



GRAND TRUNK STANDARD TRAIN

INTRODUCTION

THE bursting of the springtime sun which warms to life the tender offspring of the kingdom of Flora, and under whose powerful influence the ice-bound rivers and snow-clad mountains of our northern countries seem glad to return to their normal condition, is also the time when the sportsman, angler and tourist, and seeker after health and pleasure are on the alert to determine when and where to spend their holiday season.

To a very large number in North America and other countries, the summer season, as well as the spring and fall, is looked forward to as the one bright spot in the year, when for a brief space the cares of business are cast aside and life is given up to enjoyment; there are also those less trammelled and free to seek out these pleasures wherever they may be found. To either class these pages will not appeal in vain, for the daily improvements and increased facilities of modern travel, the easy accessibility of places which, until recently, were considered out of the way, render it constantly more difficult to determine which place will prove to be the most enjoyable. Experience, the testimony of thousands and the popularity of the several districts located on the lines of the Grand Trunk Railway System, is conclusive proof that they are the Elysium of the sportsman and the Mecca *par excellence* of the tourist. Many of the regions reached by the Grand Trunk seem to have been specially prepared for the delectation of mankind, pleasures as varied as the scenes being realized. Among these districts are the resorts reached by the northern division of this system. The very formation of this lake country, known as "The Highlands of Ontario," presents unrivalled facilities for hunting, fishing and camping. The spirit of the most enthusiastic angler rises with the elevating influence of the scene, for his trained eye can take in at a glance the increasing activity existing beneath the trembling, transparent bosom of the matchless waters that are found within the confines of this extensive tract of pleasure grounds, where myriads of the finny tribe, unmolested, disport themselves. During the summer season, what time is not taken up with the pleasure of feasting the eye on the charms of Nature, may be spent with much profit in camping and fishing, and in the autumn, when the "sere and yellow leaf" reminds one that the sun is hastening to gladden other climes, the disciples of the gun, and the lovers of the chase, take almost entire possession of the field. Other districts east of what is known as the Muskoka Lakes District, but included in the high altitude of "The Highlands," are the haunts of probably the largest brook trout on the continent, many of the fish running up to from six to