

'name of the four thousand people here now, we welcome you to our hearths and homes.

REPORT OF LOCAL COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS.

Hon. Fred S. Morse, Rev. E. V. Blackman,
Hon. C. T. McCarty.

Mr. Blackman—My report will be short indeed, that is to say, the matter of arranging for transportation I took up very early in the season with the railroad companies, to give them time to digest a low rate. The Florida East Coast railroad consented to give us one cent per mile rate, the Georgia Southern and Florida the same. We hoped all the roads in the State would give us the one-cent-a-mile

rate; they conceded us a rate of one and a half.

You understand that the steamer excursion was down on the program for Thursday. The boat we engaged for this service was not in condition to go, and we have arranged to go on the steamer Miami which is a much larger steamer, carrying a large number of passengers, on Wednesday at 2 o'clock, therefore all wanting to go must be on the dock at 2 o'clock sharp. Every member is entitled to take this excursion. We will go down to the lighthouse so you can see how it looks down there. We want especially the visiting members of the Society to be with us on that excursion—2 o'clock sharp, not 2:05, but 2 o'clock. You will all feel bad if you are not there and are left behind. Tickets can be secured from Mr. C. T. McCarty, who has them on hand.

Response for the Society.

E. S. Hubbard.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I rise with pleasure to respond to this cordial address of welcome.

When this youthful, vigorous and enterprising city invited the Florida State Horticultural Society to hold its annual meeting within its gates, we knew it would do nothing by halves, but the heartiness of her greeting, and the bountifulness of her hospitality, surpass our anticipations; and I assure the citizens of Miami their efforts in our behalf will be appreciated.

The horticulturists and agriculturists of this Society came from every part of the

State and from every line of industry connected with growing the fruits of the earth and the crops of the field; but our State is both long and wide, and many of us have little acquaintance with the conditions and peculiar lines of effort that prevail in this section. We look with interest at the rock on which the city is founded; on the streets which are builded from that rock; on the fields that are fenced with it; and, lastly, with the greatest interest of all, at the fruits and vegetables that are grown in those fields. We admire the size and luxuriance of the mango, the avocado pear,

the guava, the pineapple. We marvel at the adaptability of the orange that will grow and thrive in holes blasted in this rock; we hear with wonder the accounts of the crops of early vegetables that go forward to market from this section and we envy the mildness of climate that makes that earliness possible. But above all, we admire your natural and artistic

surroundings. The bay and harbor that make this port a gateway to the Indies; the palms and tropical foliage that give an air of romance to your homes; the public and business edifices that show the substantial nature of your city's growth.

In behalf of the Florida State Horticultural Society, I thank Miami for its royal welcome.

President's Annual Address.

G. L. Taber.

Members of the Florida State Horticultural Society, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In welcoming the Society to Ormond in 1892, C. A. Bacon told us in his genial, humorous way, how the town at which we were then convened, "happened to be on the map," and how with the advent of the locomotive "the affrighted deer gave his note of warning, the black bear leaped over the scrub and put for cover, the natives ceased the crack of their whips, their women raised their hands in horror and exclaimed, 'Them Yankee notions have come, where be our cattle and hogs? Light-ud is gettin' scarce; we will put for Miami.'"

Although an astute and far-seeing gentleman, I am sure Mr. Bacon, at that time little thought—and I am equally sure none of the rest of us did—that only a decade later the Florida State Horticultural Society, in convention assembled, would vote almost with one voice, to "put for Miami." To be sure, we did not take this action for the good of our "cattle and hogs," or because "light-ud is gettin'

scarce," but, in another phase the parallel holds good; the women took the initiative. From time immemorial they have been man's moving cause—as well as his saving grace.

To go a trifle deeper into this matter:

When the reverend gentleman, who so zealously and ably represents Miami's horticultural interest came before this Society at Tampa with pockets bulging full of facts and figures showing Miami's greatness, and entered his plea, backed by an invitation from the city fathers, there were some among our members who thought his labor would come to naught. They suggested the distance was too great, hinted at possible dynamitic danger after arrival and made other minor and wholly vain excuses. Vain because, in advance, by wholly honorable, upright and fair methods, the kindly interest and services of the ladies had been enlisted in Miami's behalf and the coup d'etat that developed showed the reverend gentleman to be a general as well.

But generalship lay not alone with the