APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

ALLIGATOR

The alligators differ from the crocodiles in having shorter, broader heads and more numerous teeth. A true American crocodile has been found in Florida. The habits of both creatures are much alike. The alligators hibernate in winter, burying themselves in the mud. The female lays from twenty to forty eggs on a mound of earth, moss, and grass about two feet high. It has been known to attack and kill men in the water, but it cannot turn quickly on land.

BEAR

The black bear is quite common in Florida, but is seldom seen. He keeps to the densest brakes and hammocks on the mainland, but on the larger islands and the great bar lying off the east coast he often takes midnight rambles along the beaches in search of fish and turtles' eggs. The usual method of hunting them is with a pack of hounds trained for the purpose. Some sportsmen say that the Florida black bear is fiercer than his relatives in the North.

BOAR

In most of the counties of Florida the hogs colloquially known as razor-backs, are allowed to run wild and forage for their living. When needed for food they are caught or shot, but many of them of course live and die in the woods like wild animals, among which in truth they might be included. Generations of forest-bred ancestry have resulted in an animal a good deal like the densely bristled wild boar of Europe, with a temper often as vicious.

BULL - WHIP

This is the long lashed whip referred to in the definition of cracker. The handle is very short, hardly more than a foot long, while the lash is often fifteen or eighteen feet long, made of braided leather or deer skin. There is great art in swinging it, as it is apt awkwardly handled to come back on the face or body with painful results.

BUZZARD

The turkey-buzzard belongs to the vulture family, which ranks at the bottom of the list of the birds of prey. Although it has strong talons and a strong beak, it kills nothing, and feeds on dead animals. The enormous heights to which they soar, and their marvellous quickness in finding the body of a dead animal, are the most interesting and striking things about the vultures. The buzzard is an ugly creature seen at close range, but when it is sailing and circling far up in the heavens on wide spread motionless pinions, there are few birds that can equal it in beauty. Its wing spread is about six feet. Its plumage is blackish brown; head and neck naked and red. It ranges temperate North America from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

CABBAGE PALM

One of several species of palm of which the great terminal bud is eaten like cabbage, and also bears nuts of which the kernel is sweet.

CANE - BRAKE

A tract of land thickly overgrown with a kind of tall, woody grass allied to the bamboo. The cane grows in rich river bottoms and swampy places and reaches a height of from ten to forty feet. It is used for fishing-rods and various other purposes, and cattle and hogs are fond of the young plants and the seeds.

CARAPACE

The shell of a turtle or tortoise. Specifically the upper shell, the under shell being called the plastron.

CAY

Same as key. A low island, a sandbank, near the coast. The name is used especially on the coast of regions where Spanish is or was spoken: as the Florida Keys.

COON

The raccoon is about two feet long, with a stout body, a bushy, ringed tail, short limbs, pointed ears, broad face and a very pointed snout. It is of a general grayish color, with light and dark markings on the face. It is common in the Southern parts of the United States and feeds on fruit and other vegetables as well as animal substances. Its appetite is omnivorous, it being particular only in soaking its food in water before eating it. Its favorite dwelling place is a hollow tree and its yearly family consists of four or five young.

CRACKER

One of an inferior class of white people in some of the Southern United States, especially in Georgia and Florida. The name is said to have been applied because cracked corn is their chief article of diet. I have also heard it said that the name came from the fact that these people use a peculiarly long lashed whip which they crack with such violence that it sounds like the report of a rifle.

CRANE

The cranes are nearly all powerful birds with long necks, long legs and powerful wings. They migrate in large flocks, flying up a great height and like geese in a V-shaped body. Cranes use their bills as a weapon of defense, attacking the eyes of an assailant. The whooping and sandhill cranes build nests of roots, rushes, and weed stalks in some marshy place. The two eggs of each are four inches long, olive gray in color, spotted and blotched indistinctly with cinnamon brown.

CRAVALLY

Closely allied to the mackerel family. It is a handsome silvery fish bound in blue and yellow, and can be
found in and about the inlets and tideways. In rare instances it reaches twenty pounds in weight, but is usually
taken from two to ten pounds. Ordinary black bass tackle
is suitable for this fish, with a sinker adapted to the
strength of the tide. For baits, any small fish will answer, while shrimp and cut bait can also be used.
Gaudy flies are the best for fly fishing, which can be done
from piers, boats, or points of inlets. The most popular
way of fishing is by trolling in the channels, when a
spoon with but a single hook should be used.

PIN TAIL DUCK

Sometimes called the water pheasant on account of its beautiful plumage. Its correct name comes from its seven-inch long finely pointed tail. It ranges over nearly all of North America, but its favorite breeding grounds are in the sub-Arctic regions. It is as much at home on fresh water lakes and rivers as on the salt water inlets

of the Atlantic coast. Like the mallard, it does well in captivity, but is not such a good breeder.

GROUND - DOVE

A dove or pigeon of terrestrial habits. It is one of the smallest birds of its kind, being only six and one-half to seven inches long. It has short, broad wings and tail, no iridescence on head or neck, and blue-black spots on the wings, the male being varied with grayish olive, bluish and purplish-red tints, and having the wings lined with orange brown or chestnut. This pretty bird is found in the Southern United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific, especially along the coasts. It nests on the ground or in bushes, and lays two white eggs.

MOURNING DOVE

(Called also Carolina dove and turtle dove.)

It breeds throughout the United States from Canada to the Gulf and migrates as far South as Panama. From the peculiarly mournful sound of its call note comes the name by which it is commonly known. Another interesting fact about this bird is the musical note that is sounded by the vibration of its wings as it rises from the ground or flies overhead.

DRUM FISH

Found on the Atlantic coast of America from Cape Cod to Brazil. It gets its name from the emission of a peculiar sound resembling the beat of a drum, and thought to be caused by the movement of the air in its complicated air bladder.

GUDGEON

A small fish easily caught which is used for bait. The word gudgeon is applied to persons who are easily cheated or deceived.

HERON

Herons are gregarious birds and nest and roost in flocks in favorable localities, but solitary birds are seen feeding on the shores of lagoons, rivers and lakes. In Florida one meets herons constantly, fishing on the beach or wading in the lagoons. The little blue heron goes northward beyond the Canadian border when its duties in the southern rookeries are over. The snowy heron, once so abundant in the southern marshes, has almost disappeared. The beautiful plumes that it wears in the nesting season have attracted the plume hunters who supply the milliners with this coveted decoration. The parents are destroyed, and their destruction means the death of thousands of fledglings. It is said that some of the plume hunters evade the law against shooting this heron, by cutting the plumes from the living bird, leaving it to die.

HERRING

An important food fish. They are generally caught in gill-nets or scoop-nets. The annual catch probably amounts to many hundreds of millions. They are smoked, dried, pickled or eaten fresh.

TO HIKE

A colloquial term, meaning to travel.

IBIS

A wading bird, with a long, curved, blunt bill grooved along the sides. The wood ibis, in reality a member of the stork family, is not uncommon in the Southern United States. It is like the turkey buzzard a graceful flier. When procuring food it dances about in the shallow edges of a lagoon, stirring up the mud, which brings the fish to the top. A sharp stroke from the heavy beak leaves the fish floating about dead to serve

as bait. The ibis then waits for other fish, frogs and lizards to approach the bait, when he strikes here and there for the choicest food. The white ibis is yet found in Florida.

KING-FISH

Second cousin to the Spanish mackerel. It is found along the reefs from Cape Florida to Boca Chica. It is one of the principal food fishes of Key West and is taken by fishermen trolling with a piece of bacon, which is something of an indignity, for it is a splendid game fish on the rod.

LAGOON

An area of shallow water, or marshy land, bordering on the sea, and usually separated from the deeper water outside by a belt of sand or of sand dunes.

MAGNOLIA

A big laurel or bull bay. A fine forest tree sixty or eighty feet high, evergreen, with fragrant flowers. A smaller variety is the magnolia glauca. In the South this is a moderate sized tree, in the North a shrub. It grows in swamps from Massachusetts to Florida. The leaves in the South are evergreen.

MALLARD DUCK

This is one of the largest ducks, and one of the handsomest. The male has a brilliant green head and neck and gray body. The female is brown, streaked with black. It has a large range, covering practically the whole North American continent down to Panama. In captivity it thrives and is prolific.

MANGROVE

A low tree of most singular habits. The stems put forth long aerial roots which extend down to the water: the seeds germinate in the fruit and send down a long and heavy root, and thus the mangrove spreads thickly over the tidal mud forming impenetrable malarial bogs. The wood is used for fuel, for piles, etc. The bark is valuable for tanning.

MAST

The fruit of the oak and beech or other forest trees, acorns or nuts collectively serving as food for animals.

MOCCASIN

A venomous snake of the United States. It is small, commonly about two feet long; dark olive brown above and yellowish brown below, with blackish bars and blotches. The top of the head is mostly covered with scales like those on the back, instead of large regular plates as in harmless serpents.

The water moccasin somewhat resembles the copperhead. Another variety very similar to the water moccasin is found on dry land and is called the high-land moccasin. A third, known as the cotton-mouth in the Southern States, is particularly feared.

MORGAN

Sir Henry Morgan (1635?-1688), buccaneer; commanded a privateer, 1663; sailed with Edward Mansfield and was elected "admiral" of the buccaneers on Mansfield's death, 1666. Attacked Porto Bello and sacked it; ravaged the coast of Cuba and the mainland of America; captured the city of Panama, etc.

MOSQUITOES

In many parts of Florida, such as the larger swamps, mosquitoes are so numerous that it is practically impossible for white men to live there. It is well known that, during the Spanish Invasion, the Indians often tied Span-

ish prisoners in places where they would be exposed to these ravenous insects whose stings would often bring the victim near to death before morning. Of course the warden's story was somewhat embellished in order that it might have the desired dramatic effect upon his hearers.

MUD HEN

The coot or mud hen is found in reedy, shallow lakes or creeks. It is extremely common in Florida, gathering in enormous flocks. Its bill is more like a pigeon's than a duck's, and its foot instead of being fully webbed has scalloped membranes along each toe.

NIGGERHEAD

A round tuft or tussock of grass in swampy lands.

LIVE OAK

Florida is called the Live Oak State. The wood of this oak is very heavy, hard, strong, fine grained and durable. It is much prized in ship building.

WATER-OAK OR PIN OAK

This oak loves a moist, rich soil, and is found on the borders of swamps and in river bottoms. The name of pin oak seems to refer to the great number of tiny branches, which are so intermingled with the large ones that at a distance it has the appearance of being full of pins. Oaks are very long lived trees. There are in England now oaks which are said to have been old trees in the time of William the Conqueror.

OAKUM

Junk or old ropes untwisted and picked into loose fibres resembling tow, used for calking the seams of ships. That made from untarred ropes is called white oakum.

OSPREY

The American osprey or fish hawk is seen in summer on the seacoast from Alaska and Hudson Bay to the Gulf of Mexico, but in winter it migrates to Southern Florida, the West Indies and northern South America. The osprey is a veritable light weight athlete, all bone and muscle. It is a bold fisher, and thinks nothing of dropping from a great height into ice cold water and seizing a fish of nearly half his own weight. The osprey builds its nest in a tree, on a rock or on the ground, and the nests often acquire enormous dimensions from yearly additions and repairs.

OYSTER - SHELL ROAD

As stone is very rare in Florida, oyster shells are frequently thrown on the sandy roads, where they are crushed by the passing teams, and reduced to a more or less hard level surface. It is a rude method of macadamizing.

PALMETTO SCRUB

A shrub with huge broad leaves, which, trimmed and dried, form the palm-leaf fan of commerce.

BLACK-BREASTED PLOVER

This bird appears in the South in the beginning of April. Unlike the southward migration in the autumn when they congregate in great flocks, they come in small numbers, but at such short intervals as to form an almost continuous line. After dark their well known cries give note of their passage, but by day they are silent, even when forced to betake themselves to flight. They nest on the ground. The great body of these plovers pass beyond the limits of the United States, but some remain to winter in Florida. In winter, as long as they are on the coast they feed on marine insects, worms and

small shell fish. When in the interior, grasshoppers and other insects as well as various kinds of berries, fatten them, so as to make them fairly good eating. The plumage is mottled black and white.

PANTHER (PUMA)

Also called mountain lion and cougar, is found not only in Florida, but in all the great western mountain ranges of the United States, in Wyoming, Montana, and British Columbia. It is the most widely known cat animal of North America. It is of a brownish drab color, and a large specimen from seven to eight feet in total length will weigh 225 pounds.

PECAN TREE

The pecan tree is a North American tree, abounding from Illinois southward and southwestward. It sometimes reaches a great height, but its wood is of little use except for fuel. The nut is olive shaped, an inch or over long, smooth and thin shelled, with a very sweet oily meat. Raising pecan nuts is becoming quite an industry in Florida.

PHOSPHORESCENCE

Phosphorescence is frequently observed to a very marked degree in sea water. It is believed to be connected with the presence of minute organisms from which the light is given off.

PORPOISE.

The porpoise is eight or nine feet in length and differs from the dolphin in not having the fore part of the head prolonged into a distinct beak. They go in shoals sometimes containing many hundreds, and are found in nearly all seas and usually not far from land. A fine oil is made from its blubber, and the skin is made into leather.

QUAIL

The quail or bob-white is the longest-known and most widely known game bird, and is almost wholly a United States bird. The Florida bird has rather darker, richer coloring than the other varieties, with heavier black markings and a longer jet black bill. Both parents take turns in covering the eggs, and after they are hatched the young run through the brake and cultivated fields, learning from both parents what seeds and berries are safe to eat. Farmers have reason to bless them for the number of weed seeds and insects they destroy.

RAIL

Rails are birds of medium or small size, the breast thin and the body wedge-shaped. Their wings are short and rounded and their legs rather long. In general their plumage might be described as a mixture of brown, black and gray. There are several kinds of rail, the king rail being the biggest and the Virginia rail the most widely distributed. They spend their lives hidden in the sedges of the marshes, where their presence might be unknown if their voices did not betray them. They are shot in quantities in the autumn after they have fattened up on the wild rice or oat fields. "As thin as a rail" is an appropriate expression at any other time of the year. They are expert ventriloquists, often seeming by their voices to be far off, when in reality they are close at hand.

RAY OR DEVIL-FISH

The devil-fish is the largest of the rays. Maximum size across the wings, twenty feet. Many years ago harpooning this gigantic creature was a favorite sport of the planters on the South Carolina coast. Now they are rarely seen and more rarely captured. They are found on the coast of Southern California, but its centre of abundance seems to be the Gulf coast of Florida.

RED LYNX

The red lynx or wild cat is found in nearly all of the States east of the Mississippi where there are large areas of forest. Florida is one of the States where they are most numerous. The color of the fur is a mixture of rusty red, gray, and blackish brown, with the red so marked as to have given the animal its name. It has not the ear tufts of the Canada lynx. Mr. Hornaday, the well-known authority on natural history, says that the largest specimen that ever came into his hands weighed eighteen pounds. Mr. Roosevelt's party in Colorado in 1901 killed one which weighed thirty-nine pounds.

SAND - SHARK

The voracious gray or sand-shark is common on the North Atlantic coast of the United States. It is a wide ranging species about six feet long.

SAW - GRASS

A marsh-plant with stalks from four to eight feet high, and long, slender, saw-toothed leaves. Found in southern United States.

SCAUP DUCK

The greater and the lesser scaup are hardly distinguishable one from the other, unless one is near enough to note the difference in size and the slight difference in plumage. There is no great difference in their habits, except that the lesser scaup shows a preference for inland creeks and fresh water. It is by far the most abundant duck in Florida waters in the winter season. There seems to be some uncertainty as to whether the name comes from the harsh discordant noise the bird utters, or from the broken shell fish it feeds on when other better liked food fails. It has many names, one of them being raft duck, which comes perhaps from its

readiness to dive under a raft rather than swim around one. They are not easily secured if only wounded, as they dive, skim over the surface backward and forward, and have even been known to cling to a rock or bunch of sedge under water.

SEA - TROUT

The sea-trout is not properly a trout, but is akin to the Northern weakfish. It is called a trout on account of its black spots. It is a game fish, and will afford the angler plenty of exercise with a light rod before it is landed. Unlike the sheepshead, which makes strenuous efforts to get to the bottom when hooked, the sea-trout fights on the surface of the water.

SHEEPSHEAD

A stout, very deep bodied fish, found in abundance on the Atlantic coast of the United States, and highly esteemed as a food fish.

STRING - PIECE

A heavy horizontal piece of squared timber carried along the edge of the front of a wharf to hold the timbers in place and strengthen the whole.

SOUR ORANGE TREES

Orange trees which have been neglected and become wild. The fruit is very tough, has little pulp, and is so sour as to be practically uneatable.

SPANISH OR LONG-MOSS

A plant with gray thready stems and leaves, forming dense hanging tufts, which drape the forests of the southern United States. Also called longbeard.

SPARROW HAWK

Smallest and most beautiful of American hawks. Length, nine to ten inches. Its cap is dull blue, its throat white with black side patches, and its upper neck and back are bright rusty brown. Its breast is salmon color, somewhat spotted, legs and feet bright yellow. Occasionally when rearing its young it catches chickens, but this may be overlooked when its great value as a destroyer of noxious insects is remembered. It may safely be ranked with the birds which are most useful to man. It is found all over the United States.

TATTLER - YELLOWLEGS

The yellowlegs are noisy, sociable, restless birds, keeping themselves well advertised in the marshes and about the bays where they feed. In spite of this they are vigilant and wary, and are first to give an alarm. In length they measure from thirteen to fourteen inches. Their legs are long and bright yellow. The bill is two inches long or over. Both male and female are dark ashy speckled with white; breast white heavily spotted with black, tail dusky with numerous white bars. They range all over America.

TARPON, SILVER KING

A large fish reaching the length of six feet and a weight of over two hundred pounds. It is found in the warm parts of the Atlantic Ocean, and is common on parts of the Florida coast, where it has come much into vogue, since, in spite of its great size, it can be taken with rod and line, furnishing rare sport from its vigorous leaps and fine fighting qualities.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL

This bird is so common and so small that it is not much prized by sportsmen. Like other teal, it likes quiet inland waters. The blue wing is known by the conspicuous white crescent in front of and half encircling the eye, and by the bright blue patch on its wing.

TURKEY

The turkey is the largest of the game birds, being about four feet long. The male has a plumage with metallic bronze, copper and green reflections, the feathers tipped with black. The wild turkey is distinguished from the domestic bird chiefly by the chestnut instead of white tips to the tail and the upper tail coverts. A long bunch of bristles hangs from the centre of the breast. The bill is red like the head; legs red and spurred. The wild turkey has become very cunning and wary from much persecution, and the most inaccessible mountains, or swampy bottom lands, are not too remote for them. Unlike the quail, he leaves all the domestic duties to the female, who is somewhat smaller than her mate, duller of plumage, and without the breast bristles.

WATER-BONNETS

Large lily pads common to Florida inland waters.

WEASEL

A small carnivorous animal, with an extremely slender, elongated body, of a reddish brown color above and white below. In northerly regions it turns white in winter like the ermine, but has not the black tip to the tail. It is cunning and wary, and one of the most blood-thirsty of the carnivorous animals.

WHITE - MEAT

A term applied by "poor whites" and negroes to the fatty parts of pork.

YAM

A tuberous root containing a large amount of starch, and therefore highly nutritious. In tropical countries it

largely takes the place of the potato of temperate climates. The Southern negroes use it as a cure for rheumatism.

WILLET

A North American bird of the snipe family. It is a large, stout tattler, with semi-palmated toes, stout bill, and a much variagated plumage, especially in summer. It abounds in temperate North America, and winters in the Southern States, and southward to West Indies and Brazil. It is a noisy bird, but very wary, not coming to a decoy easily like the majority of its confiding kin.

APPENDIX B

OUTDOOR ADVICE

At most good hunting and fishing places on the coast of Florida it is possible for the sportsman to stop at a hotel or boarding-house. The prices will vary from one to five dollars a day with extras, such as charges for guides, teams and boats. If one is quite ignorant of the country and has no experienced older person with him, it is safer and better, all things considered, to engage room and board at one of the cheaper hotels. There he can probably procure advice and help in whatever form of sport he is most interested, and any word from me would be superfluous.

Personally I avoid hotels as much as possible. Camp life costs much less and brings one into a much more intimate relation with nature. There is pleasure in the very difficulties and discomforts that arise, the pleasure of using one's hands and head against new forces with the certainty that courage and common sense will triumph. With success in surmounting difficulties is bound to come a feeling of self-respect which is not vanity, but something much more healthy. It drives back that hampering sense of dependence that often makes cowards of us all. There is nothing more satisfying to the ordinary, manly boy than to feel that he is not helpless without a shingled roof over his head and parents or servants at his beck and call. To realize in a small

way that he can live without the butcher and the baker and all the mechanical contrivances by which the ways of civilized life are made smooth is certainly worth while. It gives him some of the sturdy spirit that won the great West for us.

Camping out is not just sleeping in a tent and doing without the comforts of life. Everyone can do that if they have to, and some can do it without grumbling; but if the wish to grumble is there the experiment is a failure. I should advise no one to try it who can not start with a sincere love of nature. Given that, there will always be a redeeming feature to the most awkward situations.

Camping calls for cheerfulness and unselfishness. Every man or boy must do his share and do it willingly. He should aim to get more than bare food and shelter. It should be his pride to pit himself against nature and show his strength and ingenuity in wresting all he can from her. When you hear a man say that he does not like "to rough it," you can generally put him down as stupid or lazy, or both. If he finds it too "rough," let him smooth it. A little patience, a bit of energy, and the use of one's eyes will show the way out of practically every difficulty the camper may meet.

There are many ways of camping out. There is the way of the lone trailer, who packs everything on his own sturdy shoulders, and lies at night under a square of waterproofed silk or canvas, or a rude roof of branches. As he is always on the move, his equipment must consist of what he can easily carry. One must be experienced before he takes to the woods alone, and the trailer's way is not what I wish to recommend to my young readers.

There is so much game in Florida that desirable camping and hunting sites can be found in the near vicinity of almost every town. Consequently everything needful can be carried to the spot in a wagon. But don't let

this lead you into taking too much. The fewer things you have—provided they are the right things—the better. A lot of truck complicates rather than simplifies camp life. It is always in the way and an eyesore into the bargain.

The first essential is, of course, a tent. Its size must depend on the number in the party, but if there are a number of people to accommodate it is better to take several small tents rather than one large one. A large tent is hard to transport and difficult to erect, and a proper site for it in the woods is not always easy to find. The biggest tent I should advise is a 10 x 12 wall tent. This will furnish sleeping-room for four people. A smaller party would do well to take an A tent, which is very easily handled.

The tent should be made of waterproofed material, provided with a fly to protect it from the rain. It should be of khaki or brown canvas. A white tent is an abomination. It shows the dirt, and as soon as the sun is up its white walls fill the interior with an irritating radiance that effectually banishes sleep. Along the bottom rim of the tent sew, or fasten with grommets, a strip of canvas or cloth about two feet wide, and when the tent is pitched turn this in so that it lies along the ground inside. This will protect you from draughts and keep out a good many insects. In addition to this it is sometimes a good thing to lay a square of canvas on the floor overlapping the turned-in edges just referred to.

As to a camping site, do not pitch your tent too near a stream, or you will be troubled with dampness and mosquitoes, and perhaps a flood. Do not camp in narrow valleys for the same reasons. Choose high, dry ground, and no matter how high and dry it seems, if your camp is to be a permanent one, dig a shallow ditch completely round it.

In such countries as Florida some protection against

insects is a necessity, especially in the fishing season. Mosquito netting is too coarse of mesh and tears easily. The best thing is cheesecloth, and be sure to take enough to cover the front of your tent, and to protect meats, game, etc., from flies. While hunting ducks in some swampy localities I have often used a bit of cheese-cloth as a veil, and been thankful for it.

As to beds, you may take folding cots if you wish, but personally I consider them a nuisance. With the floor cloth already referred to, and a mattress of small twigs and branches to lay your blanket on, you can make a bed that, in my estimation, is unequalled, and does not have to be transported. Be sure to make your mattress thick enough—make it twice as thick as you think is necessary. Good blankets are as important in Florida in winter as at home, though you will not need so many of them. Two per man is about the right number. A rubber blanket is often very useful if the locality is at all damp.

CAMPING OUT

The most important thing in a camper's kit is his axe. Buy a good one and have it ground before you start; they never have a sharp edge as they are sold in the stores. Also, if your camp is to be a permanent one, take with you a hammer, a handsaw, and some long nails. A good coil of rope will also be found very useful.

The choice of cooking utensils is largely a matter of taste. Personally I prefer as few as possible, as I do not like to wash dishes. A knife and fork, spoon and tin cup per man, is all that is really necessary, with a coffee pot and frying pan for general use. Good plates can be made of bark or the leaves of the palm, and they can be thrown in the fire after meals.

Every camper should take two suits of clothes and two

sets of underwear. Add to this a couple of gray flannel shirts with plenty of room at the neck, and a sweater. Don't take a coat. In bad weather wear a thin khaki or "duxback" jacket over your sweater. The old idea that one must wear heavy, high shoes on a hunting trip is exploded. Wear light shoes, such as moccasins, over thick woollen stockings. If you intend to do much ducking and dislike the idea of wet feet, buy a pair of hip-rubber boots, and be sure that they are roomy. Your woollen stockings will fill up the space. But take your light shoes too.

The tent that I have spoken of is meant for sleeping purposes only. Your kitchen must be a separate establishment, and the simpler the better. Stretch a piece of canvas among the trees as a roof, cut a hole through it to let out the smoke if you do your cooking over a camp-fire, and there you are. There are a number of small portable stoves on the market made expressly for campers. I have never tried them, though I daresay that they have their merits. The open fire is my choice.

The novice is apt to build too large a fire, one that smokes and burns his culinary efforts, and is so hot that one cannot stand near it without being scorched. The experienced woodsman makes a very small fire, just a handful of twigs and a few sticks about the size of a lead pencil. Of course you must feed it, but it is much easier to feed a small fire than a big one, and it will cook all right. Two or three little fires are better than a rousing large one. In gathering your fuel remember that the dead limbs on a living tree are drier than those that have fallen to the ground and been soaked by rain and dew.

If you are going into an unfamiliar country you will need a pocket compass. A topographical map of the region will prove very valuable, and this you can probably secure at the State land office, the county seat, or at the United States land office. Locate your camp on the map. It is wise to pitch your tent near a stream, lake or road which will serve as a landmark.

If the general course of the road or stream is east and west and you are to hunt north, you will only have to travel south to get back to your base line or camp. If your course varies to the east of north you should make the same distance west of south to get back to your starting point. Consult your compass often. Otherwise you may swing so far from your course in going only a short distance that you will be inclined to doubt the accuracy of the instrument. If you get bewildered and forget which way to go, always remember that a straight course in any direction will take you somewhere. Level your compass and as soon as the needle stops vibrating take a sight on some object in exact alignment with your course and as far ahead as you can see. Walk to it and repeat the operation. A little practice will enable you to run an accurate line.

A word about the shot-gun and the way to handle it may not be amiss. Never keep a loaded gun in camp; remove the cartridges as soon as you are within a hundred feet of the tent. Keep the gun well oiled and covered in camp, but wipe it carefully with a dry rag before starting on a hunt. Slippery guns have been responsible for some bad accidents. Never carry your gun cocked, and keep the muzzle lowered. Remember that what you have in your hands is a gun, and under no circumstances use it for any other purpose.

To accustom yourself to the noise and recoil practice shooting at a mark. This will not make you a good shot, but will give you some idea of holding and sighting the gun. After you find you can send the centre of your charge into the centre of the target, practice on a moving mark, such as a tin can tossed into the air. The knack of hitting this is soon learned, especially if the can is tossed straight up. Then you will be ready for real field-work.

To the novice in field-work my advice is: aim carefully, fire seldom. That is easy to say and hard to do, but the slap-bang style is out of vogue and never was beneficial to anyone in my estimation. It is all very well to talk of snap-shooting. To snap-shoot you must first learn to take aim and judge the swiftness of your bird and the direction of his line of flight.

Therefore I repeat, aim carefully. I think the very best plan for the novice is to go into the field with shells loaded only with powder. I have tried it myself and know how it steadies a man's hand and heart to realize that he has no shot in his cartridges and cannot possibly bag anything. At the same time there is plenty of interest left, the interest of accurate sighting and the belief that, if shot were present, certain birds would have come whirling down to the ground. In no other way can a beginner acquire so easily the necessary calmness that goes toward making a good shot.

The next step is to use shells loaded with shot; but do not take more than half-a-dozen with you. You may fire the first two or three in a flurry, but the thought that you have only three left will steady you surprisingly. Unconsciously you will find yourself doing something you failed to do at first, that is, taking a careful aim. Do not be afraid to be called "pokey." It is much better to do some conscientious sighting and let the bird go unshot-at - than to blaze away haphazard while the game is still hanging before your face and eves.



