

KEY WEST AND FLORIDA KEYS NEWS ITEMS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST  
COLLECTED FROM SAVANNAH, GEORGIA NEWSPAPERS AT THE SAVANNAH  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Collected by Pam and John Viele August 25-27, 1996, using reference  
lists previously compiled by Gail Swanson.

1784

9/2 The Gazette of the State of Georgia  
"Nassau (New Providence) July 31. The sloop *Le Petit Mississippi*,  
Yves Capseq master, from New Orleans for Cape Francais, was lost on  
a shoal, six leagues to the northward of Cape Florida the 30th of  
last month. The passengers, cargo, and crew were saved and brought  
to this port by Capt. William Smith in the schooner *Mayflower*."

1786

9/21 The Gazette of the Sate of Georgia p2 c3  
Details of pirate attack on the Spanish snow *St Francisco*, from  
Havana for Cadiz, in the Bahama Streights (Florida Straits) on 1  
Aug. A boat from the pirate sloop with 14 men armed with pistols  
and cutlasses boarded the snow, plundered everything of value  
including \$33,349 in gold and silver. They abused the crew and cut  
one man's hand with a cutlass. The pirate sloop was about 80 tons  
burden manned by about 40 men. [complete article photo copied]

1791

12/8 Georgia Gazette p3 c1  
"Nov. 18, The brigantine *Ross Packet*, John Best master, out 41 days  
from the Bay of Honduras to London, was lost at half past 9 pm,  
Nov. 5th, on the Martyr's Reef. The crew with some mahogany are  
brought to this place by two wrecking vessels."

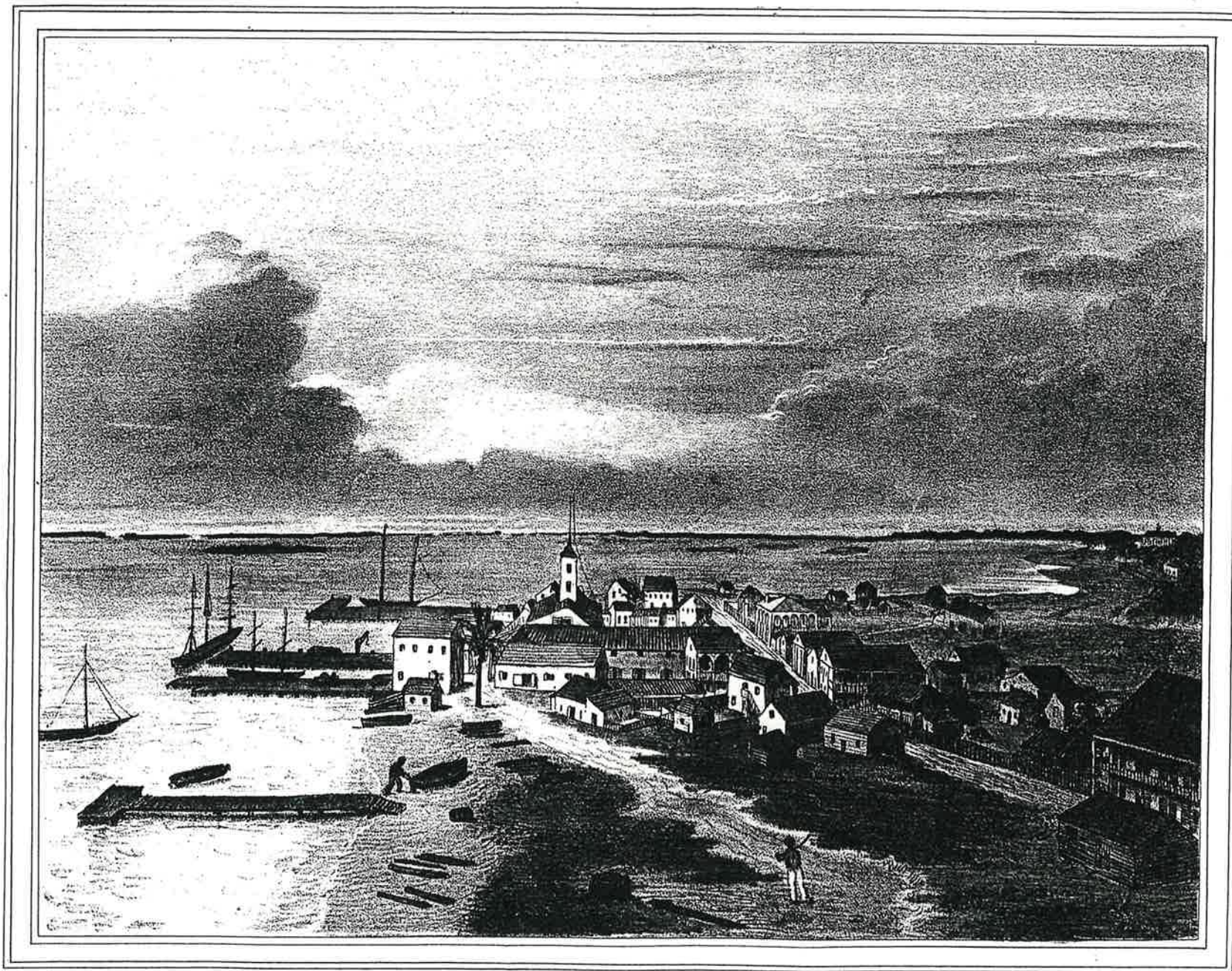
1794

2/13 Georgia Gazette p3 c1  
"The Brig *Echo*, Nicholls, from Jamaica for New York, was lost on  
the 22nd instant on the Martyr's Reef, on the coast of Florida."

1796

1/7 Georgia Gazette p3 c2  
The brig *Telegraphe*, Mariner, from Havana for Philadelphia, was  
driven ashore in a gale of wind at 5 o'clock am on Monday the 14th  
instant, on Sandy Key Reef. The masts were immediately cut away to  
secure the vessel, then beating hard on the reef. All the people  
got safe ashore on the key, with some provisions, baggage, and also  
about 40,000 dollars. On Tuesday the 15th, the sloop *Jane* from  
North Carolina, fell in with them, and brought intelligence of  
their situation to this place; upon which several vessels went off  
to their assistance. On Monday last the *Ranger*, Mackenny, got to  
them, and took the people with what they had secured on board, and





Lith par Prut

Mooy. West.  
Golfe du Mexique.

Lith. Ligny et C<sup>ie</sup>. Salle au Comte, 10.

FRANCIS COMTE DE CASTELLAN  
IS THE ARTIST. MISC FLORIDA  
MANUSCRIPTS, BOX 71, PKYNGE  
LIBRARY OF FLORIDA, HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, GAINESVILLE  
IT WAS IN COLOR, 1842 GIFT FROM GAIL SWANSON



21.

My Dear Samuel J. May  
Apr 11, 1837.



E. H. Johnson  
Cambridge W. Ma.

Went to the mill near  
your house and in the  
town of W. Ma.

W. J. Johnson, Apr 11, 37.

Key West Bombses Office  
September 11<sup>th</sup> 1857.

Colonel,

I have the honor to inform you that  
yellow fever of most malignant type has broken  
out in the town of Key West.

On Sunday morning, my friend Dr. Chapwell  
of the Marine Hospital requested me to assist him  
professionally in his family most of whom  
were ill of what he feared would prove to be  
yellow fever. His apprehensions proved but too  
well founded, and his wife and nephew,

Dr. C. Chapwell and eight of his negroes were  
down with the fever, Mr Chapwell died  
with perforate blade wound on the afternoon  
of the next day. On the same day (Wednesday)  
Mrs Deborah Chapwell was taken, and both she  
and her husband are so ill that their recovery  
is extremely doubtful. A little son of Dr  
Chapwell remains has the fever and is not  
expected to live.

In view of the above circumstances  
I have the honor to suggest and recommend  
the removal of the command at this post to  
Christian Key or some other locality distant  
from the town as this outbreak may be

The commencement of a severe epidemic's certainly,  
all who have seen the cases, pronounce them to be  
amongst the severest that have occurred on the  
Key;—and should the disease spread, there is  
strong probability that the common might be  
excepted off to a man from then onwards to the  
climate, and from the improbability of keeping  
them from the numerous low groppies about  
the town.

I have had full opportunity of  
observing these cases as I have been attending  
Dr Maxwell's family since Tuesday day and night,  
and the above are the steps that I deem it  
my duty to recommend to you to take before  
this fatal disease should spread.

Very Respectfully  
Yours &c &c  
E. N. Atkins.

Genl. & Col. J. H. Mordaunt & Family.

1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry,  
Commanding Bde.