

HYDROLOGY OF THE BASIN

OF THE

RIVER SAINT LAWRENCE.

TOPOGRAPHY.

THE hydrographical basin of the St. Lawrence is divisible by geographical lines and geographical features into six basins. *The first* embraces the Gulf and the lower river as high as Three Rivers, and includes the tidal estuary of the Saguenay as high as Chicoutimi, seventy miles above its mouth.

The second is the basin of the St. Lawrence proper, embracing the river between Three Rivers and the Thousand Islands, a distance of two hundred miles; together with the Ottawa River, between Montreal and the Lac des Chats, a distance of one hundred and twenty miles; the St. Maurice, from its mouth to the entrance of the mountains, thirty miles; and on the other, or southern side, the valley of the Chaudiere, and the St. Francis, the plain of the Richelieu, and the valley of Lake Champlain and Lake George. From the head of Lake George to the mouth of the Richelieu, is one hundred and ninety miles.

The third basin embraces Lake Ontario, with its southern tributary, the Genesee River, descending from the table-lands of Pennsylvania, through Western New York, and its northern tributary, the Trent and Otonabee, meandering through a labyrinth of lakes which dot the uneven table-land between the shore and the foot of the Northern mountains; the principal, taken in a west-east order, being Seugog, Balsam, Camerons, Sturgeon, Pigeon, Buckhorn, Mud, Salmon, Trout, Rice, Stoney, White, Belmont, and Marmora Lakes.

The fourth basin is that of three upper great lakes, embracing Lakes Erie and St. Clair, Lake Huron and its Georgian Bay, with Lakes Simcoe, Nepesing, and Tamagamingue, Lake Michigan and its Green Bay, together with a narrow fringe of short affluents, draining small areas in Northwestern Ohio, Northern Indiana, and Eastern Wisconsin, as well as the two principal peninsulas of Michigan and Upper Canada.