



MONTREAL;

AND ITS

FORTIFICATIONS.

AS an Art, fortification is very nearly as ancient as the existence of Society. "When men first assembled together for the purpose of mutual protection, and placed their habitations on the same spot, the law of necessity, springing in this case out of the principle of self defence, rendered it indispensable for them to adopt some means for securing their families, and their property against the sudden inroads of enemies. In early ages, men considered themselves as sufficiently protected by a single wall, from behind which they could with safety discharge their darts, arrows, and other missiles against an assailant; but when, in the progress of improvement, new and more powerful means of attack were discovered, it became necessary to increase, in a corresponding degree the means of resistance, and accordingly the feeble defensive structures of the primitive ages were in time succeeded by solid ramparts, flanked and commanded by elevated towers."*

* Encyclopædia Britannica.