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The Lakes

The entire line of lake coast is 5,000 miles of which 2,000 constitute the British coast. The following is the result of the survey of the U.S. Topographical Engineers:

Lake Champlain 105 miles, greatest width 12, average width 8; Lake Ontario 180, greatest width 62, average width 30; Lake Erie 240, greatest width 57, average width 38; Lake St. Clair 18, greatest width 25, average width 12; Lake Huron 270, greatest width, (not including the extensive bay of Georgian, itself 120 miles long and averaging 45 miles in width,) 105, average width 70; Lake Michigan 340, greatest width 83, average width 58; Lake Superior 420, greatest width 135, average width 100.

These lakes may be considered as connected throughout their whole extent. Lake Champlain connects with Lake Ontario by means of the river Richelieu, the lock and dam navigation of St. Lawrence river, the Ottawa river, the Rideau Canal through Canada, and the Champlain and Erie Canals of New York. Lake Ontario is connected with Lake Erie by means of the Welland Canal through Canada, and by means of the Oswego and Erie Canals through this State. Lake Erie is connected with Lake St. Clair by the deep navigable strait of Detroit, 25 miles long. Lake St. Clair is connected with Lake Huron by the navigable strait of St. Clair, 32 miles long. Lake Huron is connected with Lake Michigan by the deep and wide strait of Mackinaw, and with Lake Superior by the strait of St. Mary's 46 miles long.