

afternoon last summer the writer scored a catch of thirty-nine, varying in weight from a pound and a half to five pounds. The open river from the point of the island to the government boom affords magnificent trolling for maskinonge. The average run is from five to fifteen pounds, though many a one has been caught as high as thirty-five pounds.

The sportsmanlike way to fish for these fierce fighters is to use about a twelve-ounce split bamboo, a strong silk line and the largest sized bass hook baited with a big live minnow, or, what is equally good, a small chub. Moving quietly up and down the river, trolling as near as possible to the numerous weed-beds, you are pretty sure to have a few strikes, after which it becomes a trial of skill to land the victim. A ten, fifteen, or perhaps a twenty pound fish at the end of an ordinary silk line, attached to a twelve-ounce rod, will stand no fooling; if you allow him the slightest bit more liberty than you ought to he is quick to take advantage of your indiscretion, and you are left to lament your lost prize over broken tackle or a smashed tip. But, if you have been there before, and learned a lesson by experience, you will be as cool as a cucumber, patient as an Indian on the trail and wary as a lightning-rod agent after his prey.

With eyes fixed on the neighborhood of where your fish is manœvering, be quick to respond to his every whim, humor him when he sulks, coax him when he lags too long, restrain him gently in his mad rushes, and never forget the mighty truth that the victory is never won until he is taken in out of the wet.

Those who desire to learn just where the choicest "reaches" are to be found should make the acquaintance of Mr. Deacon, the slide master, or Mr. Brady, the ferryman. Both these parties know every inch of the river, both of them own some comfortable, safe boats, and their charges are of the most moderate character. The banks of the river hereabouts are high, and some delightful spots can be selected on which to camp, or, if house accommodation is preferred, it can be found at a very reasonable figure close by.