

life. Quebec is the New France that Champlain founded, that Frontenac defended, that Vaudreuil surrendered. One hundred and forty-five years have passed since the flag of France ceased to wave over the valley of the St. Lawrence. To-day the French language is the mother tongue of a million and a half of its inhabitants, French civil law prevails and the church of the French-Canadian people enjoys practically the same rights and privileges that it enjoyed under the flag of the Bourbons.

Measuring from Lake Temiscamingue east to Auseau Blanc-Sablon in the Straits of Belle Isle the length of the province is nearly 1,000 miles, and its breadth is 300. Its area, including the islands, the most important of which are Anticosti, Magdalen, 351,873 square miles.

The surface of the country is exceedingly varied and picturesque, embracing several mountain ranges, rolling hills, numerous rivers, several of which are of the largest size. The lakes number thousands, great and small, and the forests cover vast tracts still unsettled and awaiting the axe of the lumberman and the clearing of the pioneer. The older settled portions of the Province are a beautiful and exceedingly productive farming country. The upper portion of the valley of the St. Lawrence and the valley of the Richelieu are level like the prairies of the far West.

Throughout the greater part of its length the Province of Quebec is traversed by the River St. Lawrence which, from its source in the very center of the American continent 3,500 miles from its outlet on the Atlantic, flows into Lake Superior, the first of the great fresh water inland seas of America where it seems for ever lost to view : it however leaves it by the Sault Sainte-Marie and enters Lake Huron where it is once more swallowed up, again to reappear under the name of the river Sainte-Claire by which it reaches Lake Erie, from which by the river Niagara it flows into Lake Ontario which it finally leaves under its true name and