

Pierce Senecas of the Iroquois race lived here in peace and amity, side by side, within the very same palisades with their traditional foes the wily, vindictive Wyandottes or Hurons. So on



City Hall, Court House and Nelson's Monument, Montreal.

the same spot to-day dwells happily a population made up of two distinct races, French and English. For Montreal is the geographical point of happy contact between the brilliancy, the gaiety

and the eager susceptibilities of the French and the solidity and sober business capacity of the Anglo-Saxon.

Fratricidal war, racial animosities and foreign invasion were the undoing of ancient Hochelaga, certainly an incident with an obnoxious moral. Seventy years after the visit of Jacques Cartier, Samuel de Champlain, the founder of the City of Quebec, visited the site of Hochelaga, but every trace of the prosperous Indian town had disappeared. Even cities have their graves, and from the grave of the redman's town of Hochelaga has sprung the white man's busy city of Montreal. The very tombs of the Hochelagians have vanished like their dead, and there only remains the name and a few bones and stone relics turned up by the ploughman and the builders' navy to recall them.

The present city traces its origin back to the religious zeal of the age "when men were men, and not ashamed of heaven." Eyes in France were directed towards the new France across the seas, and with devout Christians, still inspired with the fervent spirit of the crusades, and filled with religious longing for an opportunity to convert the heathen nations of the earth to the true faith, the time of turning to advantage the site of the old Indian city as a centre of missionary zeal was not to be long put off—and where religious zeal led commercial enterprise did not lag behind. The trader and his merchandise has always followed close upon the heels of the missionary and the Gospel.

The incidents leading to the founding of Montreal are interwoven with weird stories of mysterious visions, of divine revelations and other providential interpositions. Suffice it here to say that Montreal was founded May 18th, 1642, by Paul de Chomedey, Sieur de Maisonneuve, a soldier of noble character and deep religious thought, as befitted one, who had been commissioned to establish a real kingdom of God in the wilds of the western hemisphere. Maisonneuve was accompanied by a party of seventeen, and their landing was made the occasion of a simple but solemn religious ceremony.

The small band of pioneers was soon joined by sixty other colonists, and the population and influence of the little community from that time steadily extended.

In the chaos of events succeeding the establishment of the colony, which was at first called Ville-Marie (the City of Mary), there stand out certain events which especially attract attention. There were desperate affrays with the lurking savages, diplomatic contests requiring both skill and courage with self-seeking and jealous colonial officials of the senior colony lower down the river at Quebec, bitter disputes between the lay and ecclesiastical authorities, in which the shrewd churchmen usually had the best of it; massacres by the Indians, daring trips of explora-