

DESCRIPTION
OF THE
VIEWS AND PLACES OF INTEREST
— IN —
Montreal and Vicinity,

WITH A MAP OF THE CITY,

Showing all the latest Improvements and Extensions
to July, 1886.

*And the Business Cards of Representative Commercial
Houses in the centre of the City.*



JOSEPH FORTIER, TYP., MONTREAL.

DESCRIPTION
OF THE
VIEWS AND PLACES OF INTEREST
— IN —
MONTREAL AND VICINITY.

The City of Montreal, the commercial metropolis of the Dominion of Canada, is built on an island of the same name, 30 miles long by 10 broad, formed by the River Ottawa debouching into the River St. Lawrence at its eastern and western extremities, the former at Bout de l'Isle, the latter near St. Ann's.

The city was founded on the 8th of May, 1642, by Maissonneuve, and called by the name of Ville Marie de Montréal; the first clearing being made on the spot where the New Custom House now stands. The city proper is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles long by 2 broad, and has a population of about 150,000. The population of the whole island is about 200,000, of these over one half are of French and one fifth of Irish origin, and as to religion about two thirds are Roman Catholics.

Montreal surrendered to the English on the 8th September, 1760. It was taken by the Americans on the 12th November, 1775, and retaken by the British on the 15th June, 1776. On the 25th April, 1849, the self-styled "Loyalists" of Montreal assaulted the Governor General, Lord Elgin; entered the Parliament House, drove out the members and set fire to the building. For this reason the seat of parliament was removed from the city.

Mount Royal, so called by Jacques Cartier, in 1535, in honor of the King of France, rises about 700 feet above the level of the River St. Lawrence. The Mountain Park covers 430 acres. A fine view of the city and surrounding country may be got from the top. Looking southward across the river the first mountain to the left is Montarville; the next is Belœil, or St. Hilaire Mountain; the next is Rougemont, with the Yamaska Mountain behind it. To the right is the conical shaped Mount Johnson, standing alone. In the far distance, the Green Mountains are to the left, and the Adirondacks to the right. Looking up the river the Lachine Rapids may be seen.

Victoria Bridge, the longest bridge in the world, at the time of its erection was considered the eighth wonder of the world. It is $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles long. It is made of 25 tubes, supported by 24 piers and the two end abutments. The lower side of the centre tube is 60 feet above the summer level of the St. Lawrence. It was erected in 1859 by James Hodges from the designs of Robert Stephenson and Alexander M. Ross. It was formally opened by the Prince of Wales in 1860.

The height from the bed of the river to the top of the centre tube is 108 feet. The greatest depth of water is 22 feet. The centre has an elevation of about 20 feet above the ends. Cost over \$6,000,000. The current at the bridge runs at the rate of 7 miles an hour. In the spring the water sometimes rises over 20 feet above the summer level of the river.

The Gulf of St. Lawrence was discovered by Jacques Cartier on the 10th of August, 1535, and that being St. Lawrence Day, he called the river in honor of that saint.

The Lachine Canal is $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles long and overcomes a total rise of 45 feet. It has 5 locks. The breadth of the canal at the bottom is 80 feet and 120 at the water surface.

Montreal has 75 churches, viz :—20 Roman Catholic, 16 Presbyterian, 14 Episcopal, 12 Methodist, 3 Congregational, 3 Baptist, 1 New Jerusalem or Swedenborgian, 1 Advent Christian Church, 1 Unitarian, 1 Lutheran or German Protestant and 3 Jewish Synagogues. There are 5 Protestant Churches in which the services are conducted in the French Language viz :—2 Presbyterian, 1 Episcopal, 1 Methodist and 1 Baptist.

The Parish Church of Notre Dame, erroneously called the French Cathedral, stands upon Place d'Armes, Notre Dame Street. It seats 10,000 people comfortably, and when crowded it has been known to hold 15,000. The length of the church is 255 feet, and the breadth is 134 feet. The two principal towers are 227 feet high. The Bourbon Bell, the largest in America, weighs 24,780 pounds, it is 8 feet 7 inches in diameter and 6 feet 9 inches high. It is one foot thick. The clapper weighs 860 pounds. The bell costs \$25,000 and the church altogether cost over \$6,000,000.

St. Peter's Cathedral, built after the model of St. Peter's at Rome, is expected to be second only in the world to that edifice. It is half the dimensions of its namesake at Rome. The foundation stone was laid in 1868. The dimensions of St. Peter's at Rome are 613 feet long, 286 feet in breadth and 435 feet to the top of the dome. The dimensions of St. Peter's at Montreal are 333 feet in length, 222 in breadth, and 256 in height to the top of the cross.

The Bonsecours Church, erected in 1771, is the oldest and most picturesque church in the city.

The Notre Dame de Lourdes, built in 1874 for the purpose of illustrating the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, is the most beautiful church in the city.

Christ Church (the English Cathedral), and Fulford's Monument, St. Catherine Street and Union Avenue, are the finest specimens of Gothic Architecture in North America.

St. Gabriel Street Presbyterian Church is the oldest Protestant Church in the Dominion, and it has the oldest Protestant bell in Canada. It was erected in 1794.

The water of the city is taken from the River St. Lawrence about a mile above the Lachine Rapids, and is pumped from the Wheelhouse in the western limits of the city to the large reservoir on the side of the Mountain, a distance of over 3 miles. From the large reservoir the water that supplies the city above Sherbrooke Street is pumped to another smaller reservoir further up, on the side of the Mountain.

The Ice Palace of 1885, erected on Dominion Square, was 100 feet high, 160 feet long and 120 feet in breadth.

The Lachine Rapids is about 7 miles above Montreal and about 2 miles below the town of Lachine, at the head of an island called Heron. To shoot the Rapids

is a very pleasant and exciting excursion to those who do it for the first time. The round trip can be made in less than two hours. During the summer season trains leave Bonaventure Depot at 7.55 a. m. and 5 p. m. to connect with the boats coming down the Rapids.

On the left hand, close to Lachine, is the Dominion Bridge Works. This is the building that attracts most attention on the road out to Lachine. A fine view of the city and surrounding country may be had on a clear day coming down the River from Lachine.

Villa Maria Convent, on the west end of Mount Royal, near Cotes des Neiges, is seen very conspicuously coming down the River.

Opposite Lachine is the Indian village of Caughnawaga.

Parties interested in Indians can take a train to Lachine early in the day and go over to Caughnawaga in the Indian "Mail Boat" and have a pleasant time in the Indian village for a few hours and then come back in time to shoot the Rapids in the evening. Parties wishing to see the Indians without going out of town can see them round the railway station peddling their fancy work.

The Tuque Toboggan Slide is erected in winter on the grounds of the Montreal Lacrosse Club.

St. Helen's Island, now used as a public park, is the most popular place for picnics in the city. The Island is named in honor of Champlain's wife, the first European lady that came to Canada. The buildings on the lower end of the Island were used in times gone by as barracks for soldiers. They are used now as a powder magazine.

The original Indian village of Hochelaga was situated about the site of the English Cathedral.

Montreal has the best hunting establishment on the continent of America.

The Victoria Skating Rink is the largest and the best in Europe or America.

The principal drives in the city are:—the drive round the Mountain, visiting the new Elevator, the Exhibition Grounds and the two Cemeteries, and going round the 14 stations of the Cross in the Catholic Cemetery; drive to Lachine, drive to Longue Pointe, drive to Back River, drive to Victoria Bridge. Close to the Bridge is the Immigrants' Memorial Stone an enormous stone taken from the bed of the river and erected by the workmen employed at the Victoria Bridge in memorial of the 6,000 immigrants who died of ship fever in 1847,-8. The Grand Trunk General Offices, the Point St. Charles cattle yard, the Point St. Charles shooting ranges, and the Victoria Bridge Boating Club House are all in the same vicinity.

The Montreal and Shamrock Lacrosse Grounds are well worth a visit on a Saturday.

There are only two railway stations in Montreal viz:—the Grand Trunk in the west end and the Canadian Pacific in the east end.

The principal Hotels in Montreal are:—the Windsor Hotel, Dominion Square, the largest and the grandest in the city, near the Grand Trunk Depot. At the Windsor Hotel Mr. J. T. Morey has a staff of drivers not to be surpassed anywhere for courtesy and the amount of information they are able to impart to strangers relative to the points of interest in the city.

The Richelieu Hotel, near the Canadian Pacific Railway Depot and near the Quebec Boat, is the only first class hotel in the city that combines the American and European systems. The Richelieu also has a staff of drivers very obliging and well informed about the city and can speak the two languages equally well.

The St. Lawrence Hall near the General Post Office has been for many years the leading hotel in Montreal. It is in the business centre of the city.

The Balmoral Hotel opened in 1886 is the last first class hotel opened in the city. The tourists speak in very favorable terms of it. It has a first class Drug Store attached to it.

The Albion Hotel is an old established House. Strangers going there the first time they come to town dont seem to wish for a change the next time.

The Museum of the Natural History Society on University Street is well worth a visit. The first Breech loading cannon ever invented may be seen there. It was used by the French in one of their expeditions against the Indians. The Indians attacked the canoe in which the cannon was placed and upset it, on the borders of Lake Oka. The cannon lay for a while in the bottom of the Lake and one part of it was lost and never found. The finest specimens of mummies to be seen in any museum may be seen there, some of them 3,500 years old, without a hair of the head removed.

From 1685 to 1801 Montreal was surrounded by a wall. The latter year an Act of Parliament was passed for the removal of the fortifications. The fortifications extended from the present Victoria Square to the Canadian Pacific Railway Depot. From these two extremities the walls extended to the river, about half a mile at the greatest breadth.

The Young Men's Christian Association, corner of Craig and Victoria Square :—Reading Room and Library open from 8.30 a. m. to 10 p. m. Young men whether residents in the city or strangers, are welcome. A young man coming to town looking for employment would do well to call.

Stanley Street Presbyterian Church, adjoining the northwest corner of the Windsor Hotel, is a very plain church. Like the Highland Scotch Churches there is no instrumental music at divine services, and the singing consist mostly of Psalms. There are Galic services there during the winter season. Parties coming to town from Celtic settlements would do well to identify themselves with the congregation.

The Grey Nunnery Hospital, corner of Guy and Dorchester Streets, has over 800 inmates. It should be visited at 12 noon to see the procession. It was founded in 1694.

Villa Maria Convent, at Cote St. Antoine, is the Mother House of the Grey Nuns. It is the largest convent in America. It has accomodation for 1000 nuns.

A ride of 5 miles may be got on the Street Cars for 5 cents, and cars may be changed when necessary without extra charge.

A drive of over 6 miles, from the Post Office to Mount Royal and back, may be got for 25 cents. There are two observatories on Mount Royal.

Generally speaking, the principal streets of the city run from east to west, almost parallel to the River St. Lawrence.

The east end is the French quarter and the west end is the English quarter.

The following are the principal towns and villages in the vicinity of Montreal :—Coteau St. Louis east of Mount Royal, pop. 2,000; Coteau St. Pierre, pop. 200; Cotes des Neiges, 3 miles from Montreal, pop. 1,200; Cote St. Antoine, 2 miles from Montreal, pop. 1,000; Monklands, at one time the residence of the Governor Generals, now Villa Maria Convent, is located here; Cote St. Paul, 3 miles west from P. O., pop. 1650; Cote St. Luc, pop. 300; Cote Visitation, pop. 300; Lachine, 9 miles from Montreal, pop. 3,500; Laprairie, a village on the south shore of the River St. Lawrence, between Lachine Rapids and Victoria Bridge. The first railway in British North America was run from here to St. John in 1836, pop. 2,200;

Longue Pointe, 6 miles east of Montreal, pop. 450 ;
 Maissonneuve, pop. 350 ; Mount Royal Vale ; Mount Royal Avenue ;
 Notre Dame de Grace, 2 miles from Montreal, pop. 400 ; Outremont, 2
 miles from Montreal, pop. 100 ;
 St. Louis of Mile End, 2 miles from the city, pop. 2,000 ;
 Town of St. Cunegonde adjoins city limits of Montreal, pop. 2,000 ;
 St. Henry, 2½ miles from Bonaventure Depot, pop. 9,000 ;
 St. John Baptiste village, 1 mile from Montreal P. O., pop. 10,000 ;
 Verdun, is on the road from Montreal to Lachine.

Village of St. Gabriel, west end of Montreal, pop. 5,000.

The other principal places of interest in Montreal are the New Post Office, the Bank of Montreal, the Harbor, extending over 4 miles ; Viger Gardens, Champ de Mars, Jacques Cartier Square and Nelson's Monument ; Victoria Square and the Queen's Monument, the Court House and new City Hall, Bonsecours Market. Tuesday or Friday is the best day to visit this place.

St. Patrick's Church, Jesuits' Church and College, Notre Dame de Nazareth, St. James' Church, Hotel Dieu Hospital, McGill College, Presbyterian College, Redpath Museum and Molson Hall, the Seminary of St. Sulpice, otherwise called the Montreal College and Grand Seminary, Sherbrooke Street west ; Hochelaga Convent, Mount St. Mary Convent, Fraser Institute, Art Gallery, corner of Philip's Square and St. Catherine Street.

Montreal has a first class Veterinary College attended by Students from a great distance.

The second steamer built on the continent of America was built at Montreal. She was built by Mr. John Molson, and was called the "Accommodation". She made her first voyage in 36 hours, between Montreal and Quebec, on the 3rd and 4th of November, 1809.

Counting Newspapers and Journals in French and English, there are 50 altogether published in Montreal, viz :—6 French and 5 English dailies, 10 French and 8 English weeklies, 8 French and 11 English monthlies, and 2 English quarterlies. Besides these the different institutions have each their journals and records.

The *Witness* is the leading protestant organ, but the *Star* has the largest circulation, The *True Witness* and *Post* are the Irish Catholic organs. *L'Aurore* is the French Protestant organ. The *Herald* is the Liberal morning paper and the *Gazette*, the oldest paper in the city, is the Conservative organ.

Montreal has 28 Masonic, 12 Orange, 9 Odd Fellows and 5 Good Templar Lodges.

There are 15 Banks, 24 Fire Insurance, and 15 Life Insurance Offices.

Parties wishing for fuller information about the city will find it in Dawson's Handbook of the Dominion "Montreal Past and Present" published by George Bishop & Co. ; "The All Round Route" published by the Canada News Co. ; The Miscellaneous Information in the Montreal Directory.

For Tariff of Hackney Carriages, every licensed cabman is obliged to produce a tariff of rates on application, but the party that gives cabby an extra quarter for himself is apt to get a good deal of useful information, more than the party that gives as little as he can.

McGill University was founded by James McGill, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, who died in 1813, leaving \$150,000 for the foundation of such an institution. It is Protestant in its character, but undenominational, all the different Protestant bodies having equal privileges in it.

In 1817 the first Bank in Canada was established at Montreal by an Association of merchants, and was named the Bank of Montreal.

On the 9th of June, 1853, Father Gavazzi a celebrated lecturer, formerly a famous Roman Catholic Priest, lectured against the Church of Rome in Zion Congregational Church, and a riot ensued in which about forty persons were killed or wounded.

The City of Montreal is 315 miles nearer to Liverpool than the city of New York, and one third of the whole system by way of the St. Lawrence is in comparatively smooth water. The distance from Montreal to Chicago, by the St. Lawrence is 158 miles less than the distance from New York to the same city.

How to visit the principal places of interest in the shortest time for the least money.

In whatever quarter of the city you are lodging, the first place to visit is the Notre Dame Church.

From the Windsor, if you do not wish to hire a cab walk down Windsor Street to the corner of St. Antoine Street. From there take the street cars going east, and tell the conductor to let you off at the Post Office, and then a few paces from you is the Notre Dame Church and several other places of interest. A few blocks east from there is the New City Hall, the Court House, Nelson's Monument, St. Gabriel Street old Presbyterian Church, and not far away is the Bonsecours Market and Bonsecours Church. While there you may visit the Harbor and the New Custom House, about a half mile farther west. Then walk up McGill to Victoria Square, from whence you may get the street cars to take you to the principal places of interest up town. First visit the Notre Dame de Lourdes, near the corner of St. Catherine and St. Denis Streets. From thence retrace your steps westwards, till you come to Bleury Street, and there is the old Jesuits' Church and college. Then turn up to St. Catherine Street west, till you come to the Art Gallery, corner of Philips Square. Then visit the English Cathedral and the Museum of the Natural History Society. Then take the street cars till you come west as far as Guy Street and visit the Grey Nunnery at noon. After dinner, hire a cab to take you to the McGill College, and close by are the two city reservoirs; and if you don't wish to hire a cab to take you to the top of the mountain, you can go up by the Elevator for 5 cents. Then after you have taken a good view of the surrounding country from the top of the mountain, and visited the two cemeteries, you can come back to the city by the busses for 15 cents, and you have a day well spent, and not over a dollar of necessary expense, besides your hotel bill.

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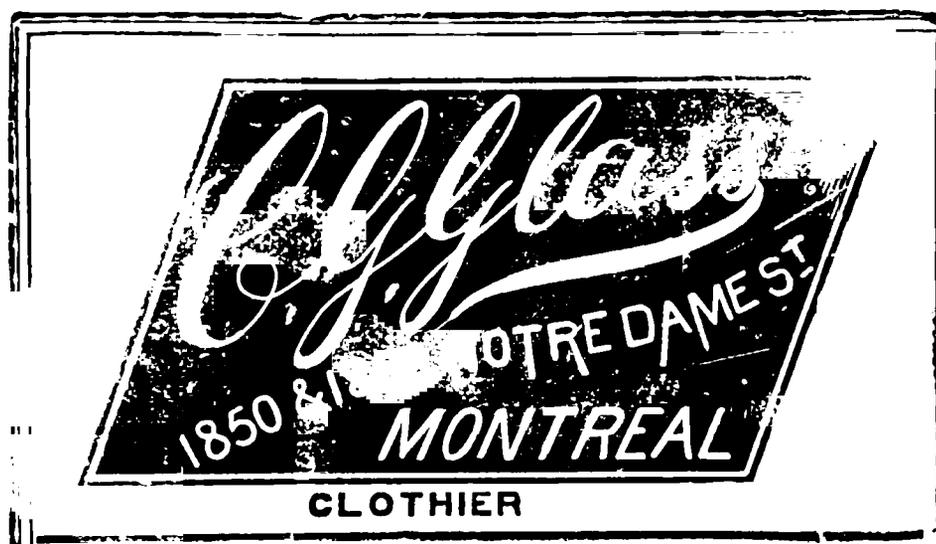
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