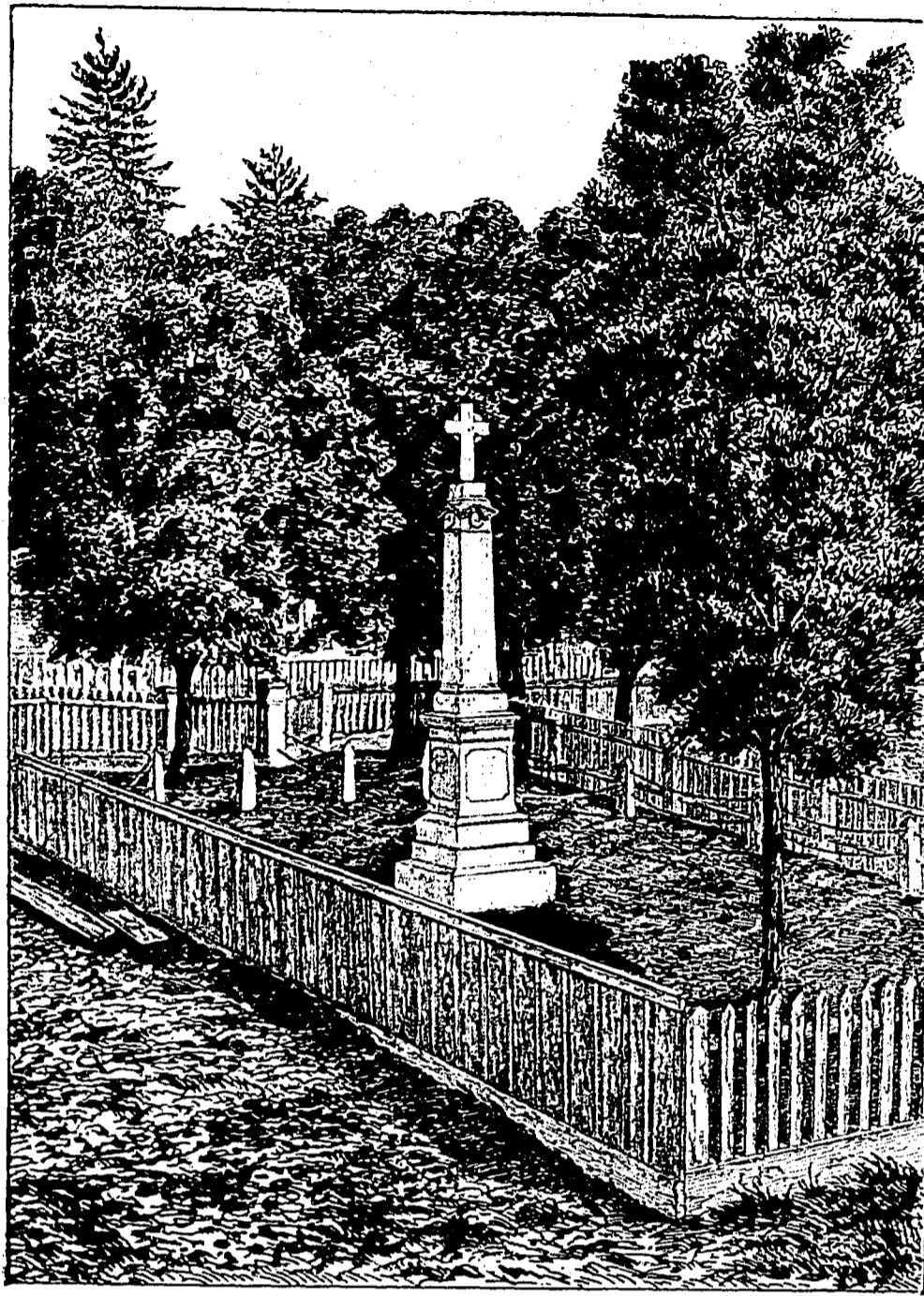


THE MONUMENT AT SILLERY.

Most Canadian readers will remember the discovery made some time ago in the ruins of the old church at Sillery, Quebec, of the remains of the first missionary to Canada, Rev. Ennemond Masse, S. J. Over a year ago it was determined that a monument should be erected on the spot to perpetuate his memory, and on Monday the 27th June, this patriotic intention was carried to fruition. Notwithstanding the unpleasant state of the weather, many of the most prominent citizens of Quebec were present, along with a very large gathering of the public. The Very Rev. Vicar-General Cazeau opened the proceedings with an eloquent and impressive address, giving much information as to the early struggles of the first Jesuit missionaries, and especially of those of Father Masse, who was the pioneer of all, under the patronage of the pious and noble Chevalier Noel Bruillart de Sillery, after whom the place where was erected the first church in Canada—the church of St. Michel—was named. It was in the ruins of this ancient fane that the remains of Pere Masse were found, and thanks to the learned researches of the Abbés Casgrain and Laverdiere, the identification was placed beyond dispute by historical facts. The circumstance, so full of patriotic recollections, inspired the people with the noble design of erecting a monument to perpetuate the memory of the first Christian Missionary to Canada, and now a plain but elegant structure, about twenty feet high, has been erected on the very spot where his remains were found. It is of cut stone, with four marble tablets surmounted by a marble cross. One of the tablets bears the following inscription:

"The Inhabitants of Sillery  
Have erected this Monument  
To the Memory of  
PERE ENNEMOND MASSE, S. J.,  
First Missionary in Canada,  
Buried in 1646,  
In the Church of Saint Michel,  
On the Domain of  
Saint Joseph of Sillery."  
On another tablet is inscribed:  
"The Church of St. Michel,  
Which formerly stood on this Spot,  
Was built by  
The Commander of Sillery,  
(Founder (in 1637) of the  
St. Joseph Domain."

After the learned and interesting address



MONUMENT AT SILLERY. From a photograph.

of the Very Rev. Vicar-General Cazeau, replete with historical facts and patriotic sentiment, Mr. Dobell, who resides in the neighbourhood, and has nobly seconded the efforts of those engaged in getting up the monument, came forward and delivered an able speech, in which he sketched briefly the life of Noel Bruillart de Sillery, who was born in France in 1577, and after a brilliant career entered a religious order and devoted all his vast possessions to the Church. He was descended from a noble family of Savoy, and as he had been marked out as a Chevalier de Malte, he was sent when eighteen years of age to the island to complete his education. After an absence of twelve years he returned to Paris, was admitted to court, and soon got into favour. Marie de Medicis honoured him with the title of Chevalier, and he served as Ambassador at the Court of Spain and afterwards at that of Rome. He it is who is mentioned in the inscription as "Commander of Sillery." According to McMullen's *History of Canada*, "they (the religious orders) organized a mission at Sillery, four miles above Quebec (city) for the conversion of the Indians, and where Bruillart de Sillery, once the magnificent Ambassador of Marie de Medicis, and who subsequently assumed the friar's cowl, built a fort, a church, and dwellings for the natives." It was in this church, eight years after its construction, that the remains of Father Masse were deposited. Bruillart de Sillery died in Paris in 1640, having devoted the latter part of his life and the whole of his fortune to the cause of religion. The trials and the triumphs of Father Masse were such as may be imagined among the barbarous Indians. His career, even before he devoted himself to the conversion of the Hurons, seems to have been an eventful one; a succession of hardships borne with singular cheerfulness and Christian fortitude. It was his lot to have been cast into prison, to have been captured by pirates, to have been compelled to subsist for two months at a time on acorns and such roots as he could gather in the forest—such were among the incidents of the life of him who spent the last years of his life among the Indians at Sillery, and who, 234 years ago, was called to the reward of his labours. It is honourable to the people of Quebec that all classes should have united to perpetuate his memory. Such monuments inspire the spirit of patriotism, and while reminding us of the brevity of man's life, they show us also that his good deeds not only "follow him," but



BELMERE. THE RESIDENCE OF HUGH ALLAN, Esq., LAKE MEMPHREMAGOG.—From a photograph by Notman.—See page 51.