must necessarily have maritime interests and a maritime population, engaged in commerce, in the fisheries, in the coasting trade, and in trade with the West Indies. Independently of the pursuits of agriculture, it will support a numerous population.

In the next place, it is a salient angle of the country; it is a tongue of land projecting itself three hundred miles beyond the general line of our Southern frontier, and extending itself down to the neighborhood of the British possessions in the Bahama Islands, and the Spanish possessions of Cuba; and it is surrounded by islands and keys belonging to the United States, and which must be possessed and defended by us, or which will be occupied by others to our annoyance, and to their dominion in the Gulf of Mexico. In a military point of view, the complete possession, occupation and defence of the whole peninsula of Florida, is of the highest importance to the Southern States, and to the security of all our interests on the Gulf frontier. No military eye can overlook this peninsula in providing for the common defence of the country; and now, that we have undertaken to reclaim and possess it, no earthly consideration should induce the abandonment of that plan.

In the third place, and contrary to all previous belief, there is a great deal of good land in this peninsula, capable of forming compact and strong agricultural settlements, and extremely valuable on account of the productions it admits of.—On this point we present the following extract from Dr. Lawson's letter, which, being the result of personal observation, may be fully confided in:

"There is an extensive range of country and of very good land between the cove of the Withlacoochee and Silver Spring branch, at the head of navigation on the Ocklawaha, and there are many good tracts between these two rivers, extending to the Indian settlement called Pihakkikah, where there is another body of good land.

"This section of country is capable of supporting several thousand inhabitants; there is a plenty of game in it, and the rivers and lakes in the vicinity afford fish in abundance; and, withal, it has the advantage of water communication by the Withlacoochee with the Gulf of Mexico, and through the Ocklawaha and St. John's river with the Atlantic. In addition to those considerations, there are several healthy points in the country, particularly in the vicinity of Fort King; and here a large settlement should be made, as it will be the barrier between the Indians and the white settlements, and constitute the base of operations.

"There are some good lands on Talachopto, both near the head of the river where it is called Pease Creek, and on the lower banks near the head of Charlotte's harbor.

"There are three or four good tracts on or near the banks of the Colosa-Hatchee, particularly in the vicinity of Fort Thompson, at the great crossing of the river.—Fish and game abound, I believe, in this region. I am not so satisfied as to the healthfulness of this section of the country; but it should be occupied at all risks,

as it is on the line of the nearest practicable route between the Gulf and the Atlantic side of the peninsula.

"A few good tracts can be gotten on shores, and on islands within Marcus sound, near Cape Roman.

"There is a beautiful tract of land on Pavilion river, ten or twelve leagues south-east of Cape Roman, and some parcels of good land may be found on the banks of Shark river, and on the shores of Lake Manito, ten leagues still farther east.

"At Cape Sable there is a beautiful spot for a military post and depot for a colony, which should be established on a prairie, running east and by north from that Cape along the coast towards Cape Florida. This prairie runs immediately on the sea shore for thirty-five miles, then turns a little north and to the interior of the country. From what I saw of the products of the land on the cape and the islands in the vicinity, I am induced to believe that the soil of this prairie will produce in great perfection, grain and vegetables of every kind, with sugar cane, cotton, &c. &c. Through the prairie there are numerous clumps and groves of trees, which will afford both fuel and building timber for the settlers. The keys and sand-bars in front of the cape make an excellent harbor for steam-boats and other vessels drawing from six to ten feet water. The waters along this coast are full of turtle, and fish of every kind, and the prairie and woods around abound in game.

"The immediate site of Cape Sable is evidently healthy, as are almost all situations directly on the sea board; and I have no doubt that healthy positions can be gotten on the prairie, as the climate is delightful even in the summer season, from the prevalence of the sea breeze, or trade winds.

"There are also good tracts of land on New River, and a great body of it on Indian River, both on the Atlantic side of the peninsula; and near this last river, on St. Lucie's sound, another settlement should be made. This section of country, being within the influence of the sea atmosphere, should be healthy; fish abound in the rivers and sounds about, and game perhaps is plenty in the country."

General HERNANDEZ, a native of St. Augustine, and every way acquainted with East Florida, and the peninsula, also, thus speaks of it in a letter to the Military Committee of the Senate:

"I have read, with much interest, the letter of the Surgeon General, Dr. Lawson, and I was much pleased to find that he does not think the country as unhealthy as it has been represented. Coming from so disinterested a source, his statements cannot fail to remove impressions not less erroneous than prejudicial to the country. His description of the country around Cape Sable will doubtless attract attention, and I hope many of our citizens, who are looking to Texas and other foreign climes, may see it, and be induced to seek in Florida a residence where they will find a soil and climate equal to the best, and a country just as easy of access.

"Here I beg leave to say, that the country east of the Suwannee river is capable of sustaining an immense population, and must, in the political order of things, eventually form a State separate from that of Middle and West Florida, and greatly to their advantage and that of the country. In this part of Florida, exclusive of the extensive hammocks and very productive pine lands, there are great bodies of savanna, swamp, and meadow lands, composed of the richest soil; to wit: alluvial, clay, and marl, much of which, when properly reclaimed, will, south of St. Augustine, produce two crops of grain each year.

"On two hundred acres of reclaimed swamp lands, I made an average of thirty-six bushels of Cuba seed corn per acre, while, at the same time, a crop of sugar cane was growing on the same two hundred acres, the manufacture of which was prevented by the war.

"This is the only portion of the United States possessing a tropical climate. The advantages which, I believe, will grow out of the adoption, by Congress, of this measure, for the occupation and settlement of it, will soon render us, in some degree, independent of the West Indies, except in the article of coffee, which, I think, cannot be there raised, owing to the blighting winds of autumn passing across the narrow peninsula. Sugar, Cuba tobacco, and all the other staples and fruits of those islands, I believe will be cultivated in great abundance in Florida. These articles, together with the orange of the country, which is more highly valued than that of other places, with the aid of steamboats and railroads, can be sent to the Northern and Western States in full perfection.

"That Florida is also destined to be a great silk country is placed beyond a doubt.

"How different is the idea which these

responsible letters give us of East Florida from that which had been previously entertained. Heretofore the whole peninsula was thought to be uninhabitable swamps, or barren sand and pine lands, and the extremity of the peninsula especially a low, sunken, wet, dreary waste of sand and swamp. Instead of this we find large bodies of rich, dry land, capable of producing sugar, cotton, and Cuba tobacco; the pine barrens, as we would call them, capable of producing the most valuable tropical fruits; the orange, lemon, fig, plantain, cocoa, and the mulberry tree, in such perfection that, bearing leaves nine months in the year, it would feed three generations of silk worms in the year, and consequently give three crops of cocoons. Going to the extreme point of the peninsula, and there is found, in a single body, sixty miles of rich land, by twenty wide, all high and dry, with a lime rock foundation, like the Bahama islands possess, with a good harbor for vessels of light draught. All this presents the peninsula of Florida as a valuable country in a mere agricultural point of view; an aspect under which its contemplation must, by no means, be confined.

Fourth. The peninsula of Florida is valuable for its fisheries. All the officers who have served in that quarter, speak in terms of admiration, both of the quantity and excellence of the fish which are taken there, and that both on the Gulf and Atlantic shore. General Jesup, in relation to these fisheries, uses the following strong language: "The coasts of Florida afford as valuable fisheries in proportion to their extent, as the banks of Newfoundland." Great is the number of vessels, mostly Spanish, which are now engaged in fishing on these coasts. They fish nearly the whole year round, salting down the parcels as they are taken, and pushing off to Cuba, and other islands to make sale of their cargo as soon as the vessel is filled; thus finding a market within a few days' sail. With the peninsula settled, all this valuable fishing would fall into the hands of our citizens, and would be a source of great profit to them, and a fine nursery of seamen for the country. Great, also, are the supplies of turtles and oysters in this quarter. It is the best turtle ground on this side of the South seas, and New Orleans and the West Indies, & some of the Atlantic cities, now derive large supplies from thence.

The Spaniards who now fish in this quarter, are a main cause of the Indian hostilities. Upon the continuance of these hostilities depend the continuance of their lucrative occupations, with all the attendant advantages of robbing wrecked vessels. From these Spanish fishermen the Indians obtain abundant supplies of arms and ammunition, and are encouraged to continue the war. They and the Indians can hardly be told apart; and many officers are fully of opinion that they are engaged in many of the massacres which take place about the point of the peninsula.

Fifth. Florida is valuable for its forests of pine and live oak, the former for the lumber trade, and the latter for the navy.

Sixth. In connection with the keys and islands which line the coasts and belong to it, this peninsula is also to be of great value to it for salt. It approaches within two degrees of the tropic of Cancer, and has the advantage which most of the Bahama islands is the chief, for the manufacture of this prime necessary of life. Sunshine and sea water are the elements of this production, and these are possessed by the Southern extremity of the peninsula and the circumjacent isles and keys.

Seventh. This part of Florida is the only part of the United States which will produce the Cuba tobacco, generally worth about thirty dollars a hundred in the United States, and the fine flavor of which has made us so largely tributary to Cuba for cigars and snuff.

Eighth. All the coast of the peninsula is healthy. This is attested by all the officers who have been there. In this, the coasts, and especially the extreme point, resemble the islands of the West Indies, being open to the healthy, cooling and invigorating breezes of the sea. The health of the interior parts depend upon local causes, and may be considered on a par with the neighboring parts of Middle Florida and Georgia.

Ninth. The peninsula of Florida is the only part of the United States which possesses a tropical climate, and which can produce the tropical fruits and other products, for which we are now so largely tributary to foreign nations.

From these views, it is evident that the peninsula is not the uninhabitable morass, the barren pine waste and the insalubrious climate, which it had been thought to be, but that it is intrinsically valuable in itself, and able to sustain a large population in the various pursuits of commerce agriculture, fishing, lumbering, &c. and, from its position and form, indispensably necessary to be possessed, settled, protected and defended by the United States. Strong

military works should be at or near Cape Sable, and on other parts of the coast, and in connection with Key West and other islands. The protection of commerce require all our islands about the peninsula to be inhabited by an orderly population subjected to the restraints of law and government, and ready to succor, instead of to plunder vessels in distress.

The last and present administration, penetrated with these great national views, have commenced the business of removing the Indians, settling the country, and making the 40,000 square miles of East Florida, now a desert waste, overrun by savages, a fruitful and cultivated land, covered by inhabitants, protected by defences and tributary to the wealth, strength and security of the Union. With this view the country was purchased from the Indians by generous treaty stipulations years ago. With this view military campaigns have been carried on there at a great expense of life and money; with this view the armed occupation bill was brought, to establish 10,000 armed settlers in the country, and oay them in land for maintaining the possession of it. The Southern Conservatives, by joining the Abolitionists and Federalists to defeat the views of the Administration, defeated the this bill; and to their conduct the continuance of the war, with all its attendant calamities must be attributed.

LOOK OUT FOR MURREL MEN.—A few days since, two gentlemen in a carriage came into the neighborhood of Joseph Spurgen, Esq. in Davidson County, and sold a negro to Mr. Jacob Yokely for 600 dollars.

Mr. Yokely paid them in two horses, and \$100 cash—after which they left the neighborhood.

The negro seemed well pleased with his new home until Saturday night last, when he decamped, and has not been heard of since.

The presumption is, from circumstances that the whole was designed by the negro and men, to swindle Mr. Yokely out of his property. After the men left, he was seen to have a hundred dollar bill, and some specie.

Mr. Yokely is said to be an honest and hard working man, but not so well calculated to judge between a Murrel man and an honest man. It would be well for some of our honest farmers and tradesmen to be more on the alert towards strangers trafficking through the country in negroes and other stolen property.

Salisbury (N. C.) Carolinian

CINCINNATI, Nov. 28.

PORK.—On enquiring yesterday, we could not learn that a single hog had been purchased this fall by our pork packers, or that any contracts for hogs had been entered into.

Hogs are more abundant than money. Drivers cannot make sales or get offers.—Three dollars per hundred has been named but purchasers cannot be found to offer that price, or drovers to take it. We doubt whether there will be many hogs packed this winter. No one seems to have much money to invest in pork, and we understand our banks will be unable to discount a dollar for that or any other business.

Republican.

The Richmond Compiler says that the Railroad managers have fitted up a spacious car with three tiers of berths for passengers, so that the passenger from Richmond and dream himself to Fredricksburg, and vice versa.

SALISBURY, N. C. Nov. 22.

LYNCHING.—On Wednesday night, the 13th inst. six white men, some of whom were painted, and one colored person entered the house of Mr. Nathan Lambeth, Davidson county, seized his person and dragged him some distance from the house and there gagged him and inflicted on his body several hundred blows with sticks. Four of the party becoming somewhat alarmed at the consequences, fled, while the other two remained and renewed the beating, until Lambeth became insensible, and fainted.

In this situation the party left him, but, after coming to, he with great difficulty, reached the house, and on Thursday night died. It is stated by the physician who attended him, that he was scarred and lacerated from his neck to his heels, and that there was the appearance of several blows having been inflicted on his stomach and abdomen, the latter of which, no doubt, was the cause of his death. The circumstances that led to this glaring offence were these: A Mr. John Goss, who had formerly resided in that neighborhood, but lately returned from Missouri on business, had deposited with Mr. John Lee between eight and nine hundred dollars in specie, for safe keeping. This money was taken from the desk of Mr. L., on Sunday night the 3d inst.

Suspicion having rested on a negro man of Mr. Lee, he was taken up, examined, and confessed that he, in connection with Lambeth, the person lynched, had taken the money, and the greater portion of it was then in Lambeth's possession. This confession of the negro no doubt led to the deed which followed. The two persons who were more directly concerned in this transaction, it is said, have fled. As this matter will, no doubt, undergo a judicial investigation, and as the parties implicated are of very respectable standing, we refrain from making any comments on this outrage of all law, order, and civil liberty.

Since the above was in type, we learn that two of the individuals alluded to above John Goss and Lee Wharton have fled and no doubt, are on their way home to Missouri.

EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—We understand that the Exploring Expedition went as far South as lat. 70, and some minutes. Large masses of ice, were seen in every direction; and as the winter was coming on, it was not deemed prudent to proceed further at that time. A plenty of right whales were seen in the high latitudes.

Returning to Valparaiso and Callao, the Expedition refitted and then proceeded to the Sandwich Islands, and were to spend the (Southern) winter in exploring among Pacific Islands. On the return of Spring they were expected to go South again, intending to gain as high a Southern latitude as the state of the ice would admit. Returning from this cruise, in the autumn, they would visit the Columbia river, Oregon Territory, and the neighboring coasts and islands, after which they would return to the United States by way of the Cape of Good Hope. They cannot be expected home much sooner than two years from the present date.

The amalgamation cobblers of Lynn, Mass. got their "dander up" on a late occasion, because the conductors of the rail road at that place would not permit a "darkey" to sit in the same car with white folks. It was found necessary to call out the Sheriff and suitable force to preserve order and prevent the shoemakers from proceeding, to acts of violence.

A gentleman being called to subscribe to a course of public lectures, objected, "because," said he "my wife gives me a gratuitous one every evening."

"**TRUE AS HOLY WRIT.**"—Isaac Scripture is one among the four Whigs elected in Lowell. Who doubts how the Bay State has gone!—N. Y. Star.

A certain gentleman, who dresses in black, uses brimstone for his shaving cake, and whose name is never mentioned to "ears polite," it is said can use (quote) Scripture, to serve his purpose, with as much glibness as any "Whig" in the world. Indeed, Dean Swift said that the personage we describe, was the first "Whig" himself.—Savannah Georgian.

HOW TO BOTHER BUGS.—An Armenian, a clever good tempered fellow, who had known better days, thus described an ingenious contrivance by which he avoided the vermin that abounded at Orakeni.—"I take care to examine and clean a large wooden table; on it I lay my mattress, and then I put the four legs of the table each into a pan of water on the floor; I am thus insulated—the bugs can't very well cross the water!" "And do you escape their invasion?" "Yes, all but that of a few that may drop from the rafters and ceilings of the house!"

A Young Chap.—A gentleman travelling, found by the wayside a man he supposed to be 80 years of age, weeping most bitterly,—desirous to learn the cause of such immoderate grief, he inquired of the old gentleman, why it was that he was crying. He was informed that his father had just been whipping him! "Your father!" exclaimed the astonished traveller, "is it possible that your father is alive?" "Yes, sir," said the mourner, "he lives in that house," pointing to a small habitation near the road. The traveller was anxious to see the father, and accordingly turned into the house, where he saw and conversed with him expostulating with him on the absurdity of his conduct, in whipping, as old a man as his son. The old man apologized saying that the young rascal had been throwing rocks at his grandfather who was at work in the garden.—Brownville Banner.

IRISH EQUITY.—A couple from the Green Island—Pat and Nancy,—had settled on the Mississippi, and in course of time, (to use the language of the region,) had "acquired six children and nine negroes." Pat had made up his mind to better his fortunes; and to go unencumbered higher up the river; and he therefore explained his plans to Nancy, finishing with "and so, my darlin, I'll leave you; but will to my best by you; I'll have you the six best, nate pretty children, and will take the nine nasy, dirty negroes for myself."