

May 7, 1917.

Mr. J. W. Shaw,
Valdosta, Ga.

Dear Sir:

This will introduce Mr. Geo. F. Cook, my associate in the matter of the Tamiami Trail Corporation.

We met our payment promptly on May 2nd, and still have \$25,000.00 worth or 25% of interest in the Tamiami Trail corporation to offer, for which we have subscribers who I am sure will close, but I am giving you another opportunity to participate in the proposition.

Mr. Cook will show you additional information and data and the possibilities of the proposition, which Mr. Dasher did not have while on his visit to your city. Mr. Cook will also show you file of letters, telegrams received from interested parties, both from a standpoint of investors in the property and interest, which are developing it.

I would ask that you note particularly the several propositions submitted to me by S. C. Littlefield. The first one, for purchase of the entire tract, giving me a net profit of \$207,760.00. Second--and offer ~~was~~ (\$260,000.00) for the timber on the tract. Third, a tentative offer to sell a fifty percent equity for \$300,000.00, provided I would give him a net profit of \$100,000.00 for the sale, which ofcourse I could not nor would not consent to do.

Mr. Cook is qualified to present the proposition, and I assure you the facts and information he has on this property is authentic and reliable.

The initial amount of money or equity that you subscribe for is all the cash that you will ever be required to pay, by reason of the fact that (1) we can immediately proceed to sell stock in our corporation, when we complete same. (2) The sale of town lots, which we will immediately lay off. (3) The sale of such acreage as we may elect to sell at this time. (4) I wish to add a feature which may not appeal to you as worthy of much consideration, but I am sure we can lay off a modern town site for negroes, and sub-divide

certain acreage for them to purchase and develop. I have some of the best negroes in Florida, together with G.V. Roman who is the Booker T. Washington of the negro race, and whose home is in Nashville, Tenn, to promote the sale of this negro property, and this, coupled with our other sales will immediately earn us the \$50,000.00 which will be due on the property on February 2nd, 1918, together with the interest and taxes, and will provide funds for every improvement that will be necessary at this time.

Mr. Cook will show you record of sales of land made by me on or near the Tamiami Trail, which land is undrained Everglades land, under water at this time, and I told the purchasers such was the case at the time of sale; hence you can realize that with good agricultural land, out of water, fit for cultivation now, in the artesian belt of Florida, with a townsite actually laid off (on the gulf of Mexico, that our sales will exceed our necessities as far as cash is concerned.

I would ask that you go over this proposition carefully with Mr. Cook, and that you also get him in touch with Mr. Giddens and also Mr. Dasher.

You need not be alarmed as to war scares, or war conditions. This proposition will carry itself after first payment is made, and I certainly know you will lose an opportunity in case you do not take advantage of same.

Very truly,

JFJ/HH