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Introduction.

IT is indeed a good thing that a means of supply is given us for every real need, that as the seasons roll round with their ceaseless changes, the genius of man is constantly devising means of meeting and filling the need of the hour, and so making, not only the waste places of the earth, but of men's souls also, to "blossom as the rose." Perhaps the past century, which has witnessed the civilization of our own "Goodly Countrie" and has developed and taxed the energies of her people to the utmost, has not known a greater need than this one of rest and recreation for body and mind during some portion of each year in order that their work may not prove an overtax, and they suddenly find themselves, while yet in the prime of life and apparent health, stricken down and out of their places, and "be known there no more forever." Often the men so stricken are such as we can ill spare; their places are not easily filled, and a means provided which will sustain and prolong their usefulness is a priceless boon. Such means are at hand; we have only to avail ourselves of the benefits to be gained thereby. Not least among the many retreats offered for this purpose is the Thousand Islands. It is identified with many scenes of the earliest history of our country, and though it is only recently its peculiar beauty and fitness as a resting place "amid the toil of the years" has become generally known to the people, yet, since the story has been told, its success has been almost unparalleled, and from East, West, North and South, its praises are sounded by those who have been made glad by its beauty, rested in its serene quiet, and so been restored to the glad fullness of useful living. Please read the attempt at a description we give you—it is only an attempt; the beauty of this place can only be realized by an actual visit, which, we trust, this little book may prove an incentive to you to undertake.