

Kissimmee, Florida  
January 24, 1929.

Mr. Stephen Cochran Singleton,  
317 Northwest 39th. Street,  
Miami, Florida.


Dear Mr. Singleton:

I received the manuscript, thank you for same, also your splendid letter and that very excellent article from you inclosed, and I thank you for reference to the little book, "Birds of the Everglades".

I was interested in knowing that you are acquainted with Dr. J. K. Small as I had had a letter from him that very same day, and remember a delightful dinner I took at his beautiful home, where I met a number of his celebrated friends and I believe that Dr. Fairchild was among the number. What Dr. Small says about Everglade Drainage is plenty but he has talked this way for years and he says when they dyke the Atlantic Ocean we may save the Everglades.

From your letter I would judge that Florida's Tallahassee folks still must have the idea of drainage in their heads. To me it is so preposterous and criminal, and yet, Today's Press tells of the bill they are trying to put over in Washington to get another \$7,500,000.00 for Okeechobee, so they will restore confidence and put more people in that terrible country.

I have an article I feel sure you would like as your ideas are with mine, but I may hurt this article for a great many papers because I urge that Florida GIVE the one million acres she still owns, in other words, make it a return gift to the Federal Government, and as to the other million acres, it would make up for the two million now being asked for the National Park. This two million acres must belong to the various people who have been working Everglade drainage for twenty-five years. Naturally they want to sell these lands, to which, of course, we would have no objections.



Under separate cover, I am sending you from my file a little brochure, of 1917 date, and when you have read it carefully you will understand more of the nefarious workings that went on in the year 1898 and up and including the year 1899 legislature. No one ever replied to these hundreds of copies I sent out but those in the scheme and the Joker of the Seminole Land Bill knew to whom I referred. This little brochure and writings on the same line naturally caused a non-appearance of a good many of my stories, which were subsided. I will be glad to have you return this copy as it will have no special interest to you. If I had a great number I could sell them now as there seems to be a demand for them for some peculiar reason.

On Wednesday 30th. my book is to be reviewed by Mrs. Laramore, I believe, at the Woman's Club and I hope that Mrs. Singleton will be able to be present.

I will be glad to hear from you from time to time. With your pen and the influence back of you, certainly we ought to be able to do something towards getting the Tropic National Park. But I may have to throw a bomb into Tallahassee in order to do it.

I understand from Professor Gray's that one of your poems is to appear in the Beautification Magazine. I will look forward to seeing it. I have just finished an article on "The Music of the Seminoles" and expect to give it where I am invited to do so, if it can be done with some remuneration.

Trusting to hear from you as to the development of Park affairs, I am

Sincerely yours,

Minnie Moore Willson.

MMW/ir