

Montreal is destined to occupy a foremost rank among the cities of this continent. In the year 1535, Jacques Cartier came up the St. Lawrence to where the city now stands, and found a large, well-fortified Indian town called Hochelaga. Later on, in 1611, Champlain established a trading-post and called it Place Royale; a tablet in front of the Custom House now marks the spot. It was not, however, till 1642 that Paul de Chomedey, Sieur de Maisonneuve, landed on the island and laid the lasting foundation of the city. For almost a century and a quarter Canada remained a French colony, and not till the Treaty of Paris, in 1763, did Montreal become a British city. Since then, French and English, have lived together, happily and prosperously, side by side, each in the enjoyment of his own language and religion, both working strenuously for the development of Montreal as a national port, and a port which will eventually be second to none upon the continent.

The early history of the United States is indelibly blended with that of Montreal, for it was from this city that many of the strong men of one, two and three centuries ago went forth to discover, to govern, to trade and to convert. On St. Paul street, just east of Place Royale, stood the birth-place of Pierre and Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne the men who discovered the mouth of the Mississippi river, in 1699, founded New Orleans, and who were, between them, governors of Louisiana for forty-six years.

Between 1666 and 1668, Jacques Marquette, the great Jesuit missionary and discoverer, was a familiar figure in Ville-Marie, and he left the banks of the St. Lawrence on his voyage of discovery to the Mississippi. It was to Montreal that Sir William Johnson, of Johnson Hall, on the Mohawk, came in 1760, and on the site of the present Bonsecours Market stood the residence occupied by his son, Sir John Johnson, Indian commissioner, and it was here that peace conferences were held with the great Indian chiefs Brant and Tecumseh.

At the corner of St. Peter and St. Paul streets stood the residence of Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle. In 1666 La Salle came to Montreal, to go, ten years later, on his voyage of discovery into the North-west and thence to the Gulf of Mexico. On the lower road leading from Montreal