

Werk

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\$2-2½; Alva) is the junction of another line to Bartow (and Punta Gorda) and also of the W. coast line from the N. (comp. p. 398). At (218 M.) *Plant City* we cross the Flor. Cen. Penin. R. (comp. p. 413).

240 M. **Tampa** (**Tampa Bay Hotel*, with 500 rooms, a theatre, a swimming bath, a bicycle-track, and golf-links, from \$5; *Almeria*, *Arno*, \$3-4; *Palmetto*, *De Soto*, from \$2), the most important commercial city on the Gulf Coast of Florida, with (1895) 18,449 inhab. (incl. West Tampa), lies at the head of *Hillsborough Bay* (the E. branch of Tampa Bay) and at the mouth of the *Hillsborough River*. It is surrounded with lemon and orange groves and has become one of the favourite health-resorts in Florida, especially since the opening (1891) of the huge and handsome Tampa Bay Hotel (façade of 511 ft.). The bay swarms with fish, including the tarpon (p. 397), and with water-fowl, while deer and other game are found inland. Cigar-making is the leading industry. Tampa was one of the great mobilisation camps in the Hispano-American war of 1898.

About 20 M. to the S.E. of Tampa, at *Indian Hill*, are some curious shell-mounds in which human remains were found.

249 M. **Port Tampa** (**The Inn*, \$3-4; Brit. vice-consul, *Mr. John Bradley*), on the peninsula separating Hillsborough Bay from *Old Tampa Bay*, is the starting-point of steamers to *Key West* and *Havana*, *Mobile*, and various points on *Tampa Bay*, the *Manatee River*, etc. To reach deep water the railway has to run into the bay on trestle-work for nearly 1 M., and at the end of this is the pier, with the inn and other buildings.

The Plant Line steamers for *Havana*, the capital of Cuba, run thrice weekly in winter and twice weekly in summer (32 hrs.; fare \$21.25). On the way they call at *Key West* (*Key West Hotel*, \$4; *Duval*, \$2½-3; *El Polaco*, Spanish restaurant; British vice-consul, *Mr. W. J. H. Taylor*; tramways; carr. \$1 per hr.) the third city of Florida (16,502 inhab. in 1895), situated upon one of the long chain of 'keys', or small coralline islands, which lie to the S. of the peninsula. The name is said to be a corruption of the Spanish *Cayo Hueso* ('Bone Island'), which took its rise from the finding of numerous human bones here by the Spanish mariners. Many of the inhabitants are Cubans, who have established cigar-factories that now produce 125-150 million cigars annually. Other important industries are the sponge-fishery, turtle-catching, and deep-sea fishing (mullet, etc.). The fine harbour is protected by *Fort Taylor*, built on a small island, and also by more modern fortifications. A visit may be paid to the *Banyan Tree* adjoining the *U. S. Barracks*. Key West is not so warm as many places to the N. of it (range 50-96°; mean for winter ca. 70°), though artificial heat is unused except for cooking; and its pure air attracts many winter visitors. Steamers ply regularly from Key West to *Port Tampa* (see above), *Miami* (p. 406), *New Orleans* (p. 415), *Galveston* (p. 522), *New York* (p. 6), and *Havana* (9-12 hrs.; comp. above).

Sand Key, 7 M. to the S.S.W. of Key West, is the southernmost point of the United States.

b. Via Waldo and Ocala.

212 M. FLORIDA CENTRAL & PENINSULAR R. R. in 8-11 hrs. (fares as above; to Ocala \$3, to Cedar Key \$3.81).

At (19 M.) *Baldwin* this line diverges to the left (S.) from the line to Tallahassee and New Orleans (see R. 82) and joins the line

from Fernandina (p. 400) to Tampa. 33 M. *Highland*; 38 M. *Lawtey*, with orange-groves and strawberry-farms. At (51 M.) *Hampton* we cross the railway from Palatka (p. 408) to Macon (p. 397). — 56 M. *Waldo* (*Waldo Ho.*, \$2) is the junction of a branch-line to ²Cedar Key (see below).

FROM WALDO TO CEDAR KEY, 71 M., railway in 4½ hrs. — 14 M. *Gainesville* (*Arlington, Plaza, St. Elmo*, \$2-3), a city and winter-resort with (1895) 3152 inhab., is the junction of railways to Palatka, Ocala, Live Oak, etc. Excursions may be made to the *Alachua Sink* (alternately lake and prairie) and other natural curiosities. From *Archer* a branch line leads through a rich phosphate district to *Eagle Mine* (phosphates). — 71 M. *Cedar Key* (*Schlemmer, Palmetto*, \$2), a town of 400 inhab., lies on a small 'key' off the W. coast of Florida and has a harbour which admits vessels of 12 ft. draught. It carries on a trade in fish, turtle, oysters, and sponges, and cuts red cedar for lead pencils. Steamers ply hence to the Suwanee River, etc. — The *Suwanee River*, well known from the negro-song of 'The old folks at home' (by S. C. Foster), enters the Gulf of Mexico about 15 M. to the N.

At (70 M.) *Hawthorne* we intersect the line from Palatka to Gainesville (see p. 409). Farther on we skirt *Loch Loosa* and cross the E. branch of *Orange Lake*, on the S. shore of which we traverse, for nearly 1 M., the so-called *Mammoth Orange Groves*, with 70,000 trees. 83 M. *Citra*. From (98 M.) *Silver Springs Junction* a branch line runs to (2 M.) *Silver Springs* (see p. 410). — 101 M. *Ocala* (*Ocala Ho.*, \$2½-4; *St. Denis, Montezuma*, \$2), a thriving little city (4597 inhab. in 1895), in one of the most fertile districts of Florida. Large phosphate beds are worked in the vicinity. Ocala is also a station on the Plant System and the starting-point of a line to *Dunnellon* (on the *Withlacoochee River*), *Crystal River*, and (49 M.) *Homosassa*, on the Gulf of Mexico. — From (127 M.) *Wildwood* a line runs to *Leesburg, Tavares, Orlando*, etc. 135 M. *Panasoffkee*, at the S. end of the lake of that name. About 4 M. to the N. of (146 M.) *St. Catherine* (junction of the Plant System) is the spot where Major Dade and his detachment of 110 men were surprised and slain by the Seminoles on Dec. 28th, 1835, only three soldiers escaping alive. — 156 M. *Lacoochee* is the junction of the Plant System line from Sanford to St. Petersburg (see p. 411). Near (164 M.) *Dade City* is the pretty *Pasadena Lake*, with a small hotel on its banks. 189 M. *Plant City*, see p. 412; 210 M. *Ybor City*, with large tobacco-factories.

212 M. *Tampa*, see p. 412.

82. From Jacksonville to Tallahassee, Pensacola, and New Orleans.

614 M. FLORIDA CENTRAL & PENINSULAR R. R. to (208 M.) *River Junction* in 8 hrs.; LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE R. R. thence to (406 M.) *New Orleans* in 14-15 hrs. (through-carriages; fare \$19.35; sleeper \$3.50).

Jacksonville, see p. 399. The line runs nearly due W. At (19 M.) *Baldwin* we cross the line from Fernandina to Tampa and Cedar Key