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Unsigned letter from C. E. Allen

unknown

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February 7, 1912.

Mr. C. E. Allen,
Inverness, Florida.

Dear Brother Allen:-

I am at present very much interested in getting established here in Florida a Bible School, with T. B. Larimore as head, who, with Dr. Harding of Bowling Green, Ky., and Professors Glenn and Slagen of the Nashville Bible School are interested, who will constitute the faculty at the opening, together with some of the wives of the men, who are competent in certain lines, Mrs. Dr. Harding being a very proficient music teacher, having studied under some of the best teachers of this country.

Brother Larimore is the one that started the idea, and he wrote to Brother Bowers of this place, and since that time we have been quite active in trying to get some definite ideas as to what could be done to get the proposition under way. Places in other states are endeavoring to get Brother Larimore to go to them, among which is California, but Brother Larimore frankly admits that Florida is the preference of himself and wife. This is mainly on account of the mild climate that prevails here. It is certain that states like Tennessee and Kentucky have more to offer him financially and numerically than Florida can possibly do at this time, but I am convinced that if Florida will show the proper spirit at this time and that we are really interested in the proposition, we can swing it down here. We have written him assuring him of a location here in Gainesville for the school. Our local congregation will likewise go to the limits of its power in a financial way toward getting it here. I am quite sure also that I could get considerable help from different people- public spirited citizens of Gainesville- who would give liberally toward getting such a school located here in Gainesville, but the proposition has not advanced sufficiently for me to call on any of these, but I think that our own Brotherhood should be active and show that we are intensely interested.

Brother Larimore is to be here in Gainesville next week, possibly about the 14th, and will doubtless remain over for several days to look over the situation here. He is coming on our invitation. I believe that there may be several of your people down there that would be interested in the establishment of this Florida Bible School, and I am writing to ask you if you cannot get an expression from your members down there, setting forth to what extent they would support the proposition, in other words, how much could you insure as a donation in order to get the school under way? Of course it will take considerable money and there is none of us that has too much of this commodity. Will you kindly take this matter up with different members, also it may be well to take it up with the congregation as a whole, and let me hear from you. If convenient, could you not come up to Gainesville Sunday the 18th and meet Brother Larimore, and let's go into the proposition thoroughly with him?

Sincerely and fraternally,