

MR. JAMES E. INGRAHAM,

AGENT, FLORIDA LAND & COLONIZATION COY,

SIR,

WHEN I COMMENCED TO MAKE THE ENTRIES OF THE MACKINNON & RUSSELL LANDS, THE RULING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR WOULD NOT PERMIT ANY ONE PERSON TO PURCHASE MORE THAN 640 ACRES IN ONE DAY. THE REGISTER ALSO REFUSED TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FROM PERSONS OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES. CONSEQUENTLY I HAD TO ENTER THE LANDS IN THE NAMES OF INGRAHAM, CHASE AND SELF. IN THIS WAY I WAS ENABLED TO ENTER 3 TRACTS OF 640 ACRES OR 1920 ACRES PER DAY. SEEING THE DELAY OF THIS COURSE I FILED AN APPEAL WHICH WAS ACCEPTED AND THE COMMISSIONER HAS NOW CHANGED THE RULING IN BOTH INSTANCES; HENCE YOU WILL FIND THE LATER CERTIFICATES MADE DIRECT FROM THE UNITED STATES TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COMPANY.

I ENCLOSE DEEDS AND AS SOON AS RECEIVED FROM THE CLERKS OF THE DIFFERENT COURTS OF RECORD WILL FORWARD ABSTRACT OF TITLE SHOWING THE RECORDING OF CERTIFICATES EMBRACING THE LANDS DEEDED TO INGRAHAM CHASE AND TRAFFORD, THIS COMPLETING THE CHAIN OF TITLE TO THE PURCHASERS. UPON APPLICATION TO THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE AT WASHINGTON THE PATENTS CAN BE ISSUED DIRECT TO THE TRUSTEES.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS,

-SGD-

E. R. TRAFFORD.

ANCLOTE, A VILLAGE AT THE MOUTH OF ANCLOTE RIVER ON THE GULF COAST IS THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SPONGING TRADE, FREQUENTLY AS MANY AS FIFTY OR SIXTY SPONGING VESSELS LYING IN THE HARBOUR AT ONE TIME CONTAINS A POST OFFICE, TWO STORES, CHURCH & SCHOOL OF ABOUT 50 SCHOLARS. HAS DIRECT STEAMER COMMUNICATION WITH CEDAR KEYS AND THENCE WITH THE TRANSIT RAILROAD TO THE NORTH AND WEST.

THE LANDS SELECTED FOR THE COMPANY ARE SPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE GROWING OF EARLY VEGETABLES AND SUGAR CANE, THE GREATER PART IS RICH SAWGRASS WHICH CAN BE CHEAPLY AND EFFECTUALLY DRAINED INTO THE GULF, SURROUNDING THIS ARE RIDGES OF HIGH PINE LAND OVERLOOKING THE GULF AND SUITABLE FOR RESIDENCES OR ORANGE GROVES, SEVERAL BEARING GROVES ON SIMILAR LAND BEING IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY.

THIS WOULD BE A DESIRABLE PLACE FOR A COLONY OF GARDENERS TO RAISE EARLY VEGETABLES FOR THE NORTHERN MARKET. I WAS THERE DURING THE COLD SNAP OF TWO YEARS AGO AND THE MOST DELICATE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES WERE UNINJURED. THIS LAND WHEN DRAINED COULD BE SOLD AT FROM TWENTY TO FIFTY DOLLARS PER ACRE. A POOR MAN UNABLE TO WAIT FOR AN ORANGE GROVE COULD SUPPORT HIS FAMILY FROM THE PRODUCTS OF HIS GARDEN THE FIRST YEAR. FISH IS ABUNDANT, AND THERE ARE SEVERAL MILES OF FINE OYSTER BANKS ALONG THIS PART OF THE COAST, FREE TO ALL WHO CHOSE TO GATHER THEM.

I HAVE ALSO SELECTED A LARGE TRACT IN THE UPPER PART OF HER-
NANDO

COUNTY ON THE PROPOSED LINE OF THE LIVE OAK AND TAMPA RAILROAD, THIS TRACT IS ALL HIGH ROLLING PINE LAND FOUR MILES FROM STEAMBOAT LANDING AT CRYSTAL RIVER AND IN A REGION RAPIDLY FILLING UP WITH ACTUAL SETTLERS.

THE POLK COUNTY LANDS ARE ALL OF THE BEST QUALITY OF HIGH PINE WITH A LARGE PROPORTION OF VALUABLE LAKE FRONTS. THOSE IN T28S R26E IS PART OF WHAT HAS BEEN CALLED THE TRAPPORD TRACT AND IS ON THE PROPOSED LINE OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA RAILROAD. TWO OTHER RAILROADS HAVE ALSO SURVEYED THEIR LINES WITHIN A FEW MILES OF THIS TRACT. THE LANDS ON LAKE ISTOPOGA YOXEE -HEAD OF DEAD MAN- ARE THE BEST OF THAT REGION AND ON THE DIRECT ROAD FROM PORT HEADE TO THE KISSIMMEE RIVER. TIGER CREEK IS NAVIGABLE TO WEOHYAKAPRA, AND BY REMOVING THE FALLEN TIMBER CAN BE MADE SO TO THE COMPANY'S LANDS ON LAKE MOODY.

PORT GARDNER ISLAND IS THE HIGHEST LAND ON THE KISSIMMINEE RIVER CAN BE REACHED FROM SANFORD IN FOUR HOURS, AND FROM ITS NINE MILES OF WATER ON THE NORTH WEST IS AS FREE FROM FROST AS LAND ONE HUNDRED MILES FURTHER SOUTH WITHOUT WATER PROTECTION.

FROM ITS GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION AND ACCESSIBILITY TO SANFORD THIS IS A MOST DESIRABLE POINT FOR THE CULTURE OF TROPICAL FRUITS. IT HAS A LARGE QUANTITY OF MEDIUM SIZED PINE TIMBER, LARGE ENOUGH FOR MILLING PURPOSES. ALONG THE SOUTH END OF THE ISLAND IS A FINE WHITE SHORE EXTENDING ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF LAKE KISSIMINEE FOR 10 MILES AFFORDING BEAUTIFUL BUILDING SITES.

THE LANDS ON THE KISSIMINEE ARE MOSTLY PRAIRIES FROM TWO TO

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TWENTY MILES WIDE, THIS BEING WITH ONLY TWO OR THREE EXCEPTIONS THE ONLY POINT WHERE PINE TIMBER CAN BE OBTAINED WITHIN A REASONABLE DISTANCE. THE COMPANY OWN ALL THE HIGH LAND ON THE ISLAND.

SUMTER COUNTY LANDS ARE LOCATED ON THE BANKS OF THE PALATKAHA RIVER, A STREAM FALLING INTO LAKE HARRIS THE HEAD WATERS OF THE OCKLAWAHA ARE ALL HIGH PINE LANDS INTERSPERSED WITH SMALL HAMMOCKS A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM BORDERING ON BEAUTIFUL LARGE CLEAR LAKES, THESE LANDS ARE PROBABLY ON THE HIGHEST PART OF THE STATE BEING THE SOURCES OF THESE RIVERS, THE OCKLAWAHA, THE KISSIMINEE AND THE WITH-
LACOOCHIE RUNNING INTO THE GULF.

IN SELECTING ALL THESE LANDS I HAVE BEEN GOVERNED NOT ONLY BY THEIR GOOD QUALITY, BUT ALSO SELECTED THEM IN LOCALITIES WHERE THEY ARE WITHIN AN ACCESSIBLE DISTANCE FROM TRANSPORTATION.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

-SGD- E. R. TRAFFORD.