

Chaleurs and extends towards the south-west, following the direction of the frontier of the province. The highest peaks of this range of heights skirting the shore of the Bay des Chaleurs are the Conical mountain, with an altitude of 1,910 feet or 580 metres, at the foot of which the Grand Cascadepia river takes its rise, the three mountains situated at the head of the Bonaventure river, which are respectively 1,757, 1,394 and 1,324 feet high, and mount Tracadigéche, which rises to a height of over 1,800 feet above the bay of Carleton.

From Kamouraska, south-westwards, the hills gradually trend away from the river to a distance of 30 miles, or 48 kilometres to the south of Quebec, and of 50 miles or 80 kilometres to the south of Montreal. As the chain advances towards the south, its height gradually decreases and its northern slope forms an inclined plateau, whose general uniformity is only broken by numerous hills and a few mountains less elevated than those of Gaspé. The highest summits of this chain are in American territory, in the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont; in the province of Quebec, it attains its greatest altitude, in mount St. Donat, in the county of Rimouski, the White mountain, in the township of Coleraine, mount St. Ronan, in the township of Buckland, the Ham mountain, mount Victoria or Orford, the Owl's Head near Lake Memphremagog, and the Sutton mountain. The height of these different mountains varies between 1,500 and 3,000 feet.

The upheavals of the slopes of this mountain chain, in the sense parallel to the general axis of the chain, form foothills of no great height, between which are valleys drained by the rivers which flow from the south into the St. Lawrence. Like those of the Shickshock mountain region, the Chaudière and St. Francis rivers cut through the axis of the chain itself and have their headwaters in the valleys lying to the south of the chain and running parallel to it. In their upper course, the beds of the rivers which cross the chain or take there rise in it are from 500 to 900 feet, 152 to 276 metres, above the level of the St. Lawrence towards which they flow with an almost uniform fall and without any abrupt or remarkable descents.

*Valley of the St. Lawrence.*—This valley fills the space comprised between the two mountain chains above described. It has an area of 11,830 square miles or 20,637 square kilometres, of which 8,680 miles lie to the south and 3,150 miles to the north of the St. Lawrence. The southern part is about 280 miles or 450 kilometres long, with an average breadth of 31 miles or 50 kilometres, varying between a dozen miles at Kamouraska and about fifty to the south of Montreal. The northern part extends from Cape Tourmente to the western boundary of the province at the mouth of the river Beaudet, a distance of about 170 miles or 274 kilometres; its average breadth is about 15 miles, varying between none whatever at Cape Tourmente and about 30 miles in rear of Montreal.

At its western extremity this great valley forms an immense plain, circumscribed by the south shore of the St. Lawrence, the north bank of the Yamaska, and the western limit of the counties of Iberville, St. John's, and Laprairie. This plain occupies more than a third of the valley of the St. Lawrence, and, properly speaking, constitutes the valley of the Richelieu. Its shape is that of a triangle, with its head at the entrance of Lake St. Peter,