

tween four hundred and five hundred islands of every shape and size, ranging from one of over 1,100 acres, in Lake Rosseau, to those containing but a single tree, or a rock rising sheer from the water's edge. The most numerous, however, are densely covered with pine, balsam, cedar, birch, maple, oak and other varieties of tree life.

Many of the islands, on which have been erected handsome dwellings, are the private property of wealthy Americans and Canadians, but there are hundreds of choice little spots on which any party is at liberty to take up their abode for the season.

The radiant and ceaseless loveliness of Nature's ever-changing panorama is seldom more appreciated than in the midst of these lakes,

"Countercharged
with diamonds plots of dark and bright."

Muskoka is noted for the number and variety of its hotel and boarding-house accommodation situated at various points along the lakes. From these the visitor can select a place to suit his taste and purse. There are comfortable farmhouses, and scores of cleanly, well-kept hotels offering good, substantial food and endless variety of other attractions. The prices range from the modest fee of \$3 per week up to those of greater pretensions. The Royal Muskoka Hotel was erected in 1901 at a cost of \$170,000 by the Muskoka Navigation Company, to supply the ever-increasing demand by tourists for strictly first-class accommodations.

The first pleasant impression made by the "Royal Muskoka" upon travellers sailing up the lake is deepened upon the nearer approach of the boat to the island. One notes with pleasure the soft grey stucco walls, timbered across with dark wood, under its red-tiled roof, the deep, cool verandahs,



FISHERMAN'S LUCK.

which command lovely views of lake and islands. Not the least attraction of Muskoka is its remoteness from the noisy traffic and din of cities. All is beauty, quiet; and a new sense of life is soon felt as one drinks in the pure, bracing air that is so apparent to the new-comers.

The lover of solitude has no difficulty in finding the most exquisite spots in these fragrant woods in which to dream away the time or read in quiet. For the more socially inclined there are the great wide-winged, air-swept, shady verandahs, with their superb command of the loveliest views, and for all there are sports—canoeing, bathing, fishing, golfing, tennis, and water trips up and down the lakes.

As a hay fever resort, Muskoka is unexcelled, and thousands of sufferers