

There is a profound utility, in the furtherance of the ends of justice, in the provision which secures to every accused citizen the right to be tried by a jury of his *peers*. Perhaps this is sometimes too much lost sight of. A comparatively unlettered farmer or mechanic may not be in the best position to estimate the subtleties of thought and the peculiarities of motive of the professional and scholarly man, but when the individual to be judged is one of his own class, the chances of a correct judgment may often be greater with him than with a philosopher as juror. At any rate, it will be long we venture to predict, before a free people will be ready to surrender the right of trial by jury, to accept as a substitute the expert judgment of any one man, however trained in weighing evidence or however skilled in analyzing motive he may be supposed to be.

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Summer Colonies.

PITCHFORK Nature out of the door, and we all know the result. The people who flock into the cities try to bring Nature back to their midst in parks and boulevards, but once a year, at least, all, who can afford it, strike out to seek her where she is to be found, and to spend the hottest months of the year in an atmosphere that is free from smoke and the rush of city life. The votaries of fashion in the Eastern States renew the round of gaiety and display of gowns at Naragansette and Bar Harbour, but, however pleasant these resorts may be, they cost more money than the average family can afford, and they do not supply the complete rest and change of living, which those, whose lot it is to bear the wear and tear of city life, require.

The study of the different features and tendencies of summer travel naturally belongs to those persons, who are interested in railways and hotels; but we, the uninitiated, can find food for serious and interesting reflection in some of the more apparent features of the subject, which lie before our eyes.

The last census returns show an enormous increase in the city population of the United States. Between the years 1880 and 1890, in the State of Illinois alone, while the rural population decreased by 114,000 the urban population during the same decade increased 862,529 or more than 66 per cent.; again, it is a well-known fact that there has been an enormous increase in nervous diseases consequent on the strain and excitement incident to life in a city, and many are wisely coming to the conclusion that prevention is better than cure. The climate in the cities of the Southern States, indeed in most of the cities in the United States, especially where there is no body of water near at hand, render it almost a necessity for women and children to migrate to the country in the hottest months, just as families in India move up to the hills. At the same time, the country has been growing richer and consequently there has been a large accession to the number of those, who can afford to travel.

Side by side and parallel with the growth of cities, the increase of wealth and the desire for travel, as might be expected, we find an extraordinary increase in the travel of people in search of climate. The railway companies report each winter a heavier traffic to Florida and California, subject, of course, to fluctuations arising from extraordinary causes; and we have the authority of the General Passenger Agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway in saying that there has been a remarkable growth during the last fifteen years in the summer travel to the Great Lakes, not only from the adjacent but also the more distant cities of the United States.

These considerations emphasize strongly the great value attaching to climate, the importance of a careful study of the summer wants of the average city population and the necessity for organized effort to encourage and direct the stream of summer immigration. Florida and California have practically a monopoly in the reputation for a mild winter climate and this is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars to them every year. But we search in vain for any wide advertisement in the press or railway pamphlets of the best summer climate on the continent.

From a gentleman living in Galveston, on the Gulf of

Mexico, we learn that the people of Texas more and more every year look to the Great Lakes as the most desirable summering ground, and through the Central and Southern States this idea seems now, in spite of the absence of advertisement, to be well established.

The importance of this fact is gradually dawning upon the people of Ontario and a new hope is springing up in the towns situated near the water, who had begun to lose heart by the drainage of their people to Toronto. Barrie, on Lake Simcoe; Cobourg, on Lake Ontario; Goderich and Sarnia, on Lake Huron, are all beginning to wake up and realize the value of their natural attractions, and there are developments and rumours of developments for the accommodation of summer visitors.

Generally speaking, throughout all the region known as the Great Lakes the climate near the water is delightful, but nowhere on this continent, we might say, in the world, can be found a more delightful and health-giving climate during the summer months than on the east shore of Lake Huron. The prevailing winds are from the west and north-west, and are rendered wonderfully cool and soft by a passage of five hundred miles across Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron. The summer months are uniformly fine, while the high elevation of the coast line precludes all possibility of malaria.

The wants of the average city family during the summer months may be summed up as follows: Fresh air, proximity to water, congenial social surroundings, amusement and, above all, a rest from house-keeping—at a moderate cost.

The cheap, summer hotel is not popular, the restrictions are irksome, the fellow-lodgers are an uncertain quantity and the quality of the food is generally not what it might be. As a consequence, the summer cottage finds more favour with those who can afford to get away for a few months, and many, for the sake of privacy, like the amphibious tourists from Canadian cities to Muskoka and the St. Lawrence, put up with rough cooking without servants in a cottage of their own, rather than endure the discomforts of a cheap hotel. To meet this want, at Crystal Springs, near Buffalo, and Huronia Beech, near Sarnia, a number of cottages have been built with a central hall near by, which serves the double purpose of a ball-room and a restaurant, and the success of both these enterprises would seem to justify our opinion that a skilful perfection of this system would most completely provide for the migratory wants of the great mass of city dwellers on this continent.

A most suggestive object lesson is afforded by the Humbertstone Club, near Port Colbourne, on Lake Erie. In 1888, we are informed, a gentleman from Tennessee, attracted by the advantages offered there for a summering ground, purchased five acres and built a cottage for himself. Among his friends he formed a summer club, and there are now twenty-eight cottages, costing from three to four hundred dollars, occupied by families from Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Virginia and Louisiana. Every year they come in a special car, bringing with them their own caterer, who dispenses meals in a central pavilion.

From this will be seen the importance of appreciating the principle of social attraction, which forms so prominent a feature in the colonization of new countries.

Not only is this important as showing the value of collecting and printing the opinions of satisfied visitors for the purposes of advertising, but also, as suggesting the wisdom of constructing cottages in groups or colonies, which will naturally lead to the formation of such associations or clubs as that which has been so successful at Port Colbourne—a practice which should be stimulated by every possible means.

We have, then, a number of towns in Ontario situated upon the Great Lakes all anxious to secure the favour of the summer visitor. Are these towns in reality rivals of each other, or are their interests identical? Should they keep each other at arm's length, or would they not rather be benefited by co-operation in the attraction of visitors? This is a very important question, for the investment of capital is delayed by the want of a system to direct visitors. It is necessary that we should first have a clear understanding of the conditions, which must be taken into consideration before we can give a rational answer.

We might briefly mention some of the points having a direct bearing upon this subject, which occur to us at the moment of writing.