

of the quantity of land in the Province. That part of it, however, which extends from the eastern extremity of the Province to the upper part of Lake Erie—a distance of 560 miles, its mean breadth being about 146 miles—includes in superficial extent 51,326,400 acres. This estimate takes in the numerous Lakes and streams which intersect the country, and cover at least 16 millions of acres. These waters are in most cases connected, or lie so contiguous as easily to admit of being united by canals so as to form an uninterrupted water communication through almost every section of the country.

Every observer, while examining the map of this Province, must be astonished at the size and number of our Lakes and Rivers. Beginning at the western extremity of the Province, he finds the Detroit, Thames, Grand, and St. Clair Rivers—Lake Huron, Lake Simcoe, Lake Sinclair, and others, and may trace those four mighty Lakes—the Superior, which is 1500 miles in circumference,—the Michigan, nearly 1000 miles round—the Huron, somewhat larger, and the Erie 600 miles, all uniting their world of waters, and rushing down the Niagara Falls, and mingling with the Ontario. Thence they flow onward into the St. Lawrence, which, in its majestic course, passes Montreal and Quebec, and, after expanding to the width of 90 miles, is lost in the Atlantic. Thus has nature formed a most magnificent highway to the Ocean, extending the whole length of the Provinces, down which the tide of our commerce may flow in its course to the foreign markets. The Niagara Falls, and the rapids of the St. Lawrence above Montreal, have hitherto been impediments to the navigation of these waters. These difficulties are now measurably overcome. The Welland Canal forms a link of connection between Lake Erie and the Ontario, so that the Falls no longer form any serious impediment to the conveyance of merchandise. The dangers and difficulties of the St. Lawrence may now be avoided by the successful operation of the Rideau Canal uniting the Ottawa and other waters, and forming a grand communication from