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ECONOMIC MINERALS OF THE PROVINCE OF
ONTARIO, CANADA.

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By WM. HAMILTON MERRITT.
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GEOGRAPHY.

The Province of Ontario is the most central province of the Dominion of Canada, unless the much smaller Province of Manitoba, abutting immediately on the west, can more properly claim that position.

Ontario closes around the northern shores of all the great chain of lakes, and stretches east and west (from near the junction of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence rivers to the Lake of the Woods) for a distance of about 1,250 miles.

The great extent of territory covered by this province from east to west will perhaps be more easily recognized when it is stated that it overlaps parts of the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota of the United States of America, bounding the Province of Ontario on the south.

From the Great Lakes the province stretches, in somewhat a wedge-shape with a broad base, to the shores of James' Bay (the southernmost bay of Hudson's Bay), a distance from Toronto (on Lake Ontario) to the mouth of the Moose river (on James' Bay) of 540 miles, and from the northern shore of Lake Superior to Fort Albany (also on James' Bay) a distance of 350 miles.

The population of the province was placed at 2,114,321 in the census of 1891, chiefly resident in the eastern portion, or the peninsula, of Ontario.

Its total area is 222,000 square miles, including 2,350 square miles of water.

Fig. 1 (Plate VIII.) is a sketch-map of the Province of Ontario, and gives an idea of its situation and area. The approximate general position of the more important economic minerals is indicated on the map.*

* Owing to the small size of the map, some of the mineral deposits have been lettered on the wrong formation, though in the immediate vicinity of where they actually exist.