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"Expositions are the timekeepers of Progress"—Wm. McKinley.

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MANAGEMENT, INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION CO.

TELEPHONE VANDERBILT 5850

CHARLES F. ROTH } Managers
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June 3rd 1918.

*Mrs. M. Willson:
Kissimmee, Fla.*

My Dear Mrs. Willson:

Your letter of the 31st came last evening and the next post brought the books. I thank you for your very prompt attention. You may judge of my appreciation of "The Seminoles of Florida" when with much work before me I nevertheless perused a few of the introductory pages and did not lay aside the volume till after the midnight hour: having read it completely, though the vocabulary. It is a great work for the Florida red man, touching and full of pathos.

In my travels I have seen the red man, in the east, the middle west, the far west, the south, in all stages of civilization from the savage but not barbarous, to the cultivated college grad from Carlisle or Lawrence (Kansas), but none have touched me as much as the Seminoles, some of whom, I have met in Florida. I have again traveled the everglades and actually felt the life of the Seminole through the pages of your book. One of my most cherished photos is of a group of them with one woman, taken at Fort Lauderdale some years since. The film I no longer possess, borrowed, or rather loaned and never returned, and only one copy

with which I care not to part. I'm taking the liberty of sending you some photos I've taken and which I hope you'll enjoy as much as I enjoyed your book, accepting them with my compliments. I shall describe them later.

To the Seminoles our government owes a duty calling as strongly as that which now takes us upon our first international overseas expedition - the protection of the oppressed and wronged - for their liberty.

The power of the white man over the red is one of education, the ability gained thereby to apply the great laws of nature to his advantage, to harness nature's power and energy, invent and build machines and engines to manifold the uses of that power. Could the Seminole be brought to a quickened realization of this, he must then become the white man's equal, and then would wish to not only pledge his allegiance to the U.S. but make a good citizen. He has the moral fibre, strength, integrity of character and indicates his industrial ability to produce, that should make him a more desirable citizen than some we admitted within our gates before the war and since.

Just as our duty calls us over the seas, the Seminoles of Florida call our duty there, and I'm hoping that some time I may be of service to them, insignificant as it may be, just as I'm now expecting before this month is out to be in the lists for the struggle abroad. If there is anyway, by word or act I hope you will inform me.

Down along the shore of Biscayne Bay is an Indian Trail, though unprotected by law it is by custom as inviolable as the Fisherman rights

at Newport (Rd.) This trail passes through the
 handsome estates that grace the shores. The first
 photo (# 348) shows a path leading to the boat landing
 of Commodore James, ^{at Coconut Grove} the cross path is "the trail".
 The second photo (349) shows the treatment given by
 W. J. Matheson at "Swastika" & his estate at
 Coconut Grove viewing along "the trail" through an avenue
 of coconuts to the opposite gate, more closely shown in photo
 (351). From a crude coral rock and rough trail this
 has become a path of beauty, now used by the neighbors
 but not by Indians. Photo 356 was taken near Lake
 Okechobee in Palm Beach County showing the glade
 and lily. Photos 359-360-1-4 were taken from the
 steamer "Osceola" on the St. Johns River between Lake
 Monroe and Deland Landing, showing the grim
 sentinal-like moss shrouded cypresses, the water
 hyacinths, and (364) a Nocturne of tranquil grandeur.
 I've selected these from a great many I've taken at different
 times in Florida,

Last winter I enjoyed the company of a Japanese
 naval officer traveling from St. Augustine to Miami.
 (One word in your vocabulary recalled this - al-li-ga-tor)
 It so happened that we were making several stops at one
 and the same places and part of the way had the
 company of a U. of Penn. professor. We heard ~~many~~
 many Seminole words upon which our Japanese
 acquaintance spoke of the similarity. This alligator,
 omitting the final r in pronouncing means "thank
 you". He stopped off at Yamato after leaving
 Palm Beach and rejoining me at Miami I told him
 that I had been informed by several old settlers that
 it was an Indian name whereupon he smiled.

and said that the name was given by the man whom Mr. Flagler had financed when he settled there, the name being that of his old Japan.

I thought this bit of information would interest you since the origin of names is sometimes lost or confused as being derived from the aboriginal people who inhabited the locality.

Cornwall in Ontario is such a place: a Canadian legislator once placed on record of speaking of it as an Indian name. The name being compounded from the chemical symbols of the metals Cobalt (Co), Nickel (Ni), Silver (Ag) and Arsenic (As) mined there. Early last month with the members of the American Electro-chemical Society we visited the great dam of the Aluminium Co of America at Chesoh (N.H.) and later went to Alcoa, many of the members commenting on the euphony of the Indian name, little realizing the origin of Alcoa - (Al. Co. A.).

Fearful that I have trespassed beyond what I originally intended to be merely an appreciation, believe me,

Very Sincerely
Charles F. Roth,