

THE CATSKILLS AND BEYOND

SUMMER HOMES IN SOUTH-EASTERN NEW YORK.

A Region Easily Reached From the City and offering Variety of Scenery and Health Giving Qualities—Attractions of Liberty and Sullivan Counties.

When any one turns the conversation to southeastern New York, the Catskill region, the first impulse is to reach for the book shelf and bring down "Rip Van Winkle." But did you ever hear any of the true stories that relate to Greene, Ulster and Sullivan counties, curious narratives of a gentle tribe of Indians that built its wigwams in the Catskills and hunted and fished through this beautiful part of the country? Have you read about the Big Indian—he was 8 feet high, they say—who lost his life after an all night battle with wolves, and whose corpse, covered out of a tree, was known to the early settlers? Have you heard of an aged chief creep into Gov. Donagan's stockade at night to warn him that the Five Tribes were about to attack the whites?

If you haven't there is a store of interest awaiting you along the line of the West Shore Railroad. It takes you into the country of the Munsee or Minasininks, who were a division of the general tribe of the Delaware. The wolf was their totem and surmounted every wigwam. They are sometimes called the Wolves of the Delaware.

Friendly from the first, these Indians served the white settlers in many ways. Gov. Donagan in his report of 1687 indicates some of the characteristics of the Munsees. Complaining about certain duties laid on tobacco at the port of New York, the governor says:

"Mr Pen there has been of great detriment to this place in hindering the Tobacco to come hither as formerly. And indeed it were in my opinion very necessary for the advantage of this place that it were so ordered that the Tobacco may be imported hither without paying."

Besides we find the contrary to be very inconvenient in this that whereas formerly the dammed (injured) Tobacco which came from thence not fit for England was made up into rolls and sent by same up the River to the Indians who in exchange gave in Beaver and Peltry for what whereof his Majesty's revenue here is much impaired inasmuch as the Indians are therefore forced either to plant the tobacco themselves or to go where they can be furnished with it and there carry their beaver and peltry, they being of that temper that they had rather want clothes than Tobacco.

A visitor's first trip to the Catskills is a revelation in beauty. Following the valley of the Esopus he enters the mountains through a gateway formed by Mount Teaser on the east and Mount Cornwell, High Point and Wittenberg on the west. They rise peak after peak in bold relief against the sky and appear to be so near that it seems as if one might throw a stone over them. Again the train passes into a glorious valley where the hills approach so closely and fling their giant shadows so dark upon the flowing water that there hardly seems to be room enough for the river and the train.

On the right are Mount Sheridan and Mount Sherrill. Stages carry the visitor past endless vistas of overlapping trees from Shandaken through Deep Notch to Lexington. At every stopping place are good hotels and pleasant boarding houses.

At Big Indian they won't show you the state of the tall chief carved from a tree, for the wind and rain destroyed it long ago, but you can see the place where he died. The railroad reaches Arkville and next comes to Stamford, where Giant Mountain rises 3,203 feet up into the air. This town is sometimes called the Gem of the Mountains. Hobart is four miles beyond.

A connecting railroad from Phoenicia ascends the steep mountain and by way of Kaaterskill Junction one quickly reaches Hunter, Tannersville, the Kaaterskill and Haines Falls. The tourist may take at the Catskill station a narrow gauge railway about fifteen miles long, which will carry him to the Falls of Loops. At the top of the Otis Elevating Railway incline stands the Catskill Mountain House, 2,250 feet above the river and overlooking the valley of the Hudson. At every point in the Catskills hotels and boarding houses may be found with rates varying from those charged at the big hotels to the more modest prices of the well kept smaller places.

No less attractive than Greene county to the summer visitor is the district that centres about Liberty in Sullivan county. The elevation above the sea varies from 1,400 to 2,000 feet and the outlook is over a vast expanse of rolling country, lying forty-five miles west of the Hudson River and with its western boundary formed by the Delaware.

Liberty is the highest point on the main line of the New York, Ontario and Western Railway, four hours from New York. The place is a thriving village of 2,500 population and the highlands about it form a state of foothills which extend in a north-westerly direction to the Catskill Mountains, a distance of forty miles away.

White Lake, ten miles southwest of Liberty, is the favorite resort for sportsmen and pleasure seekers. The drive between Liberty and White Lake is one of the many fine drives of Sullivan county, and the lake, with its gleaming white sand, on its shores, is of unsurpassed loveliness. Excellent hotel and boarding house accommodations are to be had at from \$7 a week up to \$25. About the same distance from Liberty is Jeffersonville, a village of about 1,000 inhabitants, famed for its pure air and other health giving features.

One of the old historic towns in Sullivan county is Bloomingburg, which combines the pleasures of the mountains and the lake. The boating, bathing and fishing are good here, while excellent trout streams are to be found in the vicinity. Methodist, Reformed and Catholic churches are to be found in Bloomingburg.

Just over in Ulster county on the plateau of the Shawangunk Mountains one finds Catsnook, a delightful summer place. On the summit of the mountain is Lake Minnekaqua, where peculiar hills and jumbled masses of rock delight the eye. An excellent hotel overlooks the lake.

A short journey through the Neversink Valley brings the visitor to Monticello, the county seat of Sullivan county, a town of 2,300 inhabitants, which has one of the finest water supplies in the State. Clear waters from Lake Kiamoshia are carried to all parts of the village. The Monticello Country Club maintains a golf course and the privileges of its courses can be obtained for a nominal sum. Kamesha Lake is worth mention. A picturesque summer village is growing there. Near by is Old Round Top Mountain, from the summit of which a fine view is obtained.

Because of its accessibility to New York and the moderate prices charged for accommodations Sullivan county is yearly becoming more popular as a summer resort.

For more information regarding the Catskills and the West Shore Railroad, apply to the Ticket Office, New York, Ontario and Western Railway Co., 56 Beaver St., New York City.



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Decoration Day Excursions

Special excursion tickets at reduced rates will be sold for Saturday, May 27th; Sunday, May 28th; Monday, May 29th, and Tuesday, May 30th, at all New York City and Brooklyn ticket offices, giving an opportunity to personally select a Summer Home and also enjoy a few days fishing in this delightful region. Tickets good returning up to and including May 31st.



### THE HUNT TO THE FARMER.

Health, Comfort and Profit in Raising Poultry and Muscovy Ducks. These are necessary in many cases, for these are a necessary part of the farm. The fact is that the farmer has access to hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of business. It is not only a source of income, but it is a source of pleasure. The farmer can raise poultry and muscovy ducks in a way that will give him a good profit and a great deal of pleasure. The farmer can raise poultry and muscovy ducks in a way that will give him a good profit and a great deal of pleasure. The farmer can raise poultry and muscovy ducks in a way that will give him a good profit and a great deal of pleasure.

occurring to some extent in every country, are considered to be chiefly city or farm diseases, and flies may be the indirect cause of typhoid fever and mosquitoes of malarial fever. While both flies and mosquitoes are bad enough at certain times in the city, they constitute in agricultural districts a veritable pest, a source of annoyance to horses, cattle and men, a cause of physical discomfort and a nuisance by which health may become seriously affected.

In cities the rapidly increasing use of motor vehicles and the corresponding reduction in the number of stable pigs reduces the fly nuisance. The antiquated and most primitive methods of waste disposal still existing on many farms offer favorable conditions for the breeding and rapid multiplication of flies. The extermination of flies can be brought about chiefly by a diligent attention to a proper disposal of waste matter and by the maintenance of scrupulous cleanliness.

Horse stables, cow barns, all out-buildings should have constant care and attention and they should be so constructed that they can be looked after with the best results. Dairy farmers should look particularly to the sanitation of the milk house and its surroundings, and dairy windows and doors should be screened.

Barnyards should be kept scrupulously neat, gutters and stalls of stables should be cleaned daily and all refuse heaps kept covered pending removal. No decaying material should be permitted to accumulate on the household premises, and the garbage cans should be cleaned and scoured daily and when in use should be always kept well covered. All wooden garbage boxes or leaky stop pails should be abolished. Where there is no kitchen plumbing don't throw kitchen slop water, day by day, over the same spot by the kitchen door. The way to get rid of flies is by absolute cleanliness, and the up-to-date farmer for further protection screens all his windows and outside doors.

Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water, in wet marshes or in any pool or permanent water accumulation, as in badly graded irrigating ditches or in roof gutters holding water, standing water in large or small volumes anywhere may breed them.

Mosquitoes are not merely a constant source of discomfort, or as regards some species a serious danger to health, but mosquitoes may also affect business interests. It has been asserted that by the attacks of swarms of mosquitoes upon herds of cattle their milk yield has been so reduced as to make the keeping of these animals for dairy purposes unprofitable. Horses are injured by the attacks of mosquitoes. It is a familiar fact that there are traces of land in various parts of the country that are made practically uninhabitable and impossible of development owing to the presence of mosquitoes in large numbers, and many places badly infested with them have shown a depreciation or have failed of appreciation in their property value, so that all mosquitoes are harmful in one way or another.

For mosquito control and extermination there are now employed many means, which are applied by individual work on one's own premises or by combined or community efforts. Obviously all windows and outside doors of farmhouses should be carefully screened to keep out mosquitoes, as should be also rain water barrels and other water receptacles, but the breeding places of the mosquitoes should be done away with by drainage, by filling in or by treatment with kerosene oil or similar preparations.

Neighboring farmers should cooperate. In farm villages improvement societies should be formed one of their objects being organized war on the mosquito. The work of such a society should be laid out and directed by one responsible head, and it is desirable that he be a practical sanitation engineer. Much of the work to be done is of an engineering nature, such as the ditching of marshes, the proper grading of gutters and so on, and the assistance of an engineer familiar with drainage work is much to be desired. Each farmer member of the society should make individual effort about his own premises, and these individual labors should be supplemented by the combined community effort in whatever direction that may be required. To get rid of flies and mosquitoes would protect the farmer's health and well being and enhance his comfort and increase his profits.