
THE BEAUTIES OF THE UPPER OTTAWA

THE OTTAWA RIVER is navigable for fifty miles above the Town of Pembroke and for three and one-half miles below the Town, and I doubt very seriously if a prettier stretch of river can be found in the Dominion of Canada than that fifty-three miles. At no point is the river less than 400 yards in width, while in places it is as wide as two miles and a half. The Saguenay truly is beautiful, the Thousand Islands idolized by many as the ideal place for spending a



THE STately OISEAU ROCK, WHICH TOWERS
500 FEET OUT OF THE WATER.

summer vacation, the Muskoka Lakes raved about by thousands as a camping ground, but we do not hesitate in saying that the beauties of these three spots do not surpass those of the Upper Ottawa River in any one particular. It is only because the Upper Ottawa has not been sufficiently advertised, that it has not attracted more summer tourists and campers. At present the River with its many islands is used as a summer rendezvous almost entirely by the citizens of Pembroke, although a few families from different parts of Ontario and some

from the United States visit it every summer. The time is not far distant, however, when the Upper Ottawa will be recognized as one of Canada's premier summer resorts and will attract tourists from all parts of the continent.

The Town of Pembroke boasts of a fleet of 150 motor boats, varying in style and size from the every-day putt-putt to the latest four-cylinder speed launch capable of travelling twenty-five miles an hour. All day Sunday and every evening during the summer these boats can be seen either running about Allumette Lake in front of the town or heading off in some appointed direction to the spot where the owner has his summer cottage, there to lie at anchor until the owner enjoys a Sunday's rest in shirt sleeves after a hard week's work, or until he has slept like a log in the dry, pure air, and is ready to return to work next morning, feeling like an entirely new individual. The owners of motor boats in Pembroke are not at all stingy. They never seem satisfied unless they have their boats filled with friends and are always anxious to take visitors to the town out for a sail. Every summer a regatta or two is held, the events of which are always keenly contested and greatly enjoyed by the residents of the Town, who flock to the Mackie Dock by thousands on the day of the regatta to witness the proceedings.

It is very hard to determine at just what point the Upper Ottawa is most beautiful. At Petewawa, just ten miles above Pembroke, where it is thickly dotted with islands, one cannot help but be impressed with what a really wonderful work of nature the river is; at Fort William, on the Quebec side, just four miles further, where a big summer hotel is located, it is exceptionally pretty, while about twenty-six miles from Pembroke, where the stately Oiseau Rock towers some five hundred feet out of the water, it is the height of picturesqueness.

The Ottawa River abounds with fish. Practically every species of fresh water fish, save the trout, have been caught in its waters. Anglers from the district surrounding Pembroke for 75 miles, come to the shores of the Ottawa River, and never have to leave until they have satisfied themselves with a splendid catch.