

try, have fixed their residence, and still exhibit much of the ceremony and etiquette that used to characterize the titled circles of the French nation. The better-looking houses of these residents form a strong contrast to the major part of those belonging to the other inhabitants.--Six miles downwards on the same side is the massive church of Varennes, which for imposing external appearance and interior decoration is unsurpassed in the landward districts. Its two spires form a conspicuous object, and on clear afternoons are distinctly seen from Montreal, from which it is fifteen miles distant. The Mineral Springs here are growing into some repute and attracting visitants during the warm weather. Shortly before reaching Varennes, Bout de l'Isle (*the End of the Island of Montreal*, being its northern extremity) is passed. Three miles beyond Varennes on the north shore is Repentigny, the first village after crossing from the Island. Beyond appear in succession on the north shore, at intervals of six miles, the villages of St. Sulpice, Lavaltrie, and Lanoraie. The extensive farms for many miles to the rear of these are in an advanced state of cultivation.--Ten miles beyond Lanoraie, but on the south shore, lies the town of Sorel, at the mouth of the river of the same name, which is also known by that of the Richelieu or Chambly. It is exactly forty-five miles from Montreal and halfway to Three Rivers. This town, which has a very pleasant situation, and possesses advantages for trade, is built on the site of a fort which was erected in 1665 as a defence against the incursions of the Indians. It received the name of Sorel from a captain of engineers, who superintended the construction. Its proper and legal name, however, is WILLIAM HENRY, after his late Majesty, William IV., who, having been much taken with its pleasant situation during a visit to Canada in the naval service of his country, the residents commemorated the circumstance by giving it this new name. It was regularly laid out about 1785 when some loyalists and disbanded soldiers settled in it, and to this day many old military servants of the Crown reside here. The streets intersect each other at right angles, and in the centre is Royal Square. The eight principal streets are named after different branches of the royal family. Here are several Government buildings, as a barrack, block-house, hospital, &c., in