

but its gates are always freely wide open to every one. The organization was formally effected and land purchased in September, 1877, and during the fall of that year work was commenced in clearing and opening avenues through the dense forest growth which covered a large part of the grounds. Lots were laid out and a considerable number sold in the spring of 1878, at which time a hotel was erected and the Park opened to public use. Its growth has not been so rapid as that of the Thousand Island Park, having lacked the concentration and energy of denominational purpose which characterized the other. Whether it is because Presbyterians have not the push, and energy, and combined effort, and shouting power of their Methodist brethren, or because they are naturally slower and more conservative, we do not pretend to decide. Little effort has ever been made here in the way of inaugurating meetings, and bringing noted speakers to draw the crowds, only a Sunday school convention for a week having been held in 1879. The trustees have rather sought to make it a place where individuals and families who desire may find and enjoy a quiet home, with abundant room to ramble, or ride through the extensive avenues, for which purpose carriages are at hand for those who desire to use them.

The grounds have been opened but just sufficiently to develop the possibilities of the future. They afford views of forest and water in every conceivable variety, and on the higher points, of great extent. The growth has been considerable, solid, and of good material, but from the great extent of the grounds is not so obvious at a single glance as if the improvements were more concentrated. Some fine cottages and residences have been built, which with the Park House, generally accommodate a population of several hundreds during the summer months. The trustees have large faith that this is yet to be *the Park* of the Thousand Islands. In its natural features, and the great variety of its surface and scenery, it is thought by some much to resemble the great Central Park of New York City, but the large circuit of its water boundary, and the greater height of its eminences and rocky precipices, with the great extent and variety of its natural forest growth, give it the advantages of mingled and various views of land, water and foliage no where else to be seen except among the Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence. While the boat lies a few minutes at the dock, we may call at the Park House, stroll about some of the nearest avenues, and so get a glimpse of some of the cottages