bow their heads in silent sympathy, and sigh for the shade that is to be theirs no more.

Here great clusters of the elderberry hedge in the road; here the wild clover grows in rank profusion, contrasting strongly with the brighter flowers by the wayside, and giving a cheerful tone to the otherwise drear and barren prospect.

The burned district soon gives place to the broad and shady forest, which stretches into the illimitable wilderness. Spruce, pine, and maple rear their proud heads high in air while extending their strong arms to support their weaker neighbors, whose foothold is not so well assured in the rocky soil.

Now in the damp, shady valley, now on the crest of some steep hill, always beneath the spreading limbs of the majestic forest-tree, the driver follows the tortuous road.

But we must hurry, as we have yet nearly twenty miles before us; and the sun has already hid its face to the smaller trees, and the shadows are no longer round, but pointed. The road is now entirely devoid of habitation. Save the carriage-way and an occasional deserted "lean-to," there is no sign of man to be seen.

The first glimpse of Long Lake is never to be forgotten. Burnished a rich golden by the setting sun, the clear water sparkles and dances in its green basin between two rows of mountains that, as grim sentinels, frown on all from either side. The road now follows the shore of the lake at the foot of a high mountain, which is indeed the back-bone of the entire range; for it is the watershed separating the waters of the Hudson from those of the St. Lawrence. Just as Owl's Head receives its good-night caress from the sun, and as all, save the crimson sky, above is darkness, our buck-board, with a great swing, drives up before the small hostelrie at Long Lake Village, where our supper, our beds, and guides await us.

The most essential factor of success to an Adirondack camp is the guide. The members of the party may all be congenial, the spot chosen delightful, and the boats, lean-tos, etc., all that could be desired, but unless the guide possessed certain indispensable qualities of mind and body, together with long experience in his profession, the summer's trip will be anything but "a thing of joy." I have seen a contented, successful, and energetic party of campers metamorphosed into a despondent and listless body of homesick wayfarers by nothing but a change in the guide en chef.

A guide should resemble a general,—strong of body, active of mind; of course a perfect knowledge of the whole wilderness, and of the nature and habits of every animal therein, is pre-supposed. He should also be a good cook. But the most important quality I have not yet mentioned; namely, decision of character. It should make no difference whether he (or any one else) can answer the question proposed, if it pertains to the mountains, to the elements, to the animals, the guide must answer at once, and decidedly. To hesitate is to lose the confidence of the entire party. It is seldom that all these qualities are found united in one man; and as a poor guide ruins the entire excursion, I would advise all to procure a highly recommended one before leaving home.

This important personage in our party combined all the above qualities. Son of an old Indian trapper of the St. Frances tribe, Isaac Sabattis had been early trained in all the arts of woodcraft. With his broad chest, pearly teeth, and piercing black eye, he was the admiration of all the village maidens. His hundred and ninety-three pounds of flesh he carried as lightly as a girl of sixteen. His shot was unerring, his canoe swift and silent, and his coffee excellent.

At the foot of Owl's Head Mountain, nestling closely to its rough sides, and reflecting the graceful forms of the dark pine balsam in its crystal waters, lies Clear Pond. A few miles to the west of Long Lake, yet seldom visited by man, Clear Pond affords wonderful advantages to the sportsman,—sequestered and solitary, dropped like a great pearl from the blue heavens above into the vast forest, where it shines and scintillates, in its dark-green setting, in