



Florida East Coast Railway Company

FLAGLER SYSTEM

LAND AND INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT

J. E. INGRAHAM
VICE-PRESIDENT

St. Augustine, Fla., July 30th, 1917.

Personal

Mr. F. J. Pepper,
C/o F.S.Morse,
Miami, Fla.

Dear Mr. Pepper:- File F-3.

I am enclosing herewith a most extraordinary letter from Mr. H. P. Cooper, of Messrs. Cooper & Hare, Miami, with copy of my reply thereto.

As you may well know I have had a number of complaints against Mr. Powers, which upon investigation I have so far found to be without foundation; every case that I have taken up he has been able to explain satisfactorily. This complaint of Mr. Cooper's, considering the source, is a very serious one, and I am going to ask you to get me some information about it.

In the first place I don't know Mr. Cooper, but I must assume that he is entirely reliable, as I do, or I should not have replied to him as I did. Secondly, I feel that in justice to ourselves I cannot allow any man to remain in the employ of the Company who is so constantly "Under Fire" as Mr. Powers has been, and I am considering the offering of this territory to Mr. Morse. With the completion of the Ingraham Highway it should bring a very large business to Miami and to his office.

Mr. Brumley has just received a letter from Mr. Morse saying that he will be in Jacksonville to-day, at the Mason Hotel,

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and is going on to Asheville to-night with his mother. I am unable to see him, as I am going to Wilmington to-night to attend Mrs. Bingham's funeral, for of course you have heard-of her sudden and sad death,; so I will not have an opportunity of discussing the matter ^{of Mr. Cooper's letter} with him, and I am asking you to take it up and get me any information that you can on this subject; it would hardly be possible that you have not heard anything about it.

Mr. Powers was here one day last week, during my absence, and talked so wildly that Mr. Brumley thought that he was hardly in his right mind, and I have sometimes wondered if his statements were not due to perhaps some organic disorder.

Please advise me with return of letter at your early convenience, I shall return Wednesday. Please treat this as confidential, as we may find that the matter will adjust itself.

I am telephoning over to the Mason to see if I can have a short talk with Mr. Morse at the station this evening.

Yours very truly,

J. B. Reynolds
Vice-President.

Dict. JEI
Encl.