

superficies of 52,500 square miles or 135,683 square kilometres. This plateau, which is composed in many places of a very fertile soil, is covered with rich forests, which furnish to the trade more than three-quarters of the immense quantities of timber annually exported from the province.

In the region of the Laurentides, there are thousands of lakes, several of which are very extensive, as the following table will indicate :

<i>Lakes.</i>	<i>Superficies.</i>	<i>Elevation.</i>
St. John,	360 miles or 92,240 hect.	293 ft. or 89 metres
Grand Lake	550 " 145,040 "	700 " 212 "
Keepawa	92 " 23,828 "	760 " 224 "
Terniscamingue	330 " 85,470 "	800. " 243 "

There are many other lakes, almost as large, and some even larger, but which have not yet been accurately scaled.

The Alleghany System. — This chain is only the prolongation of the Appalachians, of which the Alleghanies are an offshoot. Starting from the eastern extremity of the province, it skirts the southern shore of the St. Lawrence and only begins to trend away from it in the neighborhood of Kamouraska, about one hundred miles below Quebec. On leaving Gaspé, the principal axis bends towards the river and runs towards the north-west to the neighborhood of Ste Anne-des-Monts, then inclines towards the south-west to form the heights of the Shickshocks between the Cape Chat river and the river Matane; diverges from this point in the direction of the Chaudière river, beyond which the principal ridge runs towards the south-west for a short distance; and then resumes a southerly course to leave the province and extend into Vermont under the name of the Green Mountains.

From Gaspé to Quebec, this mountain chain forms the watershed between the basin of the St. Lawrence to the north and the Bay des Chaleurs and Bay of Fundy to the south. The extremity of the Alleghany chain forms the great plateau of the Gaspé peninsula, which has an elevation of about 1,500 feet or 456 metres above the surrounding sea level, and is cut by deep gorges in which flow the rivers of that region.

The surface of this plateau is not materially varied except by the heights of the Shickshock mountains which have a development of about sixty-five miles in length by from two to six miles in width, and are distant from the St. Lawrence a dozen miles. These mountains rise into peaks and attain a height ranging between 3,000 and 4,000 feet, 912 to 1,216 metres. The loftiest peaks are those of mounts Bayfield, 3,973 feet or 1210 metres, Logan, 3,768 feet or 1,145 metres, Matouasi, 3,365 feet or 1,023 metres, and Bonhomme, 2,269 feet or 696 metres. The St. Anne, Cape Chat and Matane rivers have their sources

of these mountains, which they cut into deep gorges; in their upper waters, the beds of these rivers are not more than 500 or 600 feet, 152 or 178 metres, over the St. Lawrence, into which they empty.

In rear of this principal axis and on a level with the upper courses of the rivers, there is a depression forming a great interior plateau, bounded to the south by the chain of heights which almost skirts the shores of the Bay des