

Montreal is not only the chief commercial city of British North America, but it is distinguished for its beautiful and spacious public buildings, its churches, educational and other buildings, its railway stations, its water power, and for its picturesque vicinitage. And there is every probability that from its central position and other advantages, it will be selected as the permanent seat of Government. The city is well supplied with pure water, and its streets are brilliantly lighted with gas. Go where you will you behold domes and spires, educational institutions and huge factories towering to the skies, all indications of the enterprise, industry and prosperity of its inhabitants. The handsome buildings and residences which now adorn the slope of the mountain, overlooking the St. Lawrence, are not indeed to be surpassed for elegance and beauty by structures of more pretensions in older countries.

The beautiful mountain which overlooks the city, consists of two distinct hills, between which, one of the leading avenues into it passes. There are roads also by which the circuit of either or both mountains can be made, and which, from the very beautiful scenery they present, are favorite drives with tourists or seekers of recreation. The base of the mountain is adorned with numerous splendid villas; and the choicest orchards of the whole island, or indeed of Lower Canada, are those situated around it, the fruit being of the most delicious flavor and greatest luxuriance of yield. From the summit of the mountain, a magnificent panoramic view is presented.

With this brief sketch of Montreal, the reader is introduced to the principal buildings and objects of interest in and about the city :—