

Regarding the Gaspé peninsula and its direct extension westward, as properly marking the limits of the area under discussion, this may be said to have the general form of a broadly curving belt convex to the northward of which the sides are nearly parallel and at a distance from each other of about ninety miles, while its length from Cape Gaspé to the Little St. Francis river, is 250 miles. While on the northern side it forms the south shore of the St. Lawrence, and is of very regular outline, it is on the southern side less clearly defined by the valley of the St. John river above Edmunston, and farther east by that of the Restigouche river and the Bay Chaleur.

Though everywhere hilly, the district in question can only at comparatively few points be properly described as mountainous. Its true character is rather that of an elevated plateau, having in the Gaspé peninsula an average elevation of 1000 feet, but declining to the westward, upon which are held up, along certain lines, somewhat more prominent ridges, while the sides have been broken up and made hilly by the effects of deep and irregular erosion. Of the ridges referred to, the most considerable are those forming the Shickshock Mountains, included wholly within the Gaspé peninsula, and having a length of about sixty-five miles with a breadth of from two to six miles, at a distance of about twelve miles from the St. Lawrence. Their maximum elevation is from three to four thousand feet, and the district which they form is one of an exceedingly rugged but picturesque character. From the summit of Mount Albert, nearly 4000 feet high, not less than (158) one hundred and fifty-eight distinct peaks were observed and triangulated by Mr. A. P. Low, who also describes the intervening valleys as having often the character of deep cañons, traversed by narrow but deep streams with numerous rapids and falls. In addition to the main chain of the Shicksocks, a second range, of less elevation, but still including some lofty peaks, is found between the latter and the coast, while here and there, on either side of the axis, are isolated granite hills, such as Table Top Mountain, rising fully 2000 feet above