

In 1672 the streets of Montreal were regularly laid out and named as they are to-day, the only change being St. Joseph, which is now St. Sulpice, and St. François Xavier which was sometimes known as St. Michel. The widest street was Notre Dame "la Grande Rue" which had a width of thirty feet, while few of the side streets had more than eighteen.

A few years later the town was surrounded by a wooden palisade fifteen feet in height pierced by four gates.

This new defence enclosed an area extending from about the line of McGill Street on the West to the eastern side of Jacques Cartier Square, and from a little below St. Paul Street on the South to about the Northern limit of St. James Street. It was probably a poor affair in the eyes of the military at that time, but M. de Callière, then Governor of Montreal, was a man of singular foresight. As a soldier he thoroughly appreciated the value of even the slightest barrier in the event of an attack, and as the chief municipal officer, he saw how greatly a feeling of security would aid in the development of his little charge which stood in the van of the march of civilization toward the unknown West.

These defences were erected in 1685; and in 1689 the population had increased to two thousand souls, and Montreal had become an important factor in the colony.

Let us glance for a moment at the material condition of the dwellers within the stockade of cedar now recognized as Montreal.

Society as it then existed, was divided into tolerably distinct classes; the Gentlemen of the Seminary of St. Sulpice,