THE SADDLE PICNICKERS
Graphic Pen Picture of Pleasures of a Day in the Woods.

God'n Out of Doorn Claimn Them From the Elarly Morning Entil Twilight's Glow.


GROOM rides up to The Carolina entrance with a dozen saddle horses clattering behind him, followed not far away, by several carriages.
A score of people appear upon the hotel veranda and, close after them, a background of interested onlookers. Bell boys wedge their way through the crowd with mysterious packages which they stow away in the teams, there is the noise of preparation, and presently the gay caravan is moving away, laughter and conversation mingling with the clank of steel, the creak of leather, the rattle of wheels and the thump of hoofs.
The "Saddle Picnickers" are off for the day.
Through the Village they go, past the power house and the stable, across the little viaduct, between the kennels and the sand pit, and with the click of the wire gate The Open claims them.
It is a perfect day. The sun bathes the landscape in glory, the air sets the blood tingling, and the blue dome of the sky blends with the deep green of the pines, the rich brown of the oaks and the warm ochre of the sedge grass, into a symphony of color contrast. God's out of doors lies all about; desolate, waste land in the literal sense, but how beautiful it is !
The Unknown lies beyond and it Beckons! Reins tighten and horses spring forward, rejoicing with their riders in the exuberance of life. Cool air fans the brow, tempering the welcome rays of the sun, the landscape flits away on either side, the road vanishes as a river, below, and winds on like a ribbon, beyond.
There is a pause for a steep incline, a scramble up a rough hillock, and another gallop through the open. Then a steep descent to a tiny stream and on up the opposite hillside, through the Countr Gate, past a native home with no sign of life, and on again. McKenzie's wide ford is erossed mid flying water and happy jest, and the damp sand crunches under the horse's hoofs until the second stream, a short distance away, is passed, and once more the path leads through the sedge grass and oaks. Then a sharp incline, a
small stream to cross and a short elimb|One party is testing the speed of an unup a rough road to a native home. Two gainly razor back and another examining dogs rush forward, their furious barking mingling with the cries of children, and dying away behind as the party moves on.

Down a rough path to a rustic bridge, the road leads through a bit of open, and, suddenly, enters a beautiful grove of pines, the rich green foliage a refreshing note of color to the eye. Through the arches the party swings, past a deserted house, and on into a magnificent grove of hariwood and pine, close by a an old fishway in the brook.
The noon hour arrives speedily and without the aid of a watch. The crowd reassembles, watching with eager interest the camp fire and the simmering of the coflee pot. My : How ravishing the odor is: Upon the pine needles the feast is spread and the opening of each package comes as a delicious surprise. First of all the sandwiches of many kinds, with a bottle of olives and one of gher-

A "HUMMER" THROUGHOUT ,


HE FIRST annual Midwinter Handicap trap shooting tournament was just plain "hummer" from start to finish; a brilliant prophecy for future events which it inaugurates. A big field of entries, representative of the very fastest amateurs in the country, perfection in management and snap and go throughout, made the event a brilliant success in every particular, combined with which was the interest of the entire Village, crowds assembling daily to follow the progress of the tournament.
Each event was hotly contested, C. W. Billings, twice runner-up in the New York Athletic Club's Championship event, winning the Handicap, at the eight-teen-yard mark, with a score of ninety, two targets in the lead of R. G. Stokley, winner of the Preliminary in the Southern Handicap at Richmond last June, also eighteen yards, who made eightyeight, with Andrew Lindley, one of the New Jersey State Champions, (eighteen yards) third in eighty-six.
G. S McCarty, winner of the Southern Handicap at Richmond last May, wrn the Preliminary, shooting from the twenty-yard mark, with a score of nine-ty-one, four targets in the lead of George H. Piercy, one of the New Jersey State Champions (nineteen yards), who made eighty-seven, with George L. Lyon, winner of last year's Preliminary in the Grand American Handicap, (twenty yards) third in eighty-three.
The struggle in the high general average contest was especially keen, William M. Foord, former New York State and New York Athletic Club Champion, leading with ninety-two per cent, breaking two hundred and seventy-six of the three hundred targets which constituted this event; Mr. Lyon finishing second with two hundred seventy-one, and ninety and one third per cent; Mr. McCarty and Mr. Hall, tying for third at eighty-nine and one third per cent. A. M. Hatcher and Harry S. Welles, "Dead shot" Powder representatives, led the professionals with ninety-two and two thirds and ninety and one third per cent, Walter
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