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CANADIANS ABROAD SAY

Can you send over some Trap? I don't mean flatter but it is ahead of anything we get here.— A. W. W., Batavia, N. Y.







VOL. IV.

MONTREAL, APRIL, 1903

No. 11

Northern Ontario.

BY H. BARNARD.

(Continued from the March issue.)

Hudson's Bay Post, Lake Abitibi, cannot be called a settlement. It consists of the house and store houses of the company, several log houses in a more or less state of dilapidation, and a Roman Catholic church. The Indians, who all go north hunting in the winter, return in the spring with their catch of furs ; then the place is a large village of tents. They stay here all summer, living on what they have made in the winter, and when it is time to return north, usually the latter part of August, gc into debt for their supply of provisions for the coming winter, to be paid for in furs when This goes on from year to they return. year, and apparently through the whole course of their existence. Some of them save a little, and are better off than their neighbors; but as a rule they are thriftless and improvident, and seem to have no object in life beyond the bare necessities of the hour. They are handicapped in the struggle for existence by the force of circumstances, which might be summed up in the simplicity of their nature, lack of education, want of ambition and the white man's greed. Perhaps they are filling the place which nature intended; and as the great civilizer, the railroad reaches out, game and animals, taken for their fur, their means of support, are driven northward, and with them the remnant of a race dying or losing its identity by absorption into the mass of society, higher or lower as it encroaches upon their hunting grounds.

The Indians here at present seem poor in everything except dogs-dogs of every color and mongrel breed that dogs can attain, always hungry, and the most rascally thieves in existence. It took one man his whole time to prevent them from slealing our provisions, and when we were at dinner we had dogs in front, dogs behind and dogs all round, so that it required constant vigilance on our part to get our legitimate share. They stole a can of pork and beans, and, I think, one of the can openers. I believe if a loaded shotgun were left around they would steal the cartridges out of it. There is The more no tax on dogs at Abitibi. dogs you have the better off you are. Their owners seem to regard them as part of the family, and with them enjoy their mode of life; but whether they are happy, pleased or discontented, their countenances give no sign. It may be easy to see "the mind's construction in the face " of an ordinary white man, but not in that of the North American aborigine, at least the Abitibi sample.

The women are very shy. If they see you coming they will seek the seclusion of their tents quickly. After you pass, if you turn around you will likely catch a glimpse of two or three heads for a moment that have been taking a sly look at you. Some of the tents are quite tidy, and the younger women nicely dressed, and even good looking; but these were exceptions. We managed to get a few pairs of moccasins and some birch bark baskets. These we know are genuine Indian work.

Lake Abitibi is forty or fifty miles long. The water is shallow and muddy. Fish are fairly plentiful, such as they are, and consist of pike, whitefish, pickerel, perch, etc. I do not think they grow to very large size.

In two weeks time the Indians will all have departed, and I cannot imagine what there is to do in such a dismal place to make life bearable till their return. One might well exclaim :

"O solitude, where are the charms, That sages have seen in thy face? Better dwell in the midst of alarms Than reign in this horrible place."

We left Abitibi in a drizzling rain, registering an inward vow that our next visit would not likely be in the near A good stiff breeze sprung up future. The clouds broke and helped us along. and the weather cleared, for all of which we were most devoutly thankful. We soon got into the river; Abitibi was lost to sight, and we are fairly started on the return trip, which is pretty much the same as the up, with the exception that we paddle up stream and view the scenery from a different standpoint with renewed interest.

Our objective point is now the island where our provisions are "cached," it having been decided by our friends, Mr. and Mrs. Beworth, to return by the same route as we came, while it is my intention to branch off at this point to strike the route back to North Timiskaming by way of the Blanche River. We therefore proceed on our way leisurely out of Abitibi Lake; the canoe with our fair companion is in the lead, and at a distance of perhaps a hundred yards a big freight canoe is following; we bring up the rear. Presently we hear a shot; the lady has knocked over a duck that was imprudent enough to fly too close. Further on another shot is fired; the duck was hit, that was plain, but it kept on for fifty yards or more and then suddenly toppled over, to the immense delight and astonishment of the six Indians in the big canoe, who never saw ducks shot on the wing. They thought the lady was a good shot, and they were right.

She had got accustomed to firing out of the canoe, and was dangerous to trifle with. This is the only time that I saw Indians demonstrative, and I believe the only thing to stir them to this pitch is to kill. To take life is part of their nature, and to see it done in an artistic manner commends itself to their admiration. This is the only way in which I can account for the manifestation.

The big canoe shoots ahead, and is soon lost to sight, and we "pursue the even tenor of our way." By the time we get to our camping place for the night, we have secured four ducks. These having been dressed and prepared for the pot, we supped like allermen on stewed duck, which was a creation of the fair adventurer responsible for the principal ingredient.

The only incident which happened on the way till our arrival at Cache Island was the meeting of the big freight canoe which we encountered going down, now on its return, loaded. At our first camping place on the up trip, Mr. B. left a valuable fishing rod standing against a tree. It was not missed till we were many miles away, so we continued our journey without it, with very little hope of seeing it again; but the freight canoe crew had camped there and found the rod, brought it away, and cheerfully returned it to its owner, who, happy in the recovery of the lost article, contributed a fair sum to the finder, and we parted company, feeling very much satisfied at the outcome.

Crossing the Height of Land portage, we met a Mr. —, a nice looking lady and two merry-eyed, sweet-faced girls. The gentleman was an inspector in the employ of the Hudson Bay Company, travelling in great style in a big canoe, with plenty of provisions and six men, including a chief. I really could not do justice to a description of travel of this kind under such pleasant and favorable conditions. Suffice it to say. the two merry girls, whose ages might be 13 or 15, were bubbling over with merriment. There was not much room for doubt as to how they were enjoying We chatted for a few moments with it. the inspector, who was very agreeable, and then took leave, each to go in the opposite direction.

We reached Cache Island early. Here we had dinner, the last meal we were to We then divided our have together. cooking utensils, and, having found our cached effects intact, portioned out the provisions, loaded our canoes, said farewell, and each party-Mr. and Mrs. B. and their guides and I with minedeparted in different directions, expecting to meet at North Timiskaming a week later. I should have mentioned that I called at the Indian camp for the little dog, before referred to, so that we were now a party of three, the guide, the dog and myself. The guide has given the dog an Indian name, Ah-nooke, which means hunter. Our route now lies through a rough and wild There are fifteen portages on region. it, two of them being a mile long, and the others not so long, but all difficult. This matter having been discussed, it was concluded that this part of the trip would be too rough for Mr. and Mrs. B., especially for Mr. B., and we therefore thought it the better plan to separate. This route having been mapped out by me in the first place, I am somewhat tenacious of purpose when I arrive at a decision, and I did not feel like making any change in my plans regarding it, especially as I had been travelling through a country full of moose, red deer, bears and caribou, and had only succeeded so far in sighting the tails of two deer. I started out to see a moose. and I do not think I would be here now writing this if my ambition in this respect had not been gratified.

We leave Cache Island at 2 o'clock, and now the Abitibi express puts on full The intervening four miles to steam. the first portage on our route is covered in short order. Here we commence where the good qualities of a first-class The trail is guide are brought out. through swamp and over high rocks, through dense thicket and underbrush, over fallen trees and rough ground. You would wonder how he knows the path. But with a hundred pounds weight on his back, fastened with the tump-line across his head, and the canoe overturned and resting on his brawny shoulders, he trudges along so fast that I cannot follow quick enough. He is soon out of sight, and before I am half across I have lost

the trail, so that I sit down, glad to take a rest till his return, my load of a hundred pounds or over not getting any lighter as I proceed. Little Ah-noo-ke was good company in this wild place, its playful antics breaking the loneliness of the situation. The guide returned quickly, and having got the rest of our effects, which made a heavy load, we proceeded onward and completed the portage. 'We are now at a lake where the character of the water has altogether changed. It appears brown, just like Lake Ontario water appears blue ; but it is beautifully clear, and, after seeing so much muddy water in the other lakes, presents a pleasant relief. We go to a point of land which commands a good view of the whole lake, to camp, pitch our tent, and while the guide is getting supper I go out and succeed in catching two splendid pike—they come out of the clear water bright and shining, and proved to be firm in flesh and of good flavor. Our camp fire attracts a number of large grey owls, which appear to be numerous here; they perched on the tops of the spruce trees, and looked like sentinels, but did not act as such, for they kept up a chattering and hooting noise, which reminded me of those beautiful lines;

- "Save that, from yonder ivy mantled tower,
 - The moping owl does to the moon complain
 - Of such as, wandering near her secret bower,

Molest her ancient solitary reign."

The owls, however, did not disturb our slumbers. We went to bed early, for we were tired with the heavy work of the long and hard portage. We were astir early next morning, and got started on our way, as we had fourteen more portages to make, and we were in a country where we might encounter a moose at any time. Having passed the next portage, which was a short one, we went to a trail leading to a lake off our route, thinking we would follow it up to see if there might be game there. We saw the tracks of moose and caribou, and plenty of bear spoor, but nothing more. It is rarely that you meet these animals while walking through the woods; but judging

from the numerous tracks, they must be plentiful, and could be easily got if dogs were used to hunt them.

Proceeding on over some short stretches of water and a couple of short portages, we next got to our long portage. This one would almost break your heart, to say nothing about your back; but we get over it, and find ourselves in a lake of considerable size, our intention being to go out of our way to another lake, which, being in a remote place, would likely afford the coveted sight of a moose. We found, however, at the landing where the trail commences that " signs' gave unmistakable evidence that a considerable party had recently visited the We, therefore, walked across the place. portage about a mile, and at the lake we found that a large, well-equipped party had been there probably two weeks before. There had been two tents, besides those of the guides, as indicated by the balsam-bough beds and the abundance of empty cans. Debris of ducks, partridge and moose fully convinced us that the said party had been enjoying life to their hearts' content. The air was tainted with decaying animal matter, and, following up the scent, we soon came upon the hide of a cow moose hung up to dry, and getting back to the camping spot, we could have picked up several handfuls of exploded rifle shells, which had evidently been used to shoot at a target of birch bark a short distance away. Rough tables and seats had been erected in true picnic style, and other appointments of the Lamp, led us to infer the party were "tender-feet, and had been made up of probably a couple of older heads and several young fellows, first-rate at wasting ammunition by shooting at a mark, and who, when they are thrust into the presence of a moose, hand the rifle to the guide to do the shooting. Such parties usually have more money than nerve of the right kind, and are interlopers from the other side.

So much for our investigation of this place. We went back to a camping point on our regular route, and here again we had evidence in the shape of shank bones and vertebrae that the same party had preceded us with a larder well supplied with moose meat. That night we decided to go out and

paddle quietly around a small bay, and then two or three miles up the narrows here formed. When we got to the part where we thought we would stand a fair chance of seeing a moose, disappointment met us instead; wafted on the evening air, the fetid scent of decomposing flesh assailed our nostrils. The moose was there, but slaughtered and left in its tracks to rot. We started at once for camp, but in passing the same place the next morning the spot was well marked by the sudden starting up of a number of crows, and upon closer examination the carcass was revealed minus the head. It had been a bull moose, killed for its horns.

About four miles to our next portage, which is short and comparatively easy. we enter another small lake. In a little bay to the right we notice some ducks. They are of the sheldrake variety; they feed exclusively on fish, and the flesh is so strong that they are totally unfit to be They are also very wild and eaten. hard to get near, but we had surprised them around the corner, and one that flew pretty near I induced to wait till we picked him up, the guide remarking that was a good fat fellow and something like a duck. I told him that the old ones were a little strong, but pe haps the young ones (this was a young one) were all right—we would try i. for I thought this would be a good supper. chance to have a laugh at his expense. Accordingly, when supper time came, the duck was duly gotten ready. 1 took particular care to have the fish fried first. Everything being ready, and the tea well boiled, I sat a little apart to await results, which very soon came. The guide, remarking, "It's sthrong, all right enough," yet he persevered; but presently said he could not go any more of it. I gave a little piece to the dog, and it soon got sick at its stomach. Our frying-pan had to undergo housecleaning that night. The dog soon got convalescent, and the guide said he would get even on some one else the first time he got a sheldrake.

This proved to be our last night in camp. We have twenty miles to go and seven portages to make before we strike the Blauche River, and then twenty-six miles to the "Head." Those who have had the patience to follow me will have gathered that I have travelled a long distance and worked hard for the prime object of seeing a moose in its native habitat, and have so far failed. It is, therefore, left to the short space of one day to accomplish the desired end, and this day proved the most eventful of the whole trip.

(To be continued)

The Mississaga.

BY G. M. RICHARDS.

In March, 1902, while visiting the New York Sportsmen's Show, I made the acquaintance of that well known guide and hunter, William Harris, of Day Mills, Ontario.

The previous summer I had spent some time in the Muskoka Lakes district of Canada, but had found the country overrun with pleasure seekers, and the fishing anything but good; therefore, after having talked the matter over with Mr. Harris, I decided to visit his section of the country, and make the trip down the Mississaga River.

Accordingly, on June 20th, I left the Grand Central Station, bound for Thessalon, Ont., a small town on the shore of Lake Huron, about 13 miles from Day Mills. My baggage had been checked through to Thessalon, and there was examined by Mr. Neal Currie, the local Custom's officer. Mr. Currie is a sportsman himself, and my baggage gave me no trouble.

On the night of the 21st of June, I reached Day Mills, which boasts of a post office, a saw-mill and a population of about forty It lies within a few hundred yards of Lakes Waquekobing and Pokawogaming, in the heart of the best moose and deer country in Southern Canada, a paradise for the lover of rod and gun.

For almost three months I remained at Day Mills, now and then making short trips to various nearby lakes, but spending most of the time on Lake Waquekobing, a beautiful sheet of water, about ten miles long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ or three miles in width. It is fed, with the exception of a small and insignificant creek, entirely by springs. Its water is cold and very clear; on a calm day bright objects being distinctly visible at a depth of thirty or forty feet. Soundings have shown it to be, in some places, nine hundred feet deep.

The shore is very high and rocky, and is indented with numerous sheltered bays, making ideal camping spots. At several places cliffs rise perpendicularly from the water to a height of over one hundred feet; on one of these cliffs are drawn crude faces, which were presumably done by the Ojibway Indians, as they were there when the first settlers came to that country twenty years ago.

The lake teems with small mouth bass, lake trout and whitefish, the bass averaging about three pounds : many are caught weighing five and six pounds, and every one is a fighter.

In every direction from Lake Waquekobing, and varying in distance from five hundred yards to twenty miles, lie dozens of lakes, many of which are nameless, and nearly all are well stocked with fish. Brook trout are plentiful, and are not fingerlings; they may be caught in either lakes or swift water.

And best of all, the summer boarder is a thing unknown in that country. There are as yet no boarding houses, and the sportsman must either camp or stop at one of the few farm houses in the neighborhood.

On Saturday, August 9th, Mr. Harris received a telegram from two sportsmen,

asking him to be at Winnebago, one of the starting points of the Mississaga trip, with provisions, canoes and guides, on the following Monday morning. This gave him but one night to make the necessary preparations, as he would have had to leave Thessalon by rail the next morning; therefore, I went on alone the next day, and met the two gentlemen on the West bound train at Sudbury. We stopped off at Biscotasing, and secured a canoe, and some provisions from the Hudson's Bay Co., and then went on to Winnebago, forty miles further west, where Mr. Harris joined us on Tuesday morning with another canoe and camp equipage.

Winnebago, by the way, is simply a name whose only use, evidently, is to fill in a vacant space on the map; no one lives there, there is not even a station. It is marked only by a small, forlornlooking log shanty, standing a short distance from the track. About 100 yards south of the railroad flows the Winnebago River, a small stream perhaps 100 feet wide, the waters of which empty indirectly into the Moose River, which in turn flows into James Bay.

Or the morning of August 13th, we started up the Winnebago River with two fifteen foot birch bark canoes, both quite heavily laden. All that day we paudled up stream ; the current was, however, not very rapid, and we made good progress. The country was generally low, and heavily wooded with tamarack, spruce and cedar, a fair sample of that great and little known region lying between the Canadian Pacific Railway and Hudson's Bay. We encountered a few small rapids and were obliged to make two short Here and there we passed portages. deserted Indian camps, marked by the naked tepee poles, and skulls of slaughtered moose, which hung bleaching on the lower branches of nearby trees.

Towards evening we entered a lake about five or six miles long and two miles wide; the shore was high. rocky and heavily wooded. On a small island at the farther end of the lake we came upon an encampment of Ojibway Indians, numbering perhaps fifteen, and judging from appearances each one possessed at least five dogs, whose breed it would have puzzled a dog fancier to determine. Of the Indians, but one could speak English, and his vocabulary was limited to about twelve words. He informed us that the lake was called Waquewogaming, and was well stocked with bass; also that there were plenty of moose and bear in the vicinity. That night we camped near the lake, and next morning, accompanied by two of the Indians, we made a portage of half a mile over two small ridges and through a "muskeg," into Nebish Lake; on the trail we saw plenty of moose tracks which were but a day old.

Crossing Nebish Lake, which is small and very shallow, we followed a narrow creek for about an hour, and then came to a portage, a mile in length. A good trail led over a high ridge to a large and beautiful lake, which the Indians called Kabeskushing. It was dotted here and there with high pine clad islands, rising abruptly from the water, making cool and tempting resting places. At one of which we stopped and had dinner.

Not long after noon we left the Indians and entered the outlet of the lake, the east branch of the Mississaga River, flowing in a south-easterly direction. It was on this stream that we saw more signs of moose than at any other point on the trip. The banks were low, and covered with willows, and at very frequent intervals, we would come upon strips of shore, which, for a hundred yards or more, were literally covered with moose tracks, freshly broken bushes and trampled grasses, all of which gave evidence of the presence of the "Monarch of the Forest." Now and then we would see the imprint of Bruin's dainty foot in the soft bank.

Throughout the trip, although we saw deer, bear and plenty of small game, we failed to catch sight of a moose, doubtless owing to the fact that we travelled fast, and did not take the trouble to go quietly.

Often we would pass deserted camps, centres of last year's hunting expeditions of the Indians. These sites were always marked by whitened bones hanging to trees or bushes. I counted as many as eight skulls of moose at one camp. As we went on the stream grew narrow and flowed swiftly between high banks covered with pine, but the third day out we entered a larger stream which flowed in from the west

The scenery now became more beautiful and impressive, high cliffs rose on either hand, the slope of the land became more abrupt, and rapids were quite numerous, we were, however, able to run the majority of them. Running rapids, by the way, is an experience to remember, every nerve is on the alert, the excitement is intense, and there is just enough danger to make it enjoyable.

A stream without rapids loses its charm for the canoeist ; it would be too tame.

Many times we passed lakes which were but a few yards from the main stream, the waters of which would have tempted any angler, but our time was limited and we could not stop. As we proceeded the signs of moose, which had been so plentiful, began to give place to these of deer; gradually the stream widened, until it attained the proportions of a small sized lake, and at first sight seemed entirely enclosed by high hills. Upon investigation, however, we found the outlet, a narrow gorge between towering cliffs, through which the water rushed with a roar, raising a cloud of mist, and creating a spectacle the beauty of which defies description.

After passing "The Gorge" by making a short portage, we entered a series of rapids which took nearly a day and a half to run. These rapids terminate in a fall of about thirty feet, at what is known as "Squaw Chute." There we were obliged to make a portage of about two hundred yards, carrying the canoes and packs across a narrow chasm, bridged by two logs, which had been rendered wet and slippery by a recent shower. At every step they trembled beneath us, and we did not loiter. During this time we passed through a country, which was by far the most picturesque of the entire trip. The river wound its way between high hills and overhanging bluffs, and at times, in the distance, seemed to disappear beneath them.

Six miles below "Squaw Chute" is The Tunnel," locally noted for its scenery. In reality it is not a tunnel, but a cauon of perhaps a mile or more in length, and marks the outskirts of civilization. There we were able to secure a wagon to take us over the portage. Below "The Tunnel" the principal point of interest is Slate Falls, which is generally made the terminal of the trip, as it is but a short distance from Lake Waquekobing. Thus it was that eight days after leaving Winnebago, we found ourselves once more at Day Mills, having travelled about two hundred and twenty miles by canoe, the first tourists, and the first white men, other than a few surveyors and prospectors, to make the Mississaga Canoe Trip, which trip in a few vears is bound to become popular with all who want a fast and exciting experience.

It is pre-eminently a country for the sportsman and pleasure-seeker. Only thirty miles by rail from Day Mills are the Desbarats Islands, where, every year from June until September, the Ojibway Indians enact the drama of "Hiawatha." Full particulars can be had from the Canadian Pacific Railway, or from Mr. Harris, who furnishes guides and outfits. Both resident and non-resident hunting licenses may be had from him; fishing licenses are not required.

Should any of my brother sportsmen decide to visit this country, I can assure them that they will not be disappointed.



Annual Meeting of the C. F. A.*

The fourth Annual Meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association was held in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at Ottawa, and was the most successful, both in numbers and interest, of any meeting which has yet been held. Among those present were :-- Mr. Wm. Little, Montreal: Hiram Robinson, Ottawa; J. R. Booth, Ottawa; Aubrey White, Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, Toronto; E. G. Joly de Lotbiniere, Quebec ; His Worship Mayor Gendron. Hull; Prof. John Macoun, Ottawa; Thos. Southworth, Director of Forestry, Toronto; W. C. Caldwell, M. P. P., Lanark; Colin Rankin, Mattawa; Geo. Johnson, Ottawa ; A. Knechtel, Albany, N.Y.; T. S. Young, "Canada Lumber-man," Toronto; C. Jackson Booth, Ottawa; E. Stewart, Dominion Superintendent of Forestry, Ottawa ; Norman Ross, Assistant Superintendent, M. Ottawa; Sir Sandford Fleming, K.C. M.G.: Dr. Wm. Saunders, Öttawa; Dr. A. Harold Unwin, Ottawa; N. McCuaig, Bryson; N. E. Cormier, Aylmer; J. R. Reid, President of the Board of Trade, Ottawa ; R. T. Pinkerton, Westmount ; Henry Robertson, Collingwood ; Hon. J. K. Ward, West-. mount; Sir James Grant, K.C.M.G., Ottawa; J. B. McWilliams, Peterborough; Prof. W. L. Goodwin, Dr. A. P. Knight, Geo. Y. Chown, Queen's University, Kingston ; J. H. Faull, University of Toronto; Col. D. Macrae, Guelph; Dr. John T. Finnie, Montreal; Lt.-Col. White, Ottawa; R. H. Cowley. D. B. Dowling, F. King, J. Keele, and others.

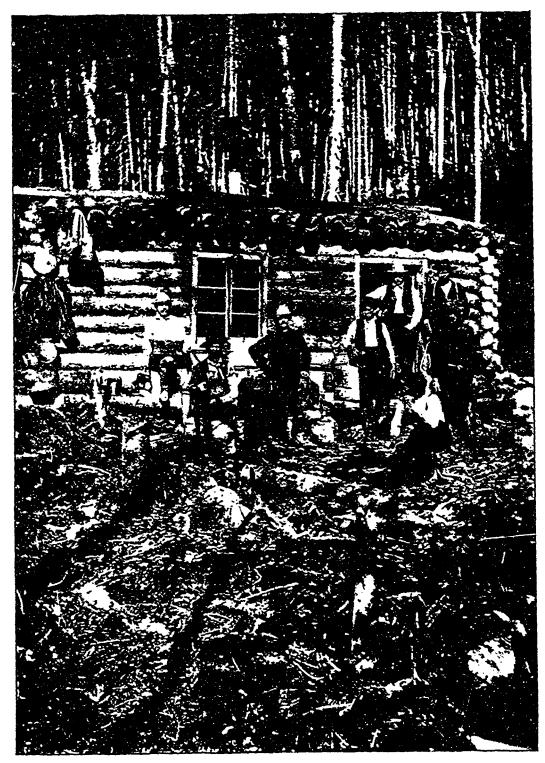
The report of the Treasurer and Board of Directors showed the Association to be in a satisfactory condition. The membership was 400 as against 347 reported at the previous annual meeting, and the Treasurer's statement showed a revenue of \$580.17, and an expenditure of \$474.02, leaving a balance of \$106.15. The report of the Board of Directors called attention to some of the more important events in connection with forest management during the year 1902. The forest fires in Canada east of the

Rocky Mountains were not at all serious, owing to the wet season, but in British Columbia the summer was dry throughout, and fires in the railway belt were only prevented by the utmost vigilance, while in the rest of the Province and across the international boundary great damage was done. The Rocky Mountains Park of Canada and Yoho Park on the east and west slopes of the mountains of that name have been established, forming a magnificent park of a combined area of three million and a quarter acres, and one of which every Canadian may well be proud. In Ontario regulations , for the forest reserves have been adopted, but no provision has yet been made for the cutting of timber. The Forestry and Colonization Commission which was appointed at the last session of the Legislature of the Province of Quebec has not so far presented its report, having become practically disorganized. Whether the Commission is reorganized or not, the question of forest management must be given attention. The New Brunswick Legislature passed an act to establish a Forest Park, which has not yet been located. In Nova Scotia, the Crown Lands Department have been gathering information in regard to the forest lands under control of the Crown, and it is altogether probable that some important advance in the administration of these lands will be made in the near future. No special feature marked the movement in Prince Edward Islaud.

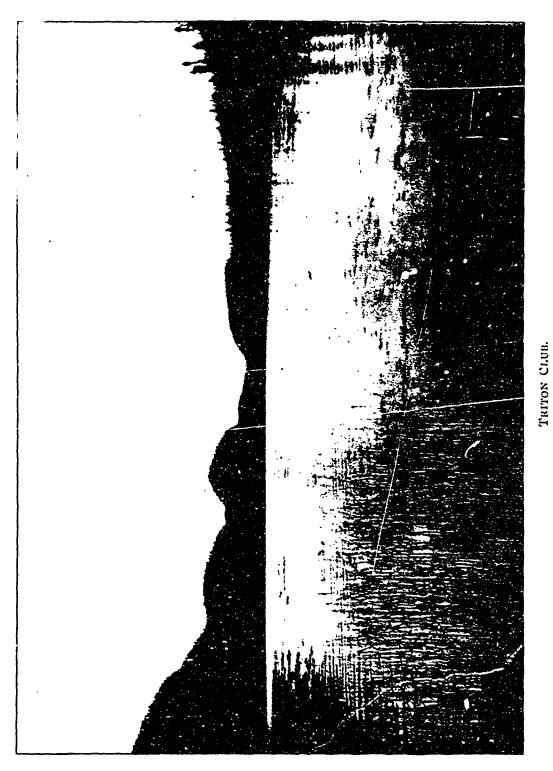
The work of cooperation with the settlers in forest tree culture in Manitoba is now assuming large proportions. Besides about seven hundred pounds of maple and ash seed, there will be distributed this spring over 900,000 trees to 627 farmers. The reports of the supervisors as to the condition of trees planted in the previous years are very satisfactory.

Lectures in forestry are becoming more frequent, and the establishment of one or more Schools of Forestry in Ontario is among the probabilities.

^{*}Contributed by the Officers of the Canadian Forestry Association.



TRITON CLUB. Club camp known as "Starvation Point."



I.nc des Passe, looking toward the head of the river.

The President, Mr. William Little, in his address called attention to the fact that according to the last United States Census report, that of 1900, the stock of white pine then remaining did not exceed fifty billion feet b.m., and since the amount cut annually was then about seven and a half billion feet, the cut of the past three years should reduce the amount by about twenty billion feet, leaving the quantity standing less than the amount of all kinds of lumber sawn in the census year, 1900, namely, thirtyfive billion feet. Mr. Little referred to the memorial presented by the Forestry Association of Quebec to the Dominion Government in 1883, asking for an enquiry into our white pine resources, and expressed his conviction that if the present indifference continues and the enquiry asked for be delayed many years more, the condition of our Canadian white pine forests may be stated in very similar terms to those of the schoolboy's essay on Ireland, which consisted of the single sentence: "There are no snakes in Ireland."

A paper on "The Forests of New Brunswick," by His Honour J. B. Snowball, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, was read. It spoke of the forest fires which had been very destructive on several occasions. The Saxby gale, which occurred in October, 1869, swept across the Province and blew down a section of well-timbered forest on the tributaries of the south-west Miramichi River, forty to fifty miles wide. The following year fire got into it, and the whole district was burned over. Fire, attributed to the carelessness of settlers. again ran over this district since 1870. The lumber blown down and burned consisted largely of rough pine and was all on Crown Lands. The loss to the province and district of this large section. over 700 square miles, is not less than a quarter of million dollars annually, and the loss must continue unless some system of reforesting and better protection is adopted. In forestry proper there is nothing whatever being done in the Province beyond the work of a few wood rangers, whose duty it is during two or three summer months, to protect the forest from fires, or rather to prevent the settlers from burning their newlycleared lands, in these the most dangerous months for fire.

"A Report on the Conditions of Lumbering and Forestry in Western Nova Scotia," by F. C. Whitman, of Annapolis Royal, was presented by the Secretary. From the days of the first discovery of St. Mary's Bay and the Annapolis Basin, and the settlement at Port Royal in 1505, the Province has been noted for its forests. The growth was so dense in early days that it was over two hundred years before any roads were cut through it, and the early settlers in going to even nearby settlements had to depend on a single file path for foot or horseback travel. The occupied part of the country was the fringe following the salt water of the coast and along the numerous rivers. The export of lumber to the West Indies was begun and, as other markets developed, the cutting became general. All the western country was a lumberman's paradise for timber, and accessible by lake, stream and river, for every tree that grew. Fifty years of steady cutting, followed by fires that sometimes burnt to bedrock, presents to-day a sorry spectacle of waste, and too often, absolute desolation. Now it has come to a point where those who move can find no new ground in Nova Scotia, and within the past year provincial operators have gone north to Newfoundland and Labrador. The forests have been cleared by the settlers along the river valleys, by small portable mills and by the operations of larger holders in the interior. Cutting was begun on the white pine, which is now commercially gone. Spruce followed, and is being cut at the rate of 100,000,000 feet annually, and it is now found difficult to get the proportion of 12-inch stock which is required to fill South American orders. Mr. Whitman expresses the opinion that it is opportune to undertake a movement in the study of forestry, and that an appeal to the people in the interests of the country would lead to a betterment before it is too late. The producing farm lands lie in the valleys. The foot-hills and the vast interior, although no longer a forest primeval, will always be more suitable for wood growth than for any other purpose.

The discussion on these papers was taken part in by Prof. John Macoun, Mr. Geo. Johnson, and others.

On Thursday afternoon the first paper was by Mr. W. A. Hendry, formerly Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands for Nova Scotia, on "Forest Fires." . Mr. Hendry called attention to the wonderful recuperative power of the forest. It is said by intelligent lumbermen that a forest, say of spruce, will recover itself in from sixteen to eighteen years. As an example, take the section of country from the head of Bedford Basin to the Half-way House, or Pockwoch Lake, say forty square miles, would cover the area of the section referred to. Halifax has been built from that section. This Province was originally covered with soft wood, chiefly red and black spruce mixed with balsam fir. The most barren portion always had a mixture of white pine, and the best of the soft wood ground was chiefly occupied by hemlock, which generally had a sprinkling of tall spruce fit for mast timber, and a few large yellow birches. In 1783, a great number of refugees and discharged soldiers came into the Province, and new settlements were formed round The following year there the shores. was no rain in June, the last week in May, and the first ten days of July. The barren lands covered with thickets of spruce were set on fire, and within a fortnight, it is believed, more than half the Province was burnt over. The moss and litter was burnt off the ground, and all the leaves of the trees consumed. These fires did not pass over the hardwood land, and in most cases the hemlock groves escaped, as this tree does not form a cone covered with branches, but generally forms a stem from eighteen to twenty inches diameter, which rises from thirty to fifty feet to the lowest branches of its head. The edges, however, of the hemlock and hardwood land were killed for a distance of thirty to fifty yards by the flame of the adjoining spruce. The large swamps also escaped, and served for seed beds to introduce wood again into the burnt land.

Mr. Aubrey White, Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands for Ontario, delivered an instructive and practical address, entitled "History and Results

of the Fire Ranging System in Ontario." Mr. White stated that, in 1885, he was asked by Mr. Pardee, the then Commissioner of Crown Lands, to submit a memorandum embodying a scheme for establishing a system of forest ranging. Previous to this, an act had been adopted by the Legislature for the prevention of forest fires, but it was practically a dead Mr. White complied with Mr. letter. Pardee's request. The period of danger from fires was from May 1st to October ist, and he suggested that fire rangers be placed on licensed lands during that period. It was left to the lumbermen to say what number were required, and also to select suitable men. Mr. Pardee was anxious to eliminate from the arrangement anything of a political nature, and to get the confidence of the lumbermen, so that the scheme might be a success. The lumbermen were asked to select men of cool temperament and sound judgment, who would not unnecessarily harass or annov the settlers, for if the settlers were antagonized, an army of men could not protect the forests of Ontario from fire. In case of fire the rangers had *carle blanche* to call out all the assistance they needed to subdue it. In order to enforce the provisions of the Forest Fire Act, power was taken to appoint rangers as Magistrates, and their assistants as constables. Owing to the character of the men chosen by the lumbermen, however, the Government had not felt justified as yet in appointing many rangers as Magistrates. The cost of the supervision of the forests and the suppression of fires was divided equally between the lumbermen and the Government. The licenses required the lumbermen to keep a diary of their movements from day to day, and to note anything of interest which occurred on the limits. In this way a good deal of interesting information was obtained. It was not until 1887 that fire rangers were appointted on lands of the Crown. In 1885, at the inception of the system, thirty-seven men were kept in the field, at a cost of \$7,911. Last year 234 rangers were employed at a total cost of \$108,000.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. J. R. Booth said the Government, by its fire ranging system, had saved millions of dollars' worth of timber to the country, and the only thing he could recommend was to enforce the regulations without fear or favor, and to prevent settlers from going into a timbered country which was not fit for settlement.

Messrs. N. McCuaig and N. E. Cormier, Superintendents of Fire Rangers for Quebec, pointed out what they considered the superiority of the system in that Province, which provided for the supervision of the rangers. Mr. A. Knechtel, Forester with the Forest, Fish and Game Commission of New York, explained the fire legislation of that State.

The Report on "The Forest Fires of 1902" was not complete, as full data had not been received.

In Nova Scotia it appears from reports that the damage done during the year 1902 was not as great as that for 1901, although there is a difference of opinion with respect to the damage done. One fire alone is represented by one person to have caused damage amounting to \$150,-000, but he appears to have known that the fire was more extensive than did others who reported it. It appears to be certain that the area burned over in 1902 was greater than that burned over in 1901, but a considerable portion was not at the time good timber land. It should not be forgotten, however, that much of this land might in a few years begin to produce timber. The fire has put this back perhaps two generations. There were over 25,000 acres of forest burned, and the loss was certainly over \$100,000. Perhaps it may have been double.

In the Province of New Brunswick the summer of 1902 was very wet, and there was little need of wardens to look after forest fires. The province escaped particularly well, as it appears from the records of the Crown Lands Department and correspondence had by that Department with prominent men in each county, that comparatively little damage was In the County of Kent only was done. there a fire of any proportions. Quite an extensive fire took place in that county early, which destroyed timber on both granted and Crown Lands, but it has been impossible to ascertain with any accuracy the extent or value of the timber destroyed.

In Prince Edward Island the statement is made that fires were not at all prevalent, and no reports of forest fires were received by the Department of Agriculture during the past year.

In Manitoba and the North West Territories the season was also favorable, and no serious fires have been reported.

The Province of Quebec escaped without serious loss during the past year, but this result is probably mainly due to the wetness of the season, as many fires were started. In fire district No. 1, or the Upper Ottawa the exact number of fires is not given, but there were eight that were sufficiently serious to require an expenditure of about nine hundred dollars for their extinguishment. Three of these fires were caused by fire from locomotive engines, three by carelessness on the part of river drivers, and others were caused by settlers and lightning. The rangers employed in this district were twenty-nine regular and twentytwo special, a total of fifty-one. In Fire District No. 2 there were 79 fires reported, 47 of which occurred in May and 15 in June, one in July, 10 in August and 6 in September. One was caused by Indians, one by fishermen, the cause of four is unknown, and the remainder appear to be due to fires. The number of fire rangers in this district was twentytwo, and they had to patrol and safeguard a tract of 17,824 square miles. In the Gatineau District the average area for each ranger was 360 square miles, on the Lower Ottawa 585 square miles, and in the St. Maurice Agency 1316 square miles.

The total amount expended in the Province for the protection of the forests from fire was \$17,000, but the fire tax brought in the sum of \$7,306, leaving the net expenditure \$9,694. This to protect a revenue of over one million dollars.

Ontatio and British Columbia were covered by other papers submitted during the meeting.

The paper by James Leamy, Dominion Crown Timber Agent for British Columbia, on "Forest Protection in the Railway Belt, British Columbia." was read by Mr. C. Stewart. The only part of Canada in which the season was dry practically throughout was British

Columbia. All through the railway belt innumerable fires occurred, the majority of which were set by settlers clearing their lands, while others were caused by sparks from locomotives and fires left carelessly by campers. These fires were carefully watched by the rangers and promptly attended to. One of the most important fires was caused by a watchman on the limits of Mr. Wells. This required the calling out of the whole force of the mill to fight it. It burnt about one million feet of timber, the most of which will be saved. In Vancouver Island and the other parts of British Columbia very serious fires occurred, and great destruction was caused in the States of Oregon and Washington, just across the international boundary. Mr. Leamy called attention to the sprinklers used on locomotives on the Great Northern Railway, and suggested their adoption on Canadian railways.

On Thursday evening a lecture of great interest and of a highly instructive character was given in the Assembly Hall of the Normal School, Ottawa, by Prof. Jeffrey, of Harvard University, on "Forest Trees and Their Uses."

Hon. Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior, presided, and in introducing the lecturer expressed his pleasure on being able to participate in the feast of instruction which they were about to re-There was no subject, Mr. Sifton ceive. thought, that had been neglected in proportion to its importance to the Canadian people as that of forestry to the extent of many millions of dollars annually. Any person who has given the subject consideration would endorse this opinion. He urged the value of the work of the Forestry Association, and wished it suc-Prof. Jeffrey, in his opening recess. marks, stated that forestry was one of the subjects which the American people row realized to be of the utmost importance to the nation, and he cautioned the Canadian, people when matters of such vital importance as forestry and timber were to be dealt with, they should see to it that scientific experts were given a place The lecture was illustratin the work. ed with a large number of stereopticon views, showing high magnifications of microscopic photographs of the majority of the woods common in America.

Illustrations were shown to explain why some woods are weak and others strong, why some are delightfully odoriferous and others decidedly objectionable.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Aubrey White, Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, Toronto, and Mr. E. Stewart, Superintendent of Forestry, Ottawa.

A paper on tree planting in Manitoba by A. P. Stevenson, Nelson, Manitoba, was the first item on the programme Friday morning. Mr. Stevenson dwelt on the success which had followed the planting of trees on the western prairies, saying that it had been truly proven that trees will grow in the west if they are only planted. The Government has well begun the work there. Last year 400,000 trees were planted by the settlers under the supervision of the forestry branch of the Department of Interior. Ninety per cent. of these trees are in a healthy condition, and when spring opens it will take about a million trees to meet the demands of applicants who are taking advantage of the co-operative tree planting scheme introduced by the Dominion Government. The people are alive to the necessity and possibilities of tree planting in the region, and the ball had only to be kept rolling to produce grand results. Mr. Stevenson, in closing, said that there is a rich mine of undeveloped wealth in the treeless regions of the North-West which can only be developed by a comprehensive broad system of tree planting.

A very interesting paper was the one by W. T. Macoun, Horticulturist of the Central Experimental Farm, on "The Growth of Forest Trees in the Forest Belts and Arboretum at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa." Experiments in the growing of forest trees at the Central Experimental Farm were begun mainly for the purpose of gaining information which would be useful to the farmers of Canada, and the fifteen years' work accomplished has been of some service to the farming community and also to others who are interested in the growth and development of trees from a more economic and scientific standpoint.

The main points on which information was desired were : First, as to the

rate of growth of the best timber trees when grown on different kinds of soil and at different distances apart; the distances chosen at first being 5 by 5 feet, 5 by 10 feet, and 10 by 10 feet. Second, it was desirable to know how the growth of trees planted in blocks of one species compared with those grown in mixed plantations. Third, it was important to learn what influence the forest belts would have on the crops in the adjoining fields, in regard to the shelter afforded them, and also how far from the belt the crop would be affected adversely. Fourth, the planting was also planned as far as possible with the object of improving the landscape, and the several species were arranged so that a good effect would be produced. Other useful and interesting facts would also be obtained, and the belts would stand as object lessons to farmers who saw them, and would be useful to those who were interested in studying tree growth.

The most satisfactory growth from a forestry standpoint has been obtained in a solid plantation of evergreens, which was in 1887 a nursery, but which was allowed to remain and was extended, The trees in this plantation were in rows 3 feet apart and the trees from 1 to 2 feet apart in the rows. These have done remarkably well, growing tall and straight, and having their lower branches killed early owing to the dense growth. This plantation has been gradually thinned until the trees are now about 3 by 4 feet apart, but the distance will be widened somewhat this year, as more will be taken out for poles. The rapid growing evergreens have succeeded about as well in unmixed blocks as where mixed with deciduous trees and other species of evergreens, but the deciduous trees have required much less labour to keep them growing vigorously where the species have been mixed. The quick growing but thin foliaged trees require the thick foliaged deciduous kinds and the evergreens planted among them to make good soil conditions and give best results, and the thick foliaged but slower growing kinds require the other. for the same purpose.

Professor W. L. Goodwin, of Queen's University, Kingston, in a paper on "Forestry Education in Canada," made

his starting point the necessity for a proper system of Forestry, *i.c.*, "utilizing the forest and at the same time perpetuating it." Lumbering is the only thing for a new, sparsely-settled country, the greater part of which is covered with forest, and the ordinary lumbering methods must prevail until the point has been reached where it can be said that the forest capital is sufficiently reduced to be workable as capital earning its vearly income. Forests serve various purposes, but no plan has been followed as to the lands which should be retained in timber, and steps should be taken immediately to have the question dealt with on defined principles. The increase in the price of white pine in the last thirty or forty years, and the range in the scale of rates, shows the expansion of values and that the poorer qualities of lumber are now finding sale. Forest lands are bringing higher figures from year to year when disposed of. That forestry will pay in the long run is shown by the statistics of the German forests. The 35,000,000 acres of German state forests produce a net revenue of \$1.80 per acre, equal to a net annual income of \$63.000,000; and both capital and income are increasing. This is after 150 years of scientific management, but the records show that the state forests have vielded a fair income from the start. The total value of their forests is increasing, while that of ours is rapidly decreasing. But if we are to work into a system of forestry suitable to Canadian people and Canadian conditions, we must have forestry education to train the small army which will be needed to manage, oversee, protect and reap the forest crop. Professor Goodwin then recounted the steps which had been taken by Queen's University leading up to the decision of the Board of Governors to go forward next session as far as circumstances will permit to make provision for a course of study in forestry.

Mr. J. H. Faull, of the University of Toronto, stated that the University had been considering the question of the establishment of a Chair of Forestry, and it was the intention to make provision for the teaching of the subject.

Dr. A. P. Knight, of Queen's University, gave the result of some experi-

ments made by him to ascertain "The Effect of Sawdust in Rivers on Fish Life." There was a difference of opin-There was a difference of opinion between the Dominion and Ontario Superintendents of Fisheries on this question, and Professor E. E. Prince requested Mr. Knight to undertake an investigation to establish the facts of the Mr. Knight first experimented case. with sawdust of different kinds of wood, and found that they would sink in varying times, but white pine sawdust would take about two minutes. The sawdust in the water gave off a brown liquid which proved fatal to fish life whether in the form of eggs or in a developed state, and was also fatal to the food of fish, such as minnows, aquatic worms, This only affected the crayfish, etc. lower part of the tank in which the experiments were made, but when the sawdust began to decay the water in the upper part of the tank was affected by the withdrawal of oxygen, so that it also became fatal to fish life. To take a practical case, Dr. Knight visited the Bonnechere River, and after ascertaining the daily cut of the mill and from it the probable quantity of sawdust passing into the stream, and also the volume and velocity of the water, he came to the conclusion that the solution brought about by this mixture would be so much weaker than any with which he had experimented that it could not be harmful to fish life.

It was decided to change the date of the annual meeting to the second Wednesday in March, to avoid clashing with the meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute, and also that the next meeting be held in Toronto.

A resolution was passed urging an increase in the fire warden service throughout Canada, and that exploration should be made of public lands for that purpose and instructing the Executive Committee to bring the question to the attention of the different governments.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Patron, His Excellency the Governor-General ; Honorary President, Wm. Little, Westmount, Montreal ; President, Hiram Robinson, Ottawa: Vice-President, Aubrey White, Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, Toronto. Provincial Vice-Presidents-Ontario, J. B. McWilliams, Peterborough; Quebec, Hou. S. N. Parent, Quebec: New Brunswick, His Honour J. B. Snowball, Lieutenant-Governor; Nova Scotia, A. H. McKay, LL.D., Superintendent of Education, Halifax; Prince Edward Island, Rev. A. E. Burke, Alberton; Manitoba, Major Stewart Mulvey, Winnipeg ; Assiniboia, J. S. Dennis, Calgary; Saskatchewan, P. G. Laurie, Battleford ; Alberta, Wm. Pearce, Calgary ; Athabasca, F. D. Wilson, Ft. Vermilion; British Columbia, H. Bostock, Monte Creek ; Yukon, The Commissioner, Dawson; Keewatin, the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba; Secretary, E. Stewart, Ottawa; Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, R. H. Campbell, Ottawa; Directors, Dr. Wm. Saunders, Professor John Macoun, Thos. Southworth, J. R. Booth, C. Jackson Booth, John Bertram, E. G. Joly de Lotbiniere.

We are in receipt of the Eighth Annual Report of the Forest, Fish and Game, of the State of New York. It is, as usual, full of information, and reflects the greatest credit upon the commission. Forestry has advanced, and, quite naturally, farther in the United States than in this country, because the American forests are very much nearer exhaustion than our own, and it is not until a scarcity begins to be felt, that man endeavors to repair the waste he has caused by his own carelessness.

A Rainy Day in Camp.

BY WILLIAM HENRY DRUMMOND.

- A rainy day in camp! how you draw the blankets closer,
- As the big drops patter, patter on the shingles overhead.
- How you shudder when recalling your wife's "You ought to know, sir,
- That it's dangerous and improper to smoke a pipe in bed!"
- A rainy day in camp! yet there's consolation in it;
- Tho' the lake is like a caldron, and aloft the thunder rolls-
- For the birchbark you can launch her in less than half a minute,
- After old man Jupiter Pluvius is tired punching holes.
- Then the fly you made last winter (and a good one needs baptizing),
- Drop it gently on the riffle at the inlet of the stream,
- Work around, too, near the edges, where you saw that big fish rising,
- And if you strike him there, sir ! your patent reel will scream !
- A rainy day in camp! and the latest publication
- That the mice have left unnibbled, tells you all about "Eclipse,"
- How the Derby fell before him, how he beat equine creation,
- But the story yields to slumber with the pipe between your lips.
- Wake again and turn the pages, where they speak of Lester Wallack
- And the heroes of the buskin over thirty years ago-

- "What's the matter " with the treatment neutralizing H₂O?
- A rainy day in camp! what a wonderful collection
- In this magazine so ancient, of items small and great,
- With the History of the Negro, illustrating every section-
- So different from the present White, House Colored Fashion Plate!
- A rainy day in camp! and you think of how the C. P.
- And the G. T. competition will affect the Golden West-
- But these problematic matters only tend to make you sleepy,
- And again beneath the blankets, like a babe you sink to rest.
- Cometh now the giant moose heads, that no eye of man can number--
- Every rain drop on the roof-tree is a plunging three pound trout—
- Till a musk ox in a snowdrift turns and butts you out of slumber,
- And you wake to hear Bateese say, "Dat's too bad, de fire's gone out."
- A rainy night in camp! with the blazing logs before us,
- Let the wolf howl in the forest and the loon scream on the lake,
- Turn them loose, the wild performers of Nature's Opera Chorus
- And ask if Civilization can sweeter music make.

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Then, in case the damp surroundings cause an inconvenient colic,

The Rifle.

BY J. F. BOWEN.

The team that took the Palma Trophy over the Atlantic last Fall owed a great part of its success to the coaching of the Hon. T. F. Freemantle. It seems certain that the American riflemen had the best arm, because at the longer ranges the vertical deviation of their bullets was always less than that of the team which defeated them. Where the British scored was in their more thorough knowledge of wind, weather and weapon. These remarks are not made with any view of belittling the representatives sent by our neighbors from the south, but merely to show that the Hon. T. F. Freemantle is a trustworthy authority upon rifle matters. His book "Notes on the Rifle'' is one of the best that has ever been written on that fascinating weapon, and any man who takes an interest in the grooved barrel, and either has, or desires to have, skill in its use, should certainly not be without a copy.

So much of our Canadian sport depends on skill with the rifle—for nowhere may larger quantities, or a greater variety of big game be found than in the Dominion — that this English author's observations and experiments, as set down in his book, should be particularly valuable to us.

It may be said that no rifle is better than its sights. If the sights are too coarse or badly adjusted, the best barrel in the world will fail to give satisfaction. Mr. Freemantle has this to say as to the best form of sights:

"Here the golden rules are few, and experience, habit, and fancy go for very much. The cardinal point is to have such sights as will enable accuracy to be combined with rapidity of aim. It is easy to carry refinement of sights much too far. Many of the cross-bows and bullet bows of our forefathers had aperture, or "pin-hole" backsights, and adjustable foresights far more delicate than the accuracy of the weapons really required. Even with the best modern rifles, such sights give quite as great a degree of accuracy in aiming as the rifle is in fact capable of attaining. It is, however, surprising what good shooting can be made at a target even with rather coarse sights. For shooting in the field, the sights should not be liable to be injured at a touch, and the eye should have no difficulty in seeing the foresight at once, even in a bad light. Therefore it must be both distinct in color, or rather in illumination, and large enough to be seen clearly while the eye is focussed upon the mark. It should be dark against a light background, and light against a dark one. While bright in a gloomy light, it should not unduly catch the sun's rays. It would be impossible, infortunately, to find any arrangement which would quite perfectly secure these results. The present writer thinks well of the foresight discs of white enamel which are now fitted to rifles, and generally of a white colour for the foresight. As regards the backsight, it is a matter of taste whether the notch be wide or narrow, deep or shallow, or be omitted, leaving a straight bar. The bright line to guide the eye to the true centre, which is a convenience with the \mathbf{V} , becomes a necessity with the bar, and may well take the form of a triangle with its vertex touching the centre of The natural tendency in firing the bar. hurriedly is to take too much foresight, especially with a wedge-shaped sight with a fine tip, such as is the military "barleycorn" pattern. The tendency is to pull the trigger when the sights are aligned, without waiting to fine down the amount of sight taken so as to get the normal aim taken in deliberate shoot-Hence a chief advantage of the ing. head sight, the most conspicuous part of which is the tip.

"It is bad to form the habit of taking a very fine sight. Good shooting can quite as well be made with a rather full sight, when once the eye has become accustomed to it, and aim can be taken more quickly, and with less effort to the eye. A good system in using the Vsight, is to have it of a moderate size, and to bring the tip of the foresight level TRITON CLUB. The Moisie River, leading to the lake of that name.





SLATE PALLS. One of the most beautiful spots on the Mississaga River.

with the shoulders of the V. This gives useful guidance in keeping the aim constant as regards elevation, and there is but little obscuration by the backsight of the surroundings of the point aimed at-a matter of special importance in a running shot. A small square notch in the backsight, large enough just to contain amply the bead of the foresight when aim is taken, also answers well. The writer thinks highly of sights on the principle of the Lewis sights, applied to the earliest issues of the Lee-Metford. These consist of a square notch in the backsight, and a square block with a white line or sawcut down the middle of it, for foresight. The latter is seen through the notch of the backsight, which it nearly fills, and the flat top of the foresight comes into line with that of the backsight. For picking up an aim in a hurry, without any tendency to shoot high, these sights are much superior to the ordinary barleycorn foresight used with either the V or the bar.

"Men differ so much in the aim they take with the same sights, that the purchaser of a sporting rifle should, if possible, try it himself on the gunmaker's ground, where he can have the sights regulated to suit his own shooting. With the sighting which for one man gives the proper 'elevation at (say) 100 yards, another may find the same rifle throw every shot much above the bull's-eye, and vice versa.

"The Lyman-Beach sights, which consist of an aperture backsight fixed upon the grip of the rifle, so as to be near the eye, and a fine bead foresight, are excellent for accuracy, and can be well used, if the conditions are not very unfavorable, in the field. There is with them some loss of light, which is sometimes a disadvantage, as when dusk is coming on, or in shooting at an object in deep shadow. But the field of vision is not otherwise obscured, and a good view is gained all round the foresight. The eve has no difficulty in centering itself to the backsight, and the attention can be given almost entirely to the position of the foresight with respect to the object aimed at. The backsightand this is so far a drawback-has to be so near the eve as to make these sights

unsuited to any rifle having a heavy recoil. It is raised on a pillar, which is hinged so as to fold down, and has a screw motion to vary the elevation. These sights, in fact, are an adaptation for sporting purposes, and minus the more elaborate adjustments, of the fine sights used for target shooting with the match rifle.

"Telescopic sights are very easy to aim with and very certain to use, but they are heavy and bulky, and require favorable conditions, being ill-suited for a hurried or a running shot. And they are comparatively easily put out of adjustment by a jerk or blow. The ordinary form of telescope, too, knocks against the eye in the recoil, which is inconvenient. But aim taken through a telescope gives a degree of confidence scarcely to be attained with other meth-The mark has merely ods of sighting. to be brought into the field of the glass, 'he cross threads or aiming points placed upon the right spot (allowance being made for wind or for distance), and the trigger pulled. If the rifle is a good one, there is no uncertainty about the result. The telescope should not have at all a high magnifying power, as it is important not to reduce the size of the field too much, and nothing is gained by magnifying details unduly. Sometimes, as in waning daylight, an object can be defined with such sights well enough for a shot. when the mark is so indistinct as not to allow of a certain aim being taken with open sights. To aim with a rifle fitted with a telescopic sight is a striking object lesson in the impossibility of holding a really steady aim. There is no position, it soon becomes obvious, in which the rifle is free of all motion from the pulses. Every small movement becomes magnified to a surprising extent, even such movements as with open sights would be inappreciable. The larger "wobbles," due to the tension on the muscles, from which no man is free in the less steady positions, become really alarming when magnified, and it seems a miracle if one can let off anywhere near to the point aimed at. The consolation is, that what looks in aiming like a very wide shot, often proves on subsequent investigation to have been a very close one."

(To be continued.)

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New Brunswick Moose.

BY GEORGE E. ARMSTRONG.

On the morning of October 3rd, 1901, Mr. Charles S. Bird, of East Walpole, Mass., my brother Dave and myself, started to cross the six miles of trail between camp Wapski and Beaver Lake, where we intended to stay for a few days to try for a big moose.

It was about one o'clock when we reached the camping ground, half a mile from the lake. There we made some tea and ate a quick lunch, then I started with Mr. Bird for the lake, to see if we could discover any game, as some might possibly be feeding on the lily pads and roots that were very plentiful around the edge of the lake. Before Mr. Bird started, he told me he would not shoot a moose unless it had a very large set of antlers, but, would rather go home without one. We left Dave in camp to pitch the tent and cut wood for the night.

When we arrived at the lake, we found a good sized bull moose feeding close to the edge of the water, and we easily crept within fifty yards of him, as the wind was in our favor. I asked Mr. Bird, in a whisper, if that one was large enough; he said no. Yet I think, without doubt, the antlers would have spread 48 inches, and I am convinced they had eight-inch webs, with at least seven points on each.

However, we determined to lie still and watch it. Occasionally I took up my birch-bark horn and gave the grunt of a bull, and we had lots of fun seeing how he took it. He was evidently anxious to find out where the sound came from, but as we were hidden in a small clump of bushes, he could not see Often we could only see the top of us. the animal's back above the water-it is surprising how long moose will keep their heads under water; often they remain partly submerged for a full minute. They have a way of throwing their ears forward, so, that although their head is under water, none seems to penetrate into the ear itself. This is

something I have noticed a great many We watched the moose until it times. was almost dark, when Mr. Bird said he would try and get as close to the animal as possible, without scaring it. He crept up to within about twenty yards before Mr. Moose had the least idea anything unusual was going on. At length, seeing Mr. Bird so close, the moose appeared surprised, and took a few steps towards him to investigate, and I thought that he would actually come up to him and smell him over, as Mr. Bird was standing perfectly still. At length the moose made up his mind that something was there that had no business to be there, and then quietly and slowly walked into the woods.

It was about one hundred yards from the water to the border of the forest, and after the moose left the lake Mr. Bird ran after him, and then ensued a good race between the man and the big deer. Mr. Bird is a splendid runner, but the moose kept in the lead, and when he got to the edge of the wood, he stopped very quickly and turned—and so did Mr. Bird.

By this time it was nearly dark, and we started back for camp well satisfied with our afternoon's sport, and thought we should not have to stay in this locality very long to get the moose head we were after.

We were up next morning early, in fact had eaten our breakfast before it was light, and then went to the lake. It was yet very dark when we reached the water, but on looking across I saw something coming from the woods over the meadow. I could not make out just what it was, and thought at first it was a cow with two calves, as I could see something light on either side of the moose that looked like calves, and it was not yet light enough to tell just what it was. I whispered to Mr. Bird that it was either a cow with two calves or else a very large bull. A few seconds later I saw that it was the bull Mr. Bird had come after.

(To be continued.)

Our Medicine Bag.

One's success in Canadian big game hunting depends so largely upon the guide, that we make no excuse for returning to a matter touched upon in our February issue. Although we were compelled to differ from a Boston correspondent with regard to some statements relating to Laurentian guides, we are quite willing to give up a little space to discussing this most important matter. Mr. Andrew G. Weeks, jr., has been kind enough to send us another letter, and in order to present the matter fairly to our readers we reproduce some ex-He says : tracts.

'There is not one who knows better than I, and those associated with me, the high standing of the regular guides in Canada. I have a number of strong friends among them, and would say nothing that would reflect upon them. You are perfectly right in your statement that the Canadian guide is a better and more willing carrier than the average Maine guide, and also, as I have before stated, more expert canoe men, but this is not the class we wish to approach. You, yourself, call a certain class of so-called guides "humbugs," and you are right. That, however, does not prevent them from passing as guides, and securing identically the same wages as an expert does; and it is this class that we wish to get at. There is no doubt but what more guides are necessary, in our district at least, and the insufficiency of the supply forces us to hire these men. The demand is also a temptation for them to take the work up. I think you will agree with me that no harm can be done in a general attempt to raise the standard of these men, and I feel you should lend us your kindly support. The idea is to educate those who profess to be guides and are not, without criticism on the many experts that our district furnishes."

Another sportsman informs us that the men Mr. Weeks employed last fall could only paddle on one side of the canoe, and then only with a great deal of splashing and fuss, and that none of them had been over the territory they were supposed to guide in. This gentleman adds that he has had exceedingly good luck with most of his own guides, and has been astonished at the packs they carried, but he found that whiskey was playing the mischief with many of them, and that they were more like children, in some respects, than like men and had to be petted and humored, and that of even

the best guides too much should not be expected.

The guides of the backwoods have had a very different training to the city man. They are children of nature, and notwithstanding that some of them are grey

For more than fifty years D. M. Lefever, of Syracuse, N.Y., has been manufacturing sportsmen's weapons of a The factory is well worthy high grade. The visitor who has a chance of a visit. to inspect it sees the several steps in the process of manufacturing, and when he leaves the building understands why fine guns cost much money, and cannot The shaping of the be built in a day. various parts, such as the frame and trigger-plate, can only be done by skilled workmen, and while the New Lefever is considered a simple gun, sixty different cuts are needed to shape the frame before it is ready to go to the action fitter. The tools used are ingenious and somewhat complicated : One tool makes a cut across the face of the frame : others cut the sides, and form the recess of the trigger plate. These cuts being to within a thousandth of an inch of their measurements when finished. The boring of the barrel is a most delicate operation. Each step in the process of manufacture, from the brazing on of the lugs to the last coat of French varnish, is done with the most minute care, and is subjected to constant inspection, so, no wonder, the work when finished is of a nature to satisfy the most exacting sportsmen. The D. M. Lefever, Sons & Co. are progressive. Their single trigger gun is giving great satisfaction, and is no doubt an improvement, especially for trap shooting, where the second barrel must be given with the rapidity of lightning. A little, single-trigger, brush gun, weighing six pounds, is one of the gems of the Lefever output. All specifications are carefully followed, and those ordering guns from this Company may be sure they will get just what they bargain for.

haired, they are generally boys at heart, and an effort to change them more into the city type seems usually to give them all the vices of civilization, without any of its virtues. If the members of the Triton Club can really "improve" the guide service of their district, they will have achieved a result for which they may well take some credit. But we must confess that we do not see how they can A good guide has lived in the do so. woods since boyhood. Paddling, packing, chopping and hunting should be as familiar to him as the telephone and ticker are to the city man, and if he has not acquired skill in woodcraft by the time he is an adult, nothing the club sportsman can do will improve him very materially. All the guide seems to learn by a contact with wealthy sportsmen is an improved palate for whiskey, and a nicer discrimination in tobacco and cigars, as well as in jams, preserved soups, and other delicacies that were unknown to his fore-fathers and to himself in his younger However, in and more strenuous days. these matters there is room for difference of opinion, and we wish the members of the Triton Club every possible success in their undertaking. If they should start a Training School for Guides we hope to be able to borrow one of its graduates some summer for a week or two.

To the Editor of ROD AND GUN, Montreal:

As I am a lover of both rod and gun, nothing affords me more pleasure than giving you an outline of the hunting to be had in the Peace River country. The low, outlying, marshy country is literally covered by ducks of all kinds, principally the mallard, canvas back, and green and blue winged teal. They breed freely around the marshy lakes, where, indeed, I have seen thousands of eggs in the laying season. Indians visiting these lakes get their supplies of food for, say, a month or six weeks at a time, to last until they go in search of Very few geese breed in the larger game. Peace River country, as they nest in the barren lands of the far north. The banks of the Peace, especially in the upper regions, are very high, in some places from 1,500 to 2,000 feet. On these high grounds berries grow in abundance, especially raspberries, cranberries, blueberries and strawberries.

This country is the paradise of the bear; principally the black bear and the brown bear. A few grizzlys also roam therein. The Indians hunt the bear successfully in the berrying season, and although the pelt is of very little value the meat is at its best. They dry it, and

the dried meat serves as food while going back further into the interior to hunt deer and moose, which are very plentiful along the eastern ranges of the Rocky Mountains, and seem to follow the whole range to the Arctic Ocean.

On the highest peaks of the Rocky Mountains sheep are found.

The lower levels of the Peace River valley are the first feeding grounds of the wild goose flights from the far north. The goslings that have never heard the sound of a gun, and know not the danger they run, can be easily approached. These flights generally stay on the feeding grounds two or three weeks. Then they fly further south. They then become wary of the sportsman and are hard to approach.

On nearly all lakes of any size, there is plenty of sport for the rod. Trout of all kinds are to be had in abundance in clear water lakes. Pickerel and pike are plentiful. I have never heard tell of black bass, or, in fact, bass of any kind in any of the northern waters. Yours truly,

H. A. CONROY. Ottawa, 23rd Feb., 1903.

The Census Bulletin No. XI. of the Agricultural Statistics of Prince Edward Island show that the Island has an area above tide level of 1,397,991 acres, 85.44 per cent. of which is occupied as farms and lots, the average size of the lots being 1.56 acres, and of the farms 90.74. acres. The land in farms comprises 60.76 per cent. in an improved, and 39.24 per cent. in an unimproved state.

The Savage Arms Company, Utica, New York, have written to us under . date of March 6th as follows:

"To meet the demands of sportsmen we have adopted a 30-30 and .303 1899 model Savage to take the following well-known loads-25-35. 32-40 and 38-55. You will also note full des-criptive matter of the model 1903 Savage re-peater, which is furnished to use the various .22 caliber cartridge, as mentioned in catalogue."

The description of the .22 caliber hammerless repeating rifle furnished us by the manufacturers is as follows :

"The new .22 caliber rifles are manufactured with octagon barrels only, standard length being 24 inches. Extra length of barrel up to 30 inches can be furnished (for extra charge see All stocks of the .22 caliber rifles of page 17). this model are made with pistol grip only, without extra charge. Set triggers cannot be furnished for this model. When ordering. specify which chamber is required. If this is not stated the arm chamber for the .22 short only will be furnished. Price, \$14.00. Weight, 5 pounds 6 ounces."

The unimproved land consists of 350,366 acres in forest, and 117,857 acres in various conditions, such as swamp, marsh or waste land, blueberry barrens, and land in rough or natural pasture, but not in a state fit for cultivation. Forest plantations cover only 28 acres, and ornamental trees have been planted on farms to the number of 71,394, or an average of less than six for each farm. On the lots, being holdings under five acres, 1,996 trees were planted, or an The census of 1891 average of 2. showed an area of 496,156 acres under forest, but it is explained in the present bulletin that woodland and forest in that year's returns included all unimproved lands, whereas in those of the latter the forest area is given separately, but is also counted as part of the unimproved land. The unimproved land is reduced in 1901 to 468,223 acres, but in view of the difference in the method of obtaining the statistics, it is impossible to say anything more than that there is a reduction in the What the diminution is area of forest. cannot be stated exactly. Taking the total area of the island, the portion under forest as above mentioned is equal to about 26 per cent., so that the proportion of forest is getting down close to the 25 per cent., which is generally considered as the point which should not be passed. The efforts to increase tree growth are represented by 73,390 trees planted, and 28 acres of forest plantations. Statistics on these points were not given in the year 1901, but it is quite clear that what is now being done does not begin to offset the areas destroyed by fires.

As to fruit-bearing trees, the total number of bearing and non-bearing apple trees in the island is 202,910; of peach trees, 163; of pear trees, 1,962; of plum trees, 27,480; of cherry trees, 70,431; of other fruit trees, 57,924; and of grape vines, 749. The yield of fruit trees in the last census year was 184,487 bushels, and in the former census year 60,325 bushels, and as the number of nonbearing trees shows a large increase, it is evident that fruit production is growing in favor in the Island.

The following letter written by an Ojibway Indian upon birchbark was sent, together with its translation, by

, 54

our esteemed correspondent, Mr. C. C. Farr. The writer inserted it in the cleft of a split wand, which he stuck in the ground at a camp site on one of the branches of the Blanche River, Northern Ontario. The postal arrangements in that part of the world are primitive, but a careful study of the wording of this letter, will show that courtesy is not confined to so-called civilization :

> Kah-kah-konie keesis 3 1902. September month 3rd, 1902.

n tabajitonan I am using	kee-tasonah-1 <i>your tra</i> j	han homap bs here
kah-nah-gah-da-n		mah-mah-wee
tah-sin-non kee-t so many kind		
an-oke ma (I) am hunting	ysh-kut homa <i>instead here</i>	h ejc <i>whatever</i> (I)
kash-kit-to-i-an <i>may be able</i>	ni-tai-anan	ke scheeman
Matach-u-wauk at Matachuan	at-ah-way-a	
kah-nah-wen-dan take care (of it)	way-way-nint thoroughly.	
	nin Me	eshen Twen.

I Michael Twen.

(P. S.)

Pesk-ke-chah-gam-mik ne-go-be-bon ni gah At Paskechahgammi one year I will gway-jit-on ni-match-ee-ton-nan tai try we are taking along in addition · kak-ee-nah ne tas-on-nah-gan-nan. all 0119 traps. Cosh-o-so-min ka-ko-nah-sa We bid you good day we hope mee-no-pe-mah-tis-ee-ank (that) you will be well

kitah-ne-num-tah-nint-ah-min we want you

meeno-an-nok-ay-ank. (that you will) hunt well.

HOTEL SICAMOUS-SICAMOUS, B.C.

A charming hotel by the shore of the great Shuswap lake, at the junction of the Okanagan branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway with the main line. Within two miles of the hotel there is excellent deer shooting in October and November. Trout fishing is good in its season, and grouse and duck are extremely abundant.

Rates, \$3 a day and upward, with reductions to those staying a week or longer. Experienced guides always obtainable. A writer in the New Orleans *Democrat* has been hunting up the different ways of spelling mascalonge, and this is what he found :

Maskalonge, Mascalonge, Maskalunge, Muscalonge, Muscallonge, Muskalonge, Muskalinge, Moskalonge, Masquallonge, Maskallonge, Muskellunge, Masq'allonge, Moscononge, Maskinonge, Maskanonge, Maskenonge, Masque longu, Maskenozha, Maskinoje.

But it must not he supposed that there are not may othe; ways of spelling the name of this great member of the pike family. It is too bad that people will stick to the old mistaken idea that mascalonge comes from the French words, masque allongé, meaning long mask, or long face. The truth appears to be that the early French settlers always adopted the Indian name for any animal that was They found the not familiar to them. moose and called it by its Indian name. They found the black bass, which is now known as "l'achigan," and also adopted the Indian title. Mascalonge is undoubtedly the nearest approach they could make to the Indian term of mashkinogé, which means "bad pike." The mascalonge, as every one knows, is a very savage fish, and when an Indian hooked it, and the mascalonge began to raise Cain, and carried away the Indian's tackle, the latter, naturally, and very properly, thought of it as a "bad pike." Then, in the course of time, this name which had been originally applied to the mascalonge of the great lakes was carried further north and west, and applied equally to the great overgrown pike of those regions, although they were not really mascalonge.

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One of the most flourishing social associations of Toronto is "The Good Times Fishing Club." It has a large membership, and from the annual dinner few absent themselves. The last gathering of this nature, which took place a few days ago, was the most successful in the history of the organization. The annual dinner of "The Good Times Fishing Club" has become a fixture of some importance, and we were pleased to hear that the fish stories are improving steadily, and that the weight of the fish figuring therein, is keeping pace with the growth of the club. Mr. J. J.

Thomas, President of the Club for 1902, was at the head of the table, though later, Mr. A. L. Malone, Vice-President, relieved him, and took over the onerous duties of toast-master and musical dir-It has been the custom to give a ector. medal each year to the member catching. the largest trout, and as President Thomas won the trophy last year, it became his pleasant duty to tell his brother Good Timers the story of how the big fish died. Mr. J. B. Clefue, Honorary President of the Club, was presented with a medal, the same being a fac-simile of the medal annually presented to the captor of the largest As he is severing his connection trout. with the Club, and returning to Scotland, his fellow members wished to testify to their appreciation of his many good qualities.

Mr. H. Lansing Quick, Acting Sec.-Treas. American Canoe Association, whose address is Yonkers, N.Y., writes as follows:

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We are very anxious to get some good photographs of canoeing scenes, of last year's general meet, or of the Division meets; for publication in the 1903 year book. If you will kindly ask through your paper, that any member having good views will kindly send same to me, I will be greatly obliged.

I would also like to have any member who has noticed errors in 1002 book, in their names, number, address, cano, or club, to notify me direct, and I will see that it is corrected this year.

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Baily's Magazine for March is as interesting as usual. Some of the more important articles are : One on polo ponies, by Captain E. D. Miller ; a very instructive paper upon the treatment of horses on board ship, by Captain M. F. Hayes, and a portrait and biographical sketch of Mr. Washington M. G. Singer, the first English M. F. H., so far as is known, who was born in the United States.

An English recipe for waterproofing garments, tents, etc., is as follows:— 4 oz. sugar of lead and 4 oz. alum, dissolved in four quarts of water. Put the garment in soak for twenty-four hours, then let it drip dry.

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Speaking of protection from forest fires the "American Lumberman" says :

"We believe that the state is justified in going a long distance in this direction and in taking measures which will save the property of the timber owners and lumbermen, for the time has come when private interests must be to some extent subservient to the public good. Granted that in some cases regulations for the conduct of logging operations so as to guard against fire would make the logging unprofitable, it is better that one man should fail to make his profit of \$5,000 or \$10,000 or \$100,000 a year than that his fellow citizens should be liable to a loss ten times as great, that his operations might occasion."

This is somewhat radical for an organ of the lumber interests. Such disregard of individual interests could hardly be expected from any but a journal carried on by impractical forestry enthusiasts.

Stevens Model 1903-Single Trigger Action Single Barrel Shot Gun.

This gun is novel in its mechanism, and, we believe, embodies features that will enter largely into firearms of the future. The top snap is dispensed with, the trigger serves to open the gun as well as discharges it. When the hammer is down, pressure of the trigger pulls back the locking bolt, and the gun is opened; the hammer must be down to accomplish this. The cocking of the steel" barrel, choke bored for nitro powder, pistol grip, walnut stock, rubber butt plate, drop-forged frame, case-hardened, patent forearm fitted with metal joint.

Price

to Course of so an inch homel maight	
12-Gauge, 28-30-32 inch barrel weight about 634 pounds	\$\$.00
16-Gauge, 28-30-32 inch barrel, weight	
about 6½ pounds	8.00
20 Gauge, 26-28 inch barrel, weight	~
about 6¾ pounds	8.00
	~ 7

No. 165. Same description as No. 160, but with addition of an automatic



arm is independent. The solid locking bolt prevents the gun getting shaky, even with severe and long use. The hammer of this gun is so fitted in the frame that the working parts are thoroughly protected. The main spring and locking bolt spring are made of specially tempered coil spring wire, so arranged as to give a reliable, smoc⁺h, and easy working mechanism. They are specially designed for smokeless powders. All parts are interchangeable.

DESCRIPTION.

No. 160. Trigger action, low rebounding hammer, special "electroshell ejector. Same gauges, lengths and weights. Price \$9.00.

No. 170. Trigger action, low rebounding hammer, special "electrosteel" barrel, choke bored for nitro powder, automatic shell ejector, checked pistol grip and forearm, pistol grip cap, walnut stock, rubber butt-plate, drop-forged frame, case-hardened, patent forearm fitted with metal joint.

Price	
	-Gauge, 28-30-32 inch barrel, weight
\$10.00	about 63 pounds
-	-Gauge, 28-30-32 inch barrel, weight
10.00	about 6½ pounds
	-Gauge, 26-28 inch barrel, weight
10.00	about 6% pounds.

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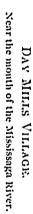
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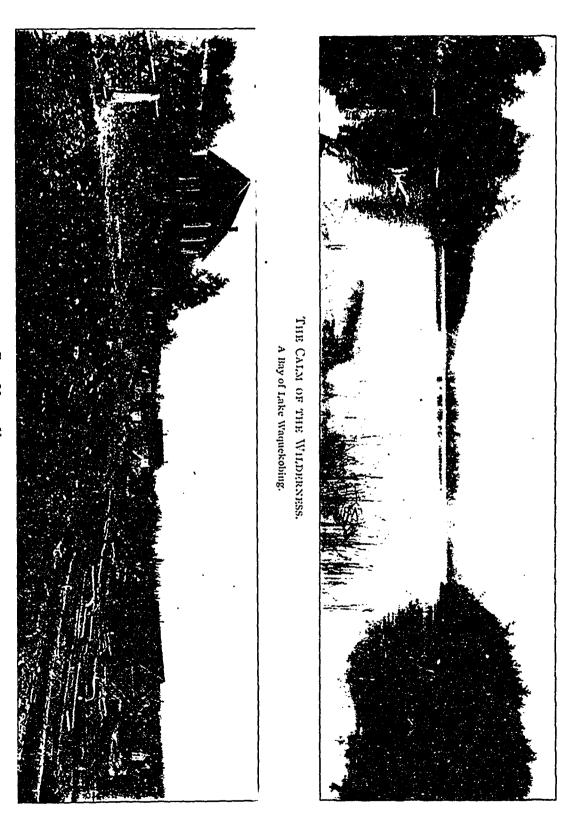
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A view taken from the summit of Mt. Voho, looking eastward.



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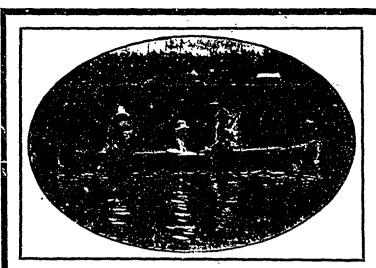
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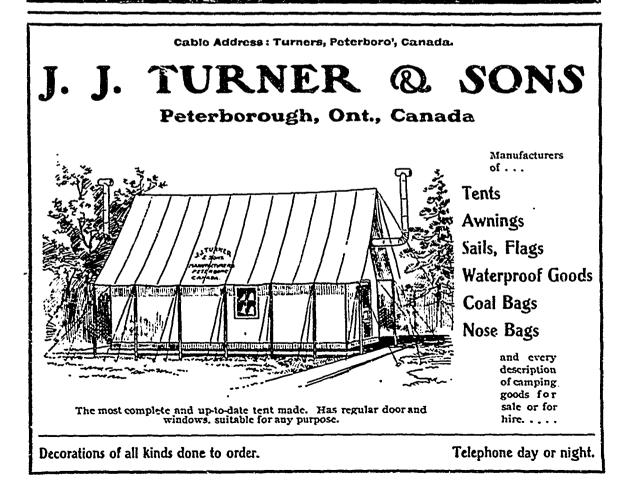
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The preservation of the forests for their influence on climate, fertility and water supply; the exploration of the public domain and the reservation for timber production of lands unsuited for agriculture; the promotion of judicious methods in dealing with forests and woodlands; re-afforestation where advisable; tree planting on the plains and on streets and highways; the collection and dissemination of information bearing on the forestry problem in general.

ROD AND GUN is the official organ of the Association, which supplies the articles relating to Forestry published therein.

This Association is engaged in a work of national importance in which every citizen of the Dominion has a direct interest. If you are not a member of the Association your membership is earnestly solicited.

The annual fee is \$1.00, and the Life Membership fee \$10.00.

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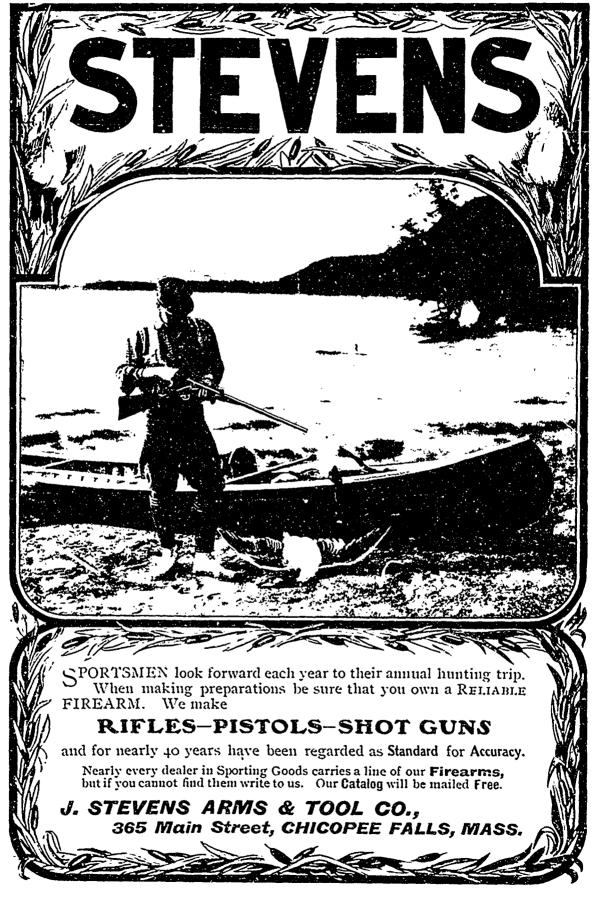
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