

basin an area of 400,000 square miles, of which about 70,000 belong to the United States. The remaining 330,000 square miles constitute the province of Canada. With the exception of about 50,000 square miles belonging to Lower Canada, and extending from the line of New York to Gaspé, the whole of this territory lies on the north side of the St. Lawrence and the great lakes.

On either side of the valley of the lower St. Lawrence is a range of mountainous country. These ranges keep close to the shores for a considerable distance up the river; but about 100 miles below Québec where the river is fifteen miles wide, the southern range begins to leave the margin, and opposite to Québec is thirty miles distant. From this point it runs in a more southwestern direction than the river valley, and opposite Montréal is met with about fifty miles to the southeast, where it enters Vermont, and is there known as the Green Mountain range, which forms the eastern limit of the valley of Lake Champlain. In Canada, this range, stretching from the parallel of 45° north latitude to the Gulf, is known as the Notre-Dame Mountains, but to its northeastern portion, the name of the Shickshock Mountains is often given.

The flank of the northern hills, known as the Laurentides, forms the north shore of the river and gulf, until within twenty miles of Québec. It then recedes, and at the latter city is already about twenty miles distant from the St. Lawrence. At Montréal the base of the hills is thirty miles in the rear, and to the westward of this it stretches along the north side of the Ottawa River for about 100 miles, and then runs southward across both the Ottawa and the St. Lawrence, crossing the latter river a little below Kingston, at the Thousand