

southernmost point of Ontario, which is also the southernmost point of the Dominion, is in north latitude $41^{\circ} 41'$ —a little farther south than the northern boundary of the State of California—and its most northern, in north latitude $56^{\circ} 50'$. The total area comprised within its limits, of which about 82 p.c. lies south of the isotherm of 60° F. mean July temperature,* is 412,582 square miles, of which its fresh-water area of 49,300 square miles forms the unusually large proportion of 12 p.c. The province is over 17,000 square miles greater in area than are France and Germany (exclusive of Austria) 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, together with New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Excepting in the southwestern part, the surface conformity of Ontario is influenced by the characteristics of the Precambrian rocks. In northern Ontario a large area with elevations of 1,000 feet or over adjoins the north shore of the Great Lakes and, going north a short distance over the Height of Land, the slope descends very gently to Hudson bay, which has a wide marginal strip less than 500 feet above sea-level. The highest point in Ontario is 2,120 feet, on the promontory at the northeastern corner of lake Superior. The whole province supports a valuable covering of trees, varying, from south to north, from the mixed forest to the eastern and northern coniferous. 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, is the centre of the country's manufacturing industries, owing to its abundant water-power resources and its proximity to the coalfields of Pennsylvania, but the many resources of its rural districts are not on this account neglected. Mining is a very important industry in the wide-spread Precambrian area and, although the most important districts are Sudbury, Porcupine, and Kirkland Lake, profitable mining operations, principally of gold, are now being carried on from the Manitoba boundary eastward across northern Ontario and down into eastern Ontario. Petroleum and natural gas, salt, and gypsum are also produced on an important scale in the southwestern part of the province. Fruit farming in the Niagara district and general farming throughout the entire southern part of the province are carried on extensively under unusually favourable conditions, while timber, pulp, and furs are other important products of more northern parts.

Manitoba.—Manitoba, the most easterly of the Prairie Provinces, and also the oldest of them in point of settlement, includes the area between Ontario on the east and Saskatchewan on the west. Its southerly limit is the International Boundary, while its northerly boundary is the 60th parallel of latitude and Hudson bay, where its coast of over 400 miles includes the harbour and port of Churchill. The total area of Manitoba, of which about 56 p.c. lies south of the isotherm of 60° F. mean July temperature,* is 246,512 square miles—3,246 square miles greater than twice the total area of the British Isles. The conformity of the surface of Manitoba is quite even; commencing on the north with a strip bordering on Hudson bay—perhaps 100 miles wide and less than 500 feet in elevation—the surface rises gradually towards the west and south. The bulk of the province has an elevation of between 500 and 1,000 feet, and the greatest height of 2,727 feet is attained in Duck mountain, north-west of lake Dauphin. East and north of lake Winnipeg the Canadian Shield is found with its Precambrian rock formation, but the remainder of the province is overlain by very fertile soil of great depth. The treeless prairie belt extends into the southwest corner of the province, but the greater portion of the developed area is in the grove belt, characterized by groves of poplar interspersed with open prairie

* See footnote, p. 3.