

MONTREAL.

ing the United States from Lower Canada. It contains about 50 acres. The British have here a fort and garrison. The town and fort of St. John lies on the west bank of the Sorel or Richelieu. It contains about 50 miserable wooden dwellings, and barracks for troops. The fort is composed of cedar pickets and earth. Chambly fort lies about eight miles north of St. John's. It is built of stone, in a quadrangular form, and has the appearance of a castle; it is the only edifice in this part of America, which has any resemblance to that ancient mode of structure. The country around Chambly exhibits a romantic aspect; the river in this part, shallow and broken, rushes down a declivity interrupted by rapids; an extensive and elevated mountain rears aloft, in the midst of level lands, and confines beneath its conical summit, a lake of pure water.

The river Sorel is deep at its mouth, and affords a good shelter for ships from the ice at the breaking up of winter: it is not navigable far beyond the town, even in boats, on account of the rapids.

Montreal. The length of the island of Montreal is thirty miles, and its mean breadth about seven, its circumference seventy miles.

The city, in lat. 45 33, long. 73 37, is placed on the south side of the island, whose banks are here from ten to fifteen feet from the level of the water. It is built in the form of a parallelogram, extending from north to south. A deep and rapid current flows between the shore and the island of St. Helena, a strong north-east wind is therefore necessary to carry vessels up to the town.

The streets are regularly disposed, one of them extending nearly parallel to the river, through the whole length of the place; they are of sufficient width, being intersected at right angles by several smaller streets, which descend from west to east. The upper street is divided into two by the Roman catholic church, adjoining which there is a large open square, called the Place d'armes.