

**A NATURE WOOING  
AT ORMOND BY THE  
SEA**

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A Nature Wooing at Ormond by the Sea by W. S. Blatchley

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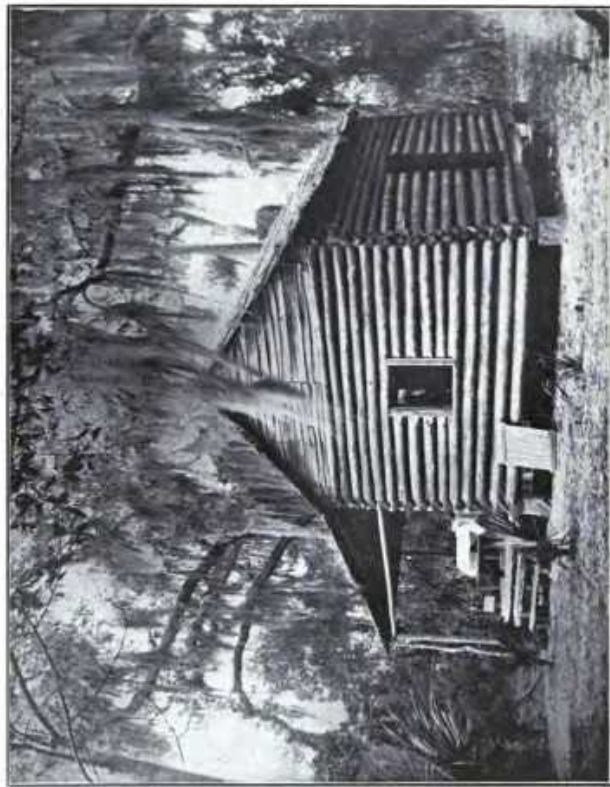
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**W. S. BLATCHLEY**

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Pl. I.



**THE CABIN AT MISENER'S LANDING ON THE TOMOKA.**  
Showing tufts of gray Spanish moss dangling from the limbs of a live oak tree.



# A NATURE WOOING

AT

ORMOND BY THE SEA

*W. S. Blatchley* BY  
W. S. BLATCHLEY

Author of "Gleanings From Nature"

"The morning wind forever blows, the poem of creation is uninterrupted;  
but few are the ears that hear it."

—Thoreau.



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To the thousands of tourists who, each winter, seek the shelter of the sunny skies and the companionship of the roaring surf at "Ormond by the Sea" this volume is inscribed, with the hope that in the minds of some of them it may engender an acquaintance with and a friendship for some of the more lowly forms which there abound.



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## PREFACE.

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"Go South and rest for a month or two." Thus my physician spoke in the late winter of 1898-'99, when I was suffering from a severe attack of nervous prostration. Southward I went, but my rest was mainly taken in the great hospital of Nature—the woods and fields of the region where I sojourned. There I jotted down facts and fancies concerning the animals and plants about me. There, at times, I indulged in reveries on other subjects, which, too, were scribbled in my daily note book. These I have incorporated, for the most part just as they were then written, in this little volume.

With my own thoughts I have combined many statements from others regarding the objects which I observed. These are mainly from the works of Bartram, Michaux, Say and other naturalists and travelers of nearly a century ago. Their books are becoming scarce, but the objects of which they wrote still abound and can be seen or heard by almost any visitor to the sunny southland who has an open eye and an ear atune with nature.

The book will, I trust, add something to what is known of the geographical distribution of many of