

In the hotels it is a life of feverish excitement ; of subjection to imposition and extortion ; of plot and counterplot from the landlord to the porter. In the day time we suffer from torrid heat, sand flies, and stinging insect pests outside, with the constant fear of the undertow, should a bath be indulged in to cool our heated bodies, whilst at eventide, mosquitoes, fog, and malaria are most prevalent. Comfort or home privacy we have none, enjoyment is a myth, and instead of the robust health sought for, we obtain an enfeebled constitution and diminished energy. To Europe, I should say emphatically, No! We do not wish to become the laughing-stock of Europeans, as numbers of our countrymen are, for you know the last time we were in London the remark that was made at the Exchange, 'How little these Americans seem to know about their own country, so vast and apparently attractive in its proportions,'—set me thinking that as we have a continent of our own, extending from the Pole to Panama, surely it will be best for us to study our own country and our neighbors to the North. The suggestion, to Europe, oh, how absurd! They boast of their seas or their lakes—we could empty the Russian Caspian, and Azovs, the Dead Sea of Syria, and the Nyanzas, Alberts, and Maggies of Africa, into our deep and mighty Superior, our lovely Michigan and Huron, or our pleasant Erie and Ontario, and scarce produce a ripple on their pebble-lined or sandy shores. We have a thousand gems of lakes and bays from Simcoe, Joseph, Rosseau, Magnetawan and Nipissing to the crystal lakes on Vancouver's Island, that would make all their Comos Windermers, Killarneys, and Genevas hide their faces with a blush of shame—therefore, to Europe, oh, no! That for my part is decided. The only objection I have to the Lower St. Lawrence is that you well know it is but a feeding-ground for combinations that I do not care to particularize, and the gloom of Saguenay, and the mosquitoes of Ramouski, are as suggestive to the visitor as they are real in fact. So, if you will accept a suggestion from me, let us all take to the Georgian Bay and the Upper Lakes, a trip in which our expenses will be light, our pleasure great, whilst our health will be fully renewed and fit us for another season of toil and business excitement. Well, what say you all? The Georgian Bay let it be! So now get down your map and let us go to work to look up the route. The through lines that make their terminus on our Northern border, are numerous and well-equipped, and no difficulty is experienced in booking through to Rochester, Niagara Falls, or Cleveland, from any portion of the States, whilst from either of those places we take the boat,