

Hochelaga was surrounded by large fields of corn and stately forests. The hill called Mont-royall was fertile and highly cultivated. "The form of the village was round, and encompassed with timber, with three courses of ramparts, framed like a sharp spire, but laid across above. The middlemost of them was made and built as a direct line, but perpendicular. These ramparts were framed and fashioned with pieces of timber laid along the ground, very well and cunningly joined together after this fashion. The enclosure was in height about two rods. It had but one gate, which was shut with piles, stakes, and bars. Over it, and also in many places of the wall, there were places to run along, and ladders to get up, full of stones for its defence. In the town there were about fifty houses, about fifty paces long and twelve or fifteen broad, built of wood, covered over with the bark of the wood as broad as any board, very finely and cunningly joined together. Within these houses there were many rooms, lodgings, and chambers. In the midst of these there was a great court, in the middle whereof they made their fire. They lived in common together. Then did the husbands, wives, and children, each one retire themselves to their chambers. They also had on the tops of their houses, garrets, where they kept their corn to make their bread, which they called *cara-conny*."

At that time the savages prepared their corn with mortars and pestles, and they made different kinds of pottage with corn, peas, beans, and muskmellons; and they had in their houses certain vessels, as big as any "butt or tun," in which they preserved their fish. Their main support was hunting, fishing, and husbandry. The most valuable thing in the world to them was called *cornibotz*, and of these they made beads, and wore them about their necks, "even as we do chains of gold and silver."

* This aspect of an Indian village in 1535 may perhaps throw some light on the ancient monuments of an unknown race, which are now scattered over the west, and which are supposed to belong to a people settled in North America before the Indians. It was probably like a modern Indian village, somewhat modified in its defences by the belligerent character of that age.