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THE MONTEREGIAN HILLS—A CANADIAN PETRO-
GRAPHICAL PROVINCE.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

IN the province of Quebec between the enormous expanse of the Laurentian highlands to the northwest, constituting the "Canadian Shield," and the disturbed and folded tract of country to the southeast which marks the Appalachian uplift, there is a great plain underlain by nearly horizontal rocks of Lower Paleozoic age. This plain, while really showing slight differences of level from place to place, seems to the casual observer perfectly flat. Its surface is mantled with a fertile soil consisting of drift redistributed upon its surface by the sea which at the close of glacial times covered it. The uniform expanse of this plain, however, is broken by several isolated hills composed of igneous rocks, which rise abruptly from it and which constitute very striking features of the landscape. It was at the foot of one of these hills rising by the side of the river St. Lawrence, and which he named Mount Royal, that Jacques Cartier on his first visit found the Indian encampment of Hochelaga, whose site is now overspread by the city of Montreal, which has not only grown around the foot of the hill, but has extended up its sides and has reserved its summit as a park.

From the top of Mount Royal the other hills referred to can all be seen rising from the plain to the east, while to the north