d

e:

be

th

ar

ric

ris

th

in

is

th

th

St

vil

no

the

ead

Ch

fro

all

to

eve

whi

spr

hav

fair

the

into a grotto and alcoves, which, when illuminated at night, presented a most beautiful sight, conveying an idea of the winter palace of St. Petersburg on the Neva.-To those who have not resided in Quebec during the winter, it is hardly possible to convey an idea of the interest which is felt in the formation of an "ice-bridge." When the ice does not take between the two shores, there is often much difficulty in crossing the river. The stream is then full of masses of floating ice, varying in size from a few feet square to many hundred feet, through and over which the traveller is taken in a canoe. Should the boatmen be fortunate enough to strike a good crossing, and get clear water, the journey is quickly made, and is not unpleasant. This, however, is not always the case, and sometimes the victim of circumstances is carried about for hours on the ice, and landed at last some miles from the place he set out for. Despite the apparent danger of the traverse, we very rarely hear of a canoe being lost, and we have never heard of any fatality resulting from an accident. The "ice-bridge" generally holds till the latter end of April, and breaks up all at once.

As pleasant a drive as the stranger can have in the environs of Quebec is, taking the Cap Rouge Road, out by St. Lewis Gate, and returning by the Ste. Foy Road, nine miles or more. This drive takes us through SILLERY, a place of great historical interest. Here De Maisonneuve passed his first winter with the colonists intended to found Montreal. A chapel, missionary residence, hospital, fort, and houses, were all substantially built in this spot, and twenty years ago Abbé Ferland saw a portion of the church walls standing. At the centre of Sillery Cove is a cape, not very high, but with its sides perpendicular. This was the fort; on the left is the missionary's house, now converted into a residence for the clerks of H. LeMesurier, Esq. The building has been kept in repair, and is still in a good state of preservation. In a line with it, can be discovered the