

Young People's Department.



ICE TRACKS ON THE ST. LAWRENCE.

GREAT BODIES OF FRESH WATER.

A RECENTLY published article in the *Scientific American* contains some interesting information concerning large bodies of fresh water. The writer says that geographers claim that there are twenty-five rivers on the globe which have a total length each of over 1,000 miles. Of these two, the Mississippi from the source of the Missouri in the Rocky mountains to the Eads jetties, and the Amazon from the source of the Beni to the isle of Marajo, are over 4,000 miles in length. To be exact, the former is 4,300 and the latter 4,029 miles from the source to the places where their waters are mingled with those of the ocean. Four claim a total length of over 3,000 and under 4,000. They are the Yenisei in Asia, length 3,580; the Kiang, Asia, length 3,900; the Nile, Africa, 3,240; and the Hoang-ho, Asia, which is 3,040 miles. Seven streams on the globe are under 3,000 and over 2,000 miles in length, the Volga, in Russia, and the Amoor, in Asia, each being 2,500 miles in length; two are 2,800 miles long, the Mackenzie in British America and the Platte in South America. The Rio Bravo in North America, the Rio Maderia in South America, and the Niger in Africa are each 2,300 miles from end to end. The Arkansas river just comes inside of this 2,000 mile limit. Ten of the great rivers of the world are over 1,000 and under 2,000 miles in length. Three of these are in North America,

the Red River 1,520, Ohio 1,480, and the St. Lawrence 1,450. South America has also three in this list, the Rio Negro 1,650, Orinoco 1,600 and the Uruguay 1,100 miles. Asia has three in the same list, the Euphrates 1,900 miles and the Tigris and Ganges, each of which is about 1,300 miles. In the group of great rivers, the St. Lawrence is the most remarkable. It constitutes by far the largest body of fresh water in the world. If we include the Great Lakes and the tributary rivers with the St. Lawrence system, as they cover about 73,000 square miles, the aggregate represents not less than 9,000 solid miles of water. The unthinkable size of this mass may be better comprehended when we consider the figures of Professor Cyrus C. Dinwiddie, who says that it would take over forty years for this entire mass to pour over Niagara at the computed rate of 1,000,000 cubic feet per second.

FAITHFUL IN FEW THINGS.

FATHER, I don't believe I will stay with Stephens & Co., after this month."
 "What is that, Hal? I thought the position was a very good one."
 "Oh, the position's good enough, I suppose. I have been with them almost a year, and they don't give me a cent more than when I first went there; and I'm just discouraged."