

CITY OF MONTREAL.

THIS city, founded in 1642, is the largest in British North America, having a population of about 75,000. It is situated at the foot of the "Royal Mountain," from which it takes its name, upon a large island at the confluence of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence, which, both in fertility and cultivation, is considered the garden of Canada East. The main branch of the Ottawa, which is the timber highway to Quebec, passes north of Montreal island and enters the St. Lawrence about eighteen miles below the city ; about one-third of its waters are, however, discharged into Lake St. Louis, and joining but not mingling at Caughnawaga, the two distinct bodies pass over the Sault St. Louis and the Lachine Rapids—the dark waters of the Ottawa washing the quays of Montreal, while the blue St. Lawrence occupies the other shore. Nor do they merge their distinctive character until they are several miles below Montreal. The quays of Montreal are unsurpassed by those of any city in America ; built of solid limestone, and uniting with the locks and cut stone wharves of the Lachine Canal, they present for several miles a display of continuous masonry, which has few parallels. Unlike the levees of the Ohio and Mississippi, no unsightly warehouses disfigure the river side. A broad terrace, faced with grey limestone, the parapets of which are surmounted with a substantial iron railing, divides the city from the river throughout its whole extent.