

in these, the first fortifications on the Island of Montreal. The palisades must have enclosed a large area, as Cartier states that each of the 50 oblong dwellings were fifty yards or more in length, and 12 or 15 wide, while in the centre of the town was an open area, or public square, a stone's-throw in width. The population was also numerous, as in each of the dwellings resided many families.

How long those primitive fortifications withstood the attacks made by hostile tribes, we know not, and Champlain* who visited the island in 1609 and 1611 makes no mention of them. It was during Champlain's second visit that he chose a site on the island, and cleared ground for a proposed trading post.† The spot chosen was immediately above a small stream (now covered by Commissioner Street and St. Anns Market) which entered the St. Lawrence at what is now known as Pointe à Callière.‡ Here, on the margin of the stream, in order to test the effects of the ice shove, he erected the first wall built on the island with mortar and bricks, the bricks being made from clay found near the spot.§ On, or near this spot, 31 years later, landed the intrepid Maisonneuve,|| and his little band of ardent followers—"The grain of mustard

* Samuel de Champlain was a native of Brouage in France. In 1603-07, he explored the St. Lawrence from Tadousac to Three Rivers. On the 3rd July, 1608, he laid the foundation of Quebec. Under successive Vice-Roys he continued to act as Lieutenant, and in 1627 the Vice Royalty was suspended, and Champlain was appointed first Governor of New France. He died on Christmas day, 1635, deeply regretted by the Colonists. See Autograph, Plate 2, fig. 2.

† See plate 1.

‡ So called after the Chevalier Hector de Callière, a native of Torigny in Normandy, who came to Canada as a member of the Montreal Trading Company, and was appointed Governor of the City. In 1698 he succeeded Frontenac as Governor of New France, and held the appointment until 1703. The great wisdom manifested by him during his term of office endeared him to the people. In 1701 he concluded a favorable treaty (at Montreal) with the Indians, thereby securing a long term of peace. See Autograph, Plate 2, figure 4.

§ Very fine clay for brick making was formerly taken in large quantities from the neighbourhood of this site and through Griffintown.

|| Paul Chomedey Sieur De Maisonneuve, founder of Montreal, of whose early history but little has been handed down to the present, was its first Governor. In 1647, he was, at his own request, replaced by M. d'Ailleboust. For his valuable services to the Church of Rome in Canada, a pension was conferred upon him by the Seminary at Paris. See Autograph, Plate 2, figure 3.