

by boundaries which, though presenting no very striking feature, are yet sufficiently well defined. On the north, it is enclosed by the mountains from which flow the streams falling into Lakes Superior and Huron. Thence, on the N. E., it is bounded by the high lands separating it from the country unwatered by the Ottawa, and extending from Lake Nipissing to the townships of Tudor and Grimsthorpe, and round by Hinchinbrook to the summit level of the Rideau Canal. To the east, its limits are the Thousand Islands, the high grounds in which are the sources of the Black River and its tributaries, and of the Oneida; and to the south, the heights from which descend the Seneca and Genesee Rivers, in the State of New York, (one half of the waters of which State flow into Lake Ontario alone;) and farther westward, the ridge separating the streams falling into the other lakes from the Alleghany and Ohio, the Illinois, the Wisconsin, and other tributaries of the Mississippi.

Within the area thus bounded what are termed the "Great Lakes" are contained. Including the lakes, its extent is about 300,000 square miles, that of the great lakes themselves being not much less than 100,000, a surface larger than the whole of Great Britain.

These inland seas are not like the most of other great lakes. There are no mountain ranges, of any considerable altitude, at any part of the circumference of their basin, except on the north, and part of the south shore of Lake Superior, and the La Cloche Mountains, on the north of Lake Huron, none of which, however, rise to any great elevation. Indeed so low, in some places, and so small, is the breadth of the ridge which separates the Lakes from the head waters of the streams which flow from Rainy Lake, or the Lake of the Woods, through Lake Winnipeg, and