

In favorite localities, especially those which are easily reached from the large towns, these summer retreats of all patterns and varieties from the humble single roomed shanty to the elaborate upper story Swiss cottage, with its verandahs and balconies are to be found clustered in hundreds. Here steamers ply throughout the summer, canoes are gliding over the water, tents are pitched around the cottages, flags are flying and the whole presents a gay and animated scene entirely characteristic of summer life in Canada and the Northern States.

To the man of business, the clerk, the tradesman, and the artisan, this annual outing in tent or shanty of course is the analogue of the Englishman's yearly visit to the seaside. But how much more delightful than the seaside lodging house; and how much more economical. To the boys and girls it is of course a veritable paradise.

Throughout the summer there is excellent fishing in all lakes, the bass and maskinonge (Maskenonzhu of Longfellow's Hiawatha) being the principal game. These run to large sizes and take the spinning, as well as dead baits and to their capture a great many summer campers devote the greater portion of their time and energies.

The intending resident, after deciding on his head quarters, will soon fix on some site for his summer cottage. This he can easily select, as he will no doubt prefer to do, away from the popular and more crowded localities, which can be avoided while still keeping in touch with the steamers on which you depend for your mails and supplies.

In fact you may go further than this—should you especially prefer a rural life and be unburdened with a growing family, which necessitates nearness to a school—you can make your permanent residence on some such spot. Hundreds of sites can be found on the banks of some lake or river, whence a driving track can easily be cut through the woods to the nearest road, and communication thus obtained with some post office and general store. Land of course can be had very cheaply in such situations, and a good comfortable house can be erected for some £300 to £500. A very delightful settlement in Ontario could be effected on these lines by anyone whose tastes it would suit.

At the end of August the heats of summer relax and the holidays being ended, the majority of campers and summer cottagers return to their homes. But we are now entering on that most beautiful of seasons, the Canadian autumn, and the gentleman at large who has no special calls upon him will continue his stay among the lakes for a much longer time. His cottage fitted up with a stove or with the more cheerful open fire-place, will afford a warm and comfortable abode long after the first element of cold is felt, and in fact right on into the winter if desired.

During September and October the backwood lakes are wonderfully beautiful and the weather perfect. Even far into November very delightful weather often lasts.

Duck shooting opens on the first of September and continues until the lakes freeze.

Partridge shooting (strictly not a partridge but the Canada ruffed grouse) is in season during the autumn and up to the end of December.