

# LAND AND WILDLIFE

DEVOTED TO ORIGINAL HUNTING, FISHING AND DESCRIPTIVE ARTICLES.

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## MACKAY'S LAKE.

BY ALGONQUIN.

THE lake above mentioned lies about two miles from the centre of the city of Ottawa, and about half a mile from the bank of the Ottawa River. It is a small body of clear water, with a marl bottom in which a pole might be easily pushed down, apparently to any distance. When the writer was a boy of ten years of age he went one Saturday afternoon to this lake to fish. There was neither boat nor canoe on the lake, and we were for a time at a standstill. However, one of the larger boys of the party had fortunately brought an axe and an auger. Three or four good-sized cedars were soon felled, and a float was rapidly constructed, upon which we quickly embarked and started out to try our luck. We had lots of live minnows with us, and after some difficulty managed to shove down a pole, about twenty feet long, into the mud, which, as there was no current, kept the float stationary. We then baited our hooks and cast in the lines, when there was a rapid rush of large pike all round. There were five in the party, and for two hours they were all kept busy hauling in the pike. The fish ran from two to five and six pounds in weight, and it may be readily imagined that we were all heavily laden on our slow march homewards. The lake had never been fished in before, and, as a consequence, it was alive with fine fish. At the time I speak of there were no saw-mills here, and no trees cut away on the banks of the "Grand River," as it was then

called; consequently the water was pure and clear, and the shores were replete with scenes of beauty unsurpassed in magnificence. Another feature of the beautiful little lake I had almost forgotten. Our cedar float had not been long moored when a crowd of black water snakes, about three feet long, came from all sides and boarded our craft. Not having much love for this unwelcome addition to our party, I laid my rod aside and, with a good, heavy stick, I commenced the slaughter. I am certain that I must have killed over fifty of the unwelcome intruders during the evening.

ruffed grouse and pigeons, and in the adjacent cedar swamps, which have nearly all disappeared, hares and foxes were abundant. The foxes still hang on in slightly diminished numbers, and I seldom fail to get a "start" in November and December whenever I put out my Yankee fox-beagles, which I got from Dr. Plunkett, of Lowell, Mass. They are much better dogs for hares than the dwarf beagles, and as good on deer or foxes as the best fox-hounds in America. — *Amateur Sportsman.*

Ottawa, Canada.

## Our Megantic Illustrations.



At present, a solitary snake may be seen in this lake occasionally, and the fish are almost as scarce there now as the snakes. By means of a creek between Mackay's Lake and the Grand River the lake had been stocked with fish from the river during the high water in spring. There are, however, a few fine pike in it yet, which can be caught either with a minnow or metal trawl. The woods around Mackay's Lake, in old times, were full of deer,

These illustrations appeared in former issues of this journal, but as "Cherry Bank," from which the views were taken, is now for sale, we have concluded to republish them. Cherry Bank is nearly midway of the length of the Lake Megantic and on the East shore of the lake. Three or four steamers ply daily through the lake, and almost opposite the property is the finest trolling ground for lake trout or "lunge," to be found round the lake. The owner, Mrs. T. C. Jones, is now a resident of Winnipeg, and intends fixing her summer residence nearer home, and this the only reason for disposing of the property. There is a neat and commodious two story house erected on it, and the property is admirably situated and adopted for either agricultural purposes, sub-division into villa lots with lake frontup, or for a gentleman's ground. Excellent hunting and fishing, (moose, caribou, deer and lake and speckled trout,) in the immediate vicinity. The Canadian Pacific Railway passes a short distance to the rear, and the Franklin & Megantic R.R. will pass over or near the property. Further particulars may be obtained on application to the publishers of this journal.