

If such scenes as these were to occur twice every day, and at a different hour each day, it would be a serious hindrance to trade as well as a danger. But when we study the tides we find that the amount of their rise and fall is not the same from day to day. Twice a month, at new moon and full moon, the difference is greater than at other times, and only in spring and in autumn do the tides reach their greatest height.

At St. John, New Brunswick, the ebb and flow of the tide has a curious effect. There the waters of the St. John River, with all its wealth of trihutary streams and spreading lakes, must enter the sea through a narrow rocky gorge. When the tide is low, the river forms at this place a rapid or fall whose height depends on the lowness of the tide. As the flood tide sets in and the level of the sea water rises, this waterfall gradually loses its force until the salt water below the gorge and the fresh water above are at the same level. But the tide rises still higher, and now a current sets in from the sea to the river, which runs ever faster as the sea level rises; finally it forms a rapid or a fall running from the sea to the land.

A moderate rise and fall of the tide is of great use to shipping. At high tide vessels may enter river mouths and harbours which would otherwise be barred to them, especially during the dry season. In all rivers the part which is affected by the tide is of more value to commerce than the part which lies above it, and we often find that an important town has arisen on the banks of a river just at the place where the farthest influence of the tide is felt.

The Atlantic Ferry

“**W**HITHER go the clouds and wind so eagerly? In what wild regions do the elements hold council, or where unbend in terrible disport?

“Here! Free from that cramped prison called the earth, and out upon the waste of waters. Here, warring, raging,