

the summer delays the ripening of early fruits and permits of the growing of large quantities of excellent strawberries which ripen after the main supplies have been consumed, when this fruit finds a ready market in the larger cities of Eastern Canada and the New England States, at good prices.

QUEBEC

The Province of Quebec includes an area of 347,350 square miles, of which more than half is forest and woodland. The population is more than one and a half million, a large proportion of which are engaged in agricultural pursuits. The surface of the country is very varied. In some parts there are ridges of mountains and lofty hills, diversified with fertile valleys, rivers and lakes. The climate varies much in different parts of the province. The summer is warm and pleasant and vegetation develops rapidly; the winters are cold, but the atmosphere is clear and bracing, and between December and March there is usually a good depth of snow, which gives excellent sleighing. Much of the country is well adapted for farming, the soil being loamy and fertile.

Principal Agricultural Crops.

Hay is one of the principal crops grown, and this has been largely exported, but with the rapid extension of the dairy industry, which has recently made wonderful strides in Quebec, much of the hay crops, as well as those of the coarse grains, are now more profitably fed at home. In this way the elements of fertility taken from the land by these crops are restored to the soil in the manure applied, and the crop-producing power of the land is fairly well maintained. The principal cereal crops are oats and wheat. Pease and buckwheat are also grown, with smaller proportions of barley, rye and maize. Potatoes, turnips, mangels and sugar beets are cultivated successfully in nearly all the settled parts of this province.