

# FLORIDA LAND AND COLONIZATION COMPANY.

E. R. TRAFFORD, GENERAL MANAGER.

Sanford, Fla. Dec 28 1883

Hon H S Sanford

Dear Sir

Yours to hand. I returned days before Christmas all well — I consider the drainage at Auclole so far a success. it has cost much more than was estimated owing chiefly to meeting with obstructions in the shape of rock and quicksand. which could not be foreseen — so far as the ditch is cut in the big sawgrass. all the water is gone. & the bog is dry enough for one to walk thro anywhere. but ~~that~~ much of the land is too sobby for cultivation until the small ditches to intersect the main ~~to~~ canal. are cut. these of course will be cut by purchasers. about of one mile more of ditch will be required to complete the work & carry a 6 ft ditch 3 ft deep thro the length of the big sawgrass. I think we can safely calculate on this part being all plain sailing without obstructions. being all thro solid sawgrass peat. ~~the soil~~ this peat is splendid stuff. almost too rich for most crops. Communications from Cedar Keys & Tampa are our best the Lake Butler Villa Co's arrangement of ~~trip~~ weekly steamer having fallen thro. they are still dependent on chance sail boats & schooners. Still Morrish is very hopeful of making a few sales this season; a few people keep coming to Tarpon Springs but not many. their large hotel is just open. & Gov Safford is there

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on west Apopka. They are working hard to start their new town of Minnieola & have at present one saw mill & two dwelling houses. They sadly need better mode of transportation. Navigation by south end of Apopka. will be their only outlet unless some R R goes thro that Country. which now seems probably. we will be able to sell our lands there at from \$10 to \$25 per acre - just now some of the Russell lands there are more in demand than the Co.

I hope you were pleased with the Progress which Sanford has made during the past year. I suppose we shall see you & Mrs Sanford here shortly. when I shall be able to explain more fully my views on the Anclote lands. With kind regards to Mrs Sanford & yourself in which my wife joins me  
I remain

Yours respectfully  
Wm Beardall