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**Unsigned letter to T. J. Maness**

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Mr. T. J. Maness,

Bogota, Tenn.

Dear Bro. Maness,

Yours of the 20th received, and I am glad to hear from you again, and will try to answer your questions to the best of my ability. I am glad to know that you are interested in Our Florida Friend, and hope that you will sometime in the not distant future become one of the citizens of Gainesville and help in the work begun.

It is interesting to note that there are four families of you trying to get ready for Florida next fall. I am pleased to note, also, that they are high-toned Christian people, one of whom is a physician. That is the kind of people we want to come to Dixieland. I am sure that you must all be of the A1 class, from what I gather from your letter.

Any man can make a living in Florida if he will work. Of course there are obstacles to overcome here, as in other sections of the globe, but said obstacles are fewer in Florida than in some other parts of the world, and it is certainly a fact that the climate makes it a luxury to live here. You do not need as many clothes as you do up North, and since gardens can be raised all through the year anyone can usually find something to eat in the garden. It is a great country for forage here, and on that account the cows do well, and anybody who has a cow, and some chickens, and a garden can be pretty certain of a living regardless of what happens. It is a fine country for poultry raising, and if one should go into and attend to it as it should be he could make a fine success.

Mules and horses can be bought for from $125.00 to $250.00; of course the $250.00 mule is a fine animal, and this priced mule is usually used for heavy hauling; a good farm mule can be bought for $150.00. Good Jersey cows sell for $75.00, but often a bargain can be picked up for much less.

I think that you as a preacher can get some work to do among destitute places throughout Florida, as there are many such places that need preaching, and I have no doubt but that you can get all that you care to do along this line.

Sincerely yours.