

***St. Cloud Tribune*, 1, no. 17 (December 30, 1909).**

News from the Shaker Colony.

On Christmas morning a jolly party of gentlemen boarded the train at St. Cloud for a sightseeing tour of the surrounding country. Riding as far as Narcoossee, they returned to Ashton and walked thru the pine woods to the Shaker Colony on Live Oak Lake, where mutual Christmas greetings opened the way for further acquaintance.

Those who comprised the party were A. Flint, of Oldham, S. D.; H. F. Moore and Edward Herron, of Monett, Mo.; C. N. Parker, of Joppa, Ill.; Milton L. Frigheit and H. V. Hoffman, Lee Roy, N. Y., and Isaac Huntsinger, of Minneapolis, Kan. The Shaker pineapple and banana groves came in for a share of inspection, and ripe strawberries were found among the tangled mass of leaves and blossoms down in the garden by the lake front—the first strawberries any of the party has ever picked on Christmas Day. The homeward march was taken up westward, thru the woods to the Ashton grove, where the genial manager, Mr. Ed. Eames, entertained the party with stories of orange and grapefruit culture gleaned from a long experience in Florida groves.

Since cool weather set in the harvesting of sugarcane has been hastened, and this year's supply of cane syrup has about all been made up. At the Shaker mill operations have ceased, and preparations are now under way for taking off the season's honey supply. The Shaker apiary is run for extracted honey, and this form of sweet can be made with much less attention than is required for comb honey.

Judging from the cool weather experienced thruout this peninsula the past week, snow and ice must be all the rage north of Mason and Dixon's line. The falling of leaves from our Texas umbrella trees and a slight fall temperature are about the only indications of Winter we have in Florida, and these but add variety to a wellnigh perfect climate.

John H. Stewart, Albert K. Swank, and John Byer, late of Newton Falls, Ohio, but now prominent citizens of St. Cloud, spent Christmas Day angling for catfish. Arriving early at the Shaker boat landing they rowed down the canal which connects Live Oak and Sardine Lakes; and altho the wind was blowing pretty hard most all day, they had toward evening a string of yellow cats and turtles to show inquiring friends.

Among those who walked over from St. Cloud to the Shaker Colony on Sunday morning last were R. Wendland, F. Gallas, and Fred Saling, all from Miles, Tex. Henry Jacobs and son, of Sandusky, Mich., and H. A.

Campbell, of North Grafton, and others were among the party. All of these are newcomers to St. Cloud, who seem impressed with the possibilities of making a fine town at the Soldiers' Colony.

Frank Updergraff, who came to St. Cloud with his family from Irwin, Pa., some months ago, came over to the Shaker Colony last Sunday, accompanied by his son and Mr. A. P. Kiplinger, more recently arrived from Lima, Ohio. After luncheon a boat-row on Live Oak Lake helped to fill an aching void in the small boy of the party.

On Sunday afternoon last F. Chryst, of Houston, Tex., accompanied by J. S. Martin and Charles Miner, of Syracuse, N. Y., and R. L. Sumner and Ed. Johnson, of St. Cloud, visited the Shaker Banana grove, in which they were greatly interested. Mr. Chryst has become a fixture at St. Cloud, and is a young man of energy and ability, and will do his share in building up the new town. Another company of seven or eight called at the Shaker Colony during Sunday afternoon, but their names were not registered.

On Dec. 28 a large company appeared at the Shaker Colony, mostly from Ohio. Some of the names are: David Daub and wife, Burgoon, Ohio; C. H. Nelson, Oak Harbor, Ohio; W. S. Harley, Fremont, Ohio; H. E. Barlow, Farmington, Ill; J. D. Cessna, Kansas, Ohio.

On account of having several invalids to care for at the Colony, the Shakers feel unable further to give meals. Visitors are welcome to bring their own lunches, and this is a good plan. They would be glad to accommodate all who wish meals if it were possible.

