



A TYPICAL SCENE ON MUSKOKA LAKES.

A LAND OF SPORT AND PLEASURE.

CANADA, and that portion of the New England States through which the popular Grand Trunk Railway system runs, are *par excellence* in attractions held out to that large and increasing brotherhood of pleasure-seekers called tourists, and also have their full quota of delights and adventure for the sportsman and angler. The main artery of this great railway extends from the Atlantic Ocean, starting at Portland, Me., and running to Chicago, through one of the most beautiful portions of the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, conveying passengers to the Rangeley Lakes, whose waters abound with trout and land-locked salmon; to the heart of the White Mountains, the grandeur of whose mighty and lofty peaks and deep valleys leaves a lasting impression upon the beholder; then on to Canada, the first principal point to be reached in the Dominion being the beautiful city of Montreal, where the stranger has a world of natural beauty and whole volumes of historical romance to delight, instruct and amuse him. From this latter city a detour can be made to Quebec, "the Gibraltar of America," whose quaint buildings and mediæval ideas in the construction of its fortifications are a source of curiosity; as one writer has said, "Quebec is a

bit of the Mediæval Old World transplanted to the New." There are many interesting sights in close contiguity to this city which attract thousands of tourists every summer. The "Shrine of La Bonne Ste. Anne" is but a few miles away and is reached by rail, while a drive of nine miles brings the sight-seer to the Falls of Montmorency. From Quebec, steamer can be taken for the Lower St. Lawrence ports and the far-famed Saguenay River. A few hours north by rail the Lake St. John District, where the ouananiche abounds, can be reached. The Grand Trunk Railway is also the most direct and popular route from the West to Portland, Me., resorts on the beautiful Casco Bay, Old Orchard Beach and all seaside points on the Atlantic coast.

Westward from Montreal, this popular route passes through all the principal suburban summer resorts along the River St. Lawrence, at which thousands of the *élite* of Montreal live during the season; thence to Gananoque, a pretty town situated almost in the midst of the Thousand Islands. The name of this town is taken from the Indian, and means "Place of health."

At this point recently has been built one of the largest hotels on the River St. Lawrence, called the "Gananoque Inn," which has all the

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HUNTING NEAR LAKE ROSSEAU.

appointments and modern ideas for the comfort of travelers. Gananoque is also one of the best railway termini for the trip through the Thousand Islands.

Toronto, "the Queen City of Canada," with its magnificent streets and handsome buildings, is a favorite city for the tourist.

The principal parts of the country, however, which this article will deal with, are those situated in the northern part of the province of Ontario, which are attracting sportsmen and tourists from all points of the compass. These are the Muskoka District, Lake of Bays, and the Islands of Georgian Bay, located north of Toronto, and the Stony Lake country north of Peterboro', all reached by the Grand Trunk.

THE MUSKOKA LAKES.

These lakes lie embedded within a surrounding of some of the most beautiful scenery in the world, at an altitude of over five hundred feet above Lake Ontario, a little over a hundred miles north of Toronto.

Mere word-painting and imagery are inadequate to describe the beauties of this fairy land, and the trip must be taken to be appreciated. The Muskoka lakes are numbered by the thousand, but the principal ones are Muskoka (twenty-five miles), Rosseau (fifteen miles) and Joseph (twelve

miles), all connected and navigable by steamers from the starting-point, Muskoka Wharf, to the northern extremity of Lake Joseph.

To hunters it is a paradise; deer, bear, fox and partridge abound, while the gamiest of trout and bass and the weightiest of maskinonge are the delight of all who tempt its waters with rod and line.

An occasional eagle soars overhead, and the coaster by shallow shores can hardly fail, now and again, to startle a heron or a bittern, either wading in the water or flying with long legs stretched behind him. The red squirrel is abundant on island and mainland, and the

rabbit, or Canadian hare, is not uncommon, while mink and martens seek their food along the water's edge, too rocky for the muskrat, and the lumbering porcupine gratifies his stupid curiosity with a gaze at the passing canoe.

By a very large number in America the holiday season is looked forward to as the one bright spot in the year when the worry of business is cast aside and life is given up to enjoyment. To these, this locality is recommended. Experience and unlimited testimony have proved that in the Muskoka Lake District is to be found the elysium of the sportsman, the Mecca of the tourist. The hotel accommodation is all that can be desired, and about forty hostleries and boarding-houses are scattered along the line of the steambot route.

These lakes have an atmosphere that is not only dry and pure, but light, a matter of great importance in cases where the lungs are affected, and bearing along with it the health-giving properties of pine forests everywhere surrounding.

Hay fever cannot exist here, and the patient driven from home by that scourge finds imme-



MUSKOKA WHARF STATION.

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diate relief without medication; and the victim of overwork, brought to the verge of nervous prostration, will soon find himself pulling an oar with the vigor of a voyageur.

If you are inclined to a love of the backwoods and the many charms of nature as presented

man, deer, beaver, otter, duck, partridge and wild geese.

GEORGIAN BAY.

One of the grandest trips that Ontario affords is through the islands of Georgian Bay. It is



A TROUT RIVER.—MUSKOKA DISTRICT.

here, do not fail to spend your next vacation in the Muskoka Lakes District.

LAKE OF BAYS DISTRICT.

The region in the vicinity of Huntsville, Ont., has been designated the "Switzerland of Ontario." The village of Huntsville is situated 145 miles from Toronto, and is reached only by the lines of the Grand Trunk Railway system. At this point the railway connects with an admirable steamship service, which carries the tourist or sportsman up through the different lakes to Portage, where stage can be taken for the Lake of Bays, which is a mile distant over a good and picturesque roadway. Taking boat again here, a sail of twenty miles through the Lake of Bays brings us to Baysville. The waters in these parts, being in the granite region, are well stocked with salmon trout, speckled trout, white fish, bass and ling, all affording good sport for rod and troll. In the brooks, small streams and rivers, speckled trout abound, and remarkable sport can be enjoyed at any time. The hunting is also very good, and among the game may be found, to the heart's content of the sports-

estimated that there are about thirty thousand islands in this immense arm of Lake Huron. In general character they resemble those of the St. Lawrence River and Muskoka Lakes, but, of course, are infinitely more numerous, and still retain their original wild picturesqueness. Hour after hour, as the steamer glides on through narrow channels, in and out of innu-



PENINSULA LAKE.—LAKE OF BAYS DISTRICT.

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AMONG THE THIRTY THOUSAND ISLANDS OF GEORGIAN BAY.

merable bays and inlets, island after island succeeds one another in an unbroken continuity—islands of every conceivable shape and size. Some are bare and rocky; others are clad in verdure. For one hundred and seventy miles the steamer passes through this panorama of island scenery, and on to Manitoulin Islands, the largest in the group, and known to the Indians as “the Islands of the Great Spirit.” The Grand Trunk Railway trains from the East and West via Toronto connect with the steamers running on this route, at Collingwood.

STONY LAKE DISTRICT.

The Stony Lake District is situated about thirteen miles north of Peterboro', on the line of the Grand Trunk Railway system, and is reached by boat from Lakefield, distance about nine miles by rail from Peterboro'. Steamers run daily and thread their way up the crooked channel of Lake Katchewanooka (Lake of

many rapids), through stretches of drowned land covered with wild rice, the home of thousands of wild ducks and geese. Young's Point is soon reached, where the steamer is locked before passing into Clear Lake, a lovely stretch of water, some four miles long and about one mile wide. When calm this lake resembles a large sheet of glass, as it is devoid of islands, and has only for contrast the sky overhead and the short trees mirrored in its placid waters. What a change greets the eye as the steamer reaches the entrance to Stony Lake! Here the prospect is entirely different. Hundreds of islands dot the waters of this lake and break the monotony of the journey for at least ten miles.

This is a spot where the toiler can find rest and recuperate his lost vitality. Away from the bustle of city life and far from the “madding crowd,” we “throw physic to the dogs” and build up our health and strength with pure air and happy surroundings.

Capital fishing is also to be had in these parts, bass, maskinonge and trout being plentiful. During the latter part of the season there is an abundance of deer, duck, grouse, and wild geese, which are found in the woods and ponds.

Passengers and others reaching the Grand Trunk Railway system *via* Niagara Falls are conveyed over the magnificent new single-arch double-track steel bridge which spans Niagara's gorge, and which was built last year at an enormous cost, to replace the old Suspension Bridge. From the train, while crossing this beautiful structure, passengers have a bird's-eye view of the Falls, and also of the boiling and foaming waters of the gorge below.



GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY'S SINGLE STEEL ARCHBRIDGE OVER NIAGARA RIVER.