

lines. In its upper angle lies Hudson's Bay, whose place was designated as soon as it became the bottom of a submarine valley. The southern slope of the ridge became the water-shed which was to supply the great lakes and the St. Lawrence. The St. Lawrence finds its outlet to the ocean in a valley parallel with the ancient ridge. The peculiar notch from Georgian Bay to the head of Lake Erie, and thence to the Niagara River, is conformed to the sal-

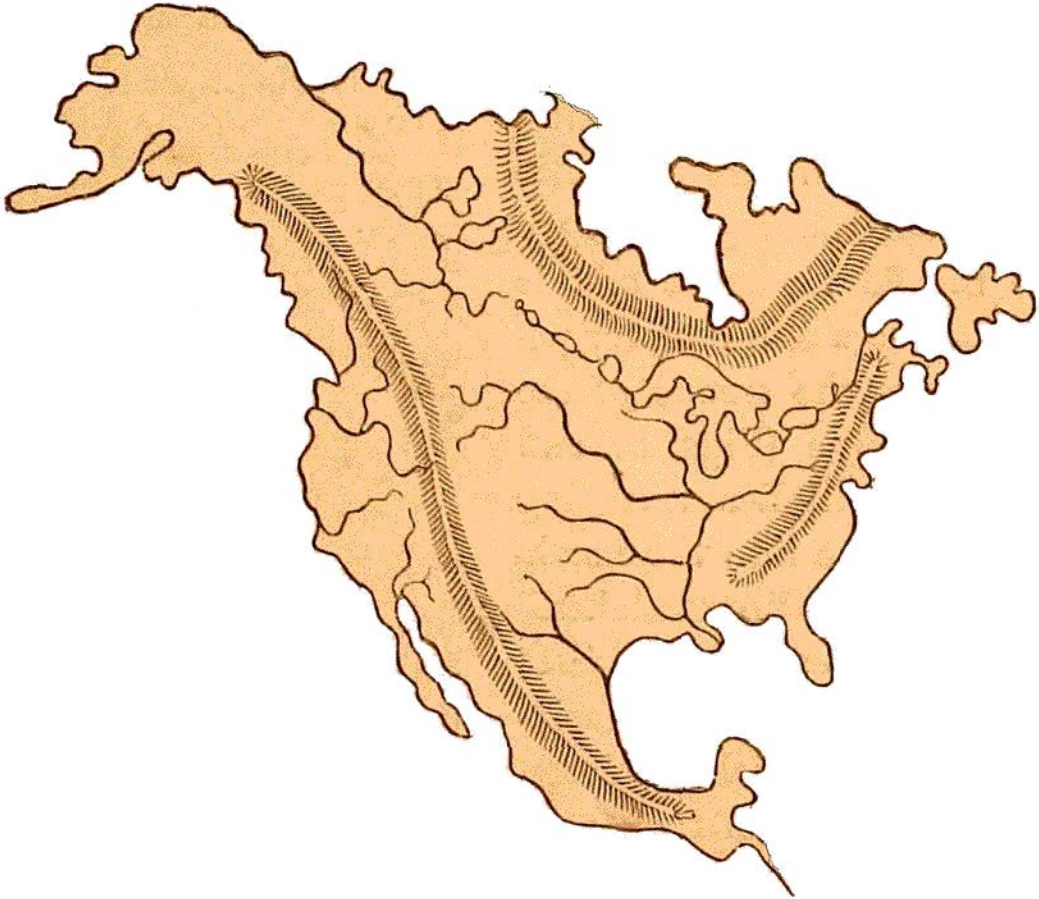


Fig. 39. Hydrographic and Orographic Outlines of North America.

ient angle of the same ridge. The "great lakes" themselves are but links in the vast chain of lakes extending to the Northern Ocean, accumulated in a valley inclosed by the western branch of the continental nucleus on the one hand, and the occidental ridge of the continent on the other. The Mississippi pursues its course along the bottom of the depression between the Appalachian and Rocky Mountain ridges, while the McKenzie—the Mississippi of