

PREFACE.

I have been writing on the subject of the Everglades and South Florida in general since 1904 in various magazines. Requests for this literature have come to me from time to time and in ever-increasing number until my reprints are exhausted. It is impossible to answer all the letters which come to me requesting information in reference to this region. Friends have suggested many times that I collect some of these articles into book form. This I have attempted to do in the following volume. I am well aware that as a book it has many shortcomings and, owing to the fact that it contains articles hastily written at odd times and for different purposes, there is considerable repetition and perhaps even contradiction. If, however, it succeeds in arousing interest in this great Everglade drainage project and offers helpful suggestions to newcomers, its mission will have been fulfilled, and its author and publisher will be satisfied. I wish to thank the various magazines for permission to copy these articles and the Everglade Land Sales Company for assuming the burden of publication.

JOHN GIFFORD.

Coconut Grove, Florida, 1911.