

merits a sojourn from the tourist to visit its interesting surroundings. Near by are the High Falls and the Great South Falls, the most commanding natural feature in Muskoka. Beaumaris, the southernmost of these summer resorts, and which boasts of a large and excellent hotel, is situated on Tondern Island.

Port Carling is the most central of all the villages on the lakes, being the conveying point for all steamers running to and fro on the three lakes; thus access to all parts can most conveniently be obtained from this centre. At this point locks connect Lakes Muskoka and Rosseau.

Lake Rosseau is fourteen miles long to its extremest point, and is one of the most interesting and charming of lakes in this region. The scenery is much varied, and at one point there is a most remarkable echo. The southern portion of this lake is fairly gemmed with islets, and as they were early selected for their beauty and admirable situation, more island population has been accumulated in this part than in any other. The lower part of Lake Rosseau is called "Venetia," as it is aptly designated, for not in Venice itself are more boats used or needed.

The Shadow River, one of the most natural curiosities of the Muskoka region, empties its water into the bay on the shores of which Port Rosseau stands. In front and behind the river winds like a silver creek, hemmed in on either side by forest trees, and losing itself in the distant curves. The surface is as motionless as glass, and everything is duplicated in marvellous detail, each leaf and branch having its reflected counterpart even more distant than it appears itself.

The fair trees look over, side by side,
And see themselves below.

On a small tributary of the Shadow River are the Bridal Veil Falls, which make silver music in the forest grove, and a visit perchance may give some hesitating, anxious swain an opportunity of freeing from his halting tongue the words which cleave so closely to his heart. The lofty headland of Eagle's Nest is a conspicuous and interesting spot on this lake.

Lake Joseph, the third of the series of the Lakes of Muskoka, was for a long time a *mare incognitum*, except to venturesome spirits, though those who have viewed the charms of this lake claim for it a beauty surpassing that of all others. Its islands rise more abruptly and to higher elevation, and more rugged cliffs line its shores than do those of the other lakes. All who have visited these charming regions will agree with the encumbrances paid to those three lakes—Muskoka, Rosseau, and Joseph. It is hard to say which of the three is the most beautiful, but no more enchanting summer tour is offered on this continent, while most comfortable and home-like hotels are everywhere to be found. The extension of this Northern and North-Western Division of the Grand Trunk to Lake Nipissing, has opened up a new and most inviting field to the tourist and sportsman.

Twenty-four miles by train from Gravenhurst, Utterson, a station on this line, is reached, where, within easy access, is Mary Lake, one of the gems of Muskoka; its surface is studded with many islands, where berries of various kinds are plentiful in the season, and where delightful spots may be chosen for pic-nics and camps. At the foot of the lake, upon a gentle elevation overlooking its length, is Port Sydney. A good supply of boats is kept here, and most pleasant trips may be made upon these romantic little lakes. Progressing further to the north, Huntsville, a rapidly growing commercial centre, and an important tourist point, is reached. Connection is here made with a new chain of lakes, whose waters may be followed, either west to their source, or east and south, until they are drained by the Muskoka River. From Huntsville, a most seductive trip may be made up the lakes, either by steamer or canoe. Throughout these upper waters, and in the tributary streams, there is excellent trout fishing.

Katrine is an important railway point, and is the centre of a splendid lake country; and here connection may be made with the Maganetawan River Chain. The railway continues following the banks, for four miles, during which the river is crossed four times, and Burk's Falls is reached. This station