

The greater part of the Dominion of Canada consists of a vast, level plain, which lies between two bordering ranges of mountains. The Laurentian Mountains, very little more than five thousand feet in height, are on the east. A plateau four thousand feet in height, across which the Rocky Mountains and other parallel ranges run from north to south, is the western boundary of the plain.

The central plain of Canada has two slopes, — one toward the Arctic Ocean and the other toward Hudson Bay. The Arctic slope occupies the northern half of the plain, and the Hudson Bay slope the southern and eastern sections. The Mackenzie River, with its bare and desolate shores, drains the Arctic slope. The Saskatchewan River, with its continuation, the Nelson, is the largest river in the Hudson Bay system.

Down the eastward slopes of the Laurentian Mountains flow the smaller rivers of the St. Lawrence system. West of the Rocky Mountains are the rivers of the Pacific slope.

If we should follow the forty-ninth parallel of latitude from the Atlantic to the Pacific, we should pass through five regions of the country. First, would come the provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, where fishing smacks ride at anchor in the harbors, and where fish and nets are seen drying along the beaches. This is the great fishing district of the country. Then follows the farming district, along the lower part of the river St. Lawrence.

Thirdly, we enter the great forests of Canada, which extend westerly for a thousand miles. Formerly there