

while salt water washes the coasts of the province for many miles on its northern and western borders. Besides including a narrow strip of land between the St. Lawrence and the international and New Brunswick boundaries, Quebec extends northward from the St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers to Labrador and Hudson strait, covering over 17° of latitude and an area of 594,434 square miles. The combined areas of France, Germany and Spain are some 5,000 square miles less than the area of Quebec. Apart from its importance as the threshold of Canada and the gateway through which ocean vessels must pass on their way to the interior of the continent, Quebec is also noted for its natural resources. The untold timber limits of its northern areas form the basis for a great pulp and paper industry of the present and the future. Its rivers, many of them as yet comparatively unknown, may be harnessed to supply over one-third of the electric power available in Canada. Its mineral deposits, particularly those of asbestos, have long been known for their quality and extent, while promising discoveries of copper and gold deposits have recently been made in Rouyn and the neighbouring townships in the western part of the province, and the fisheries of the St. Lawrence river and gulf are well known. Agriculturally, the climate and soil of the St. Lawrence shores and the plains of the Eastern Townships are eminently adapted to general farming operations.

Ontario.—The province of Ontario is the section of the Dominion contained between the great international lakes and Hudson bay and between the western boundary of Quebec and the eastern limits of Manitoba. Its most southern point is in north latitude $41^{\circ} 41'$ and its most northern in north latitude $56^{\circ} 48'$. The total area comprised within its limits is 407,262 square miles, of which its water area of 49,300 square miles forms the unusually large percentage of 12.1. The province is over 12,000 square miles greater in area than are France and Germany together, and when compared with the states to the south, Ontario is found to be almost equal in extent to the combined areas of the six New England states, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. Many varieties of climate and soil are encountered, from the distinctively southern conditions found along the shores of lake Erie to the very different ones of Hudson and James bays. Ontario, of all the provinces of Canada, is the centre of the country's manufacturing life, owing to its abundant water-power resources and its proximity to the coal fields of Pennsylvania, but the many natural resources of its rural districts are not on this account neglected. Mining in the Sudbury, Cobalt and Porcupine districts is a thriving industry, the nickel coming from the Sudbury field amounting to 90 p.c. of the world's production, while most of the gold mined in Canada is found in the province. Fruit farming in the Niagara district and general farming throughout the entire central part of the province are carried on extensively under unusually favourable conditions, while timber and furs are among the most important products of more northern parts.

Manitoba.—Manitoba, the most easterly of the prairie provinces, and also the oldest in point of settlement, extends roughly from a line joining the west coast of Hudson bay and the lake of the Woods to a line approximating closely to the 102nd meridian west from Greenwich. On the north and south it is bounded by the 60th and 49th parallels of latitude respectively. The total area of Manitoba is 251,832 square miles—8,566 square miles greater than twice the total area of the British Isles. The province has been regarded as typically agricultural, its southern plains being specially adapted to this form of industry. Its northern districts, however, with a topography very different from that of its prairies, are of importance in the