

or a mere palisade of wood, but no trace of it is to be found now, though its site is well known, being within 30 or 40 yards of Madame Lizotte's hotel; the little bay near which the hotel is built being still called "l'Anse du Fort." The first building of which there are any remains still existing, was the convent of Les Sœurs de la Congregation, founded 1699, forming part of the kitchen of the present building.

Indeed the general history of the Island and character of its inhabitants seem to be indicated in its archaeology, and the indications coincide with the actual facts; a simple, frugal contented peasantry, living, working, and dying under the control and guidance of one established, conservative, powerful hierarchy.

In spite of the number of Seigneurs with which the Island was blest, there is not a manoir remaining: what there may be in the way of interesting old homesteads I was not able to find out, but passing along the coast on board the Saguenay steamer one sees a number of picturesque dwellings which seem to be worth a visit. One thing to the credit of the Orleanois which I might mention here is the fact that they have partially at least freed themselves from the domination of the white-wash brush. It is an extraordinary thing that our people are not content with having the whole face of nature wrapped in white for three or four months in the year, but must perpetuate and extend the same "absence of colour" in every possible direction. White for houses, inside and outside, fences, barns, and even roofs: steamboats, the interiors of churches almost without exception, seems to satisfy the eye of most of our fellow provincials.

A notable exception to the churches is the pretty little church of St. Jean Baptiste de Rouville, at least its apse or sanctuary, which is handsomely panelled in maple of a fine warm colour, something like light mahogany. The Orleanois as I said have some idea of colour, and the browns and reds of houses and barns contrasting with the