

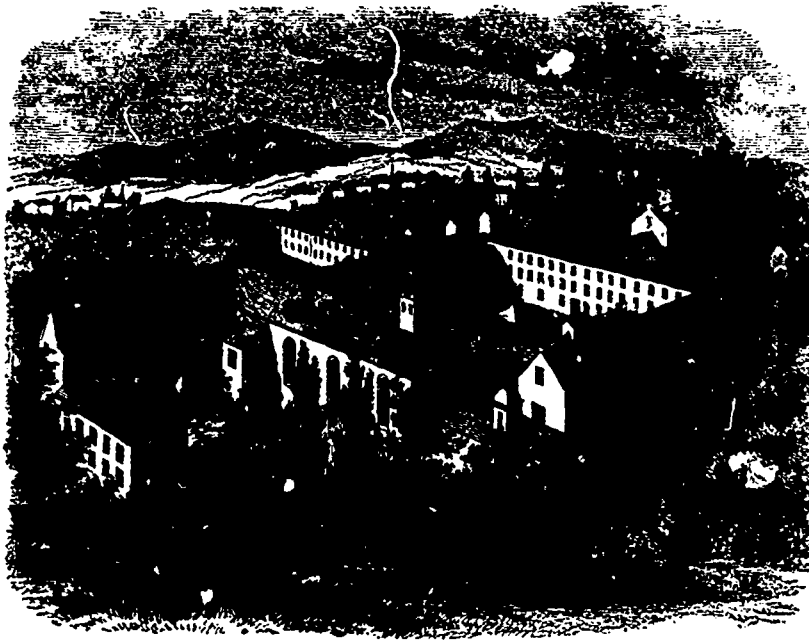
the entire group of buildings in bird's-eye perspective, drawn by one of the nuns, was kindly presented to me by the chaplain. From it our engraving was made. In a glass case upon a table was the skull of the Marquis de Montcalm, with its base incised in a military collar. His remains were buried in the garden of the convent, and when they were desinterred a few years ago the skull was thus preserved (7).

From the chaplain's parlor we were conducted to the chapel of the convent to view the fine paintings upon its walls. Some of these are considered the best works of art in Quebec. One of great size, high merit, and immense value, by Champagne, represents Christ sitting down at meat in Simon's house; and over the grand altar is another meritorious picture of the Birth of Immanuel. Upon the wall of the chapel is a small mural monument, erected by Governor Lord Aylmer in memory of Montcalm, containing in French the following inscription: "Honneur to Montcalm! Destiny, in depriving him of victory, recompensed him with a glorious death!"

This convent, as well as that of the Hôtel-Dieu, situate near

It was founded in 1641 by Madame de la Peltre, a young widow of Alençon of rank and fortune, who came to Canada for the purpose in 1639. On a cold winter's day, nine years after the building was completed, it was destroyed by fire. The nuns, then fourteen in number, escaped, and were generously received into the convent of the Hôtel-Dieu. In 1686, during the performance of High Mass, the convent again caught fire, and was consumed. Nothing was saved, and again the nuns, twenty-five in number, became pensioners upon the bounty of those of the Hôtel-Dieu, with whom they had made a solemn covenant of friendship. Their home was soon rebuilt, for being an institution especially devoted to the education of females, its prosperity was considered to be a matter of public importance. Such is still the chief business of the establishment, and its school has long been (9) considered one of the best in the province. Their system of education embraces all the higher branches with various accomplishments, together with domestic

economy. There are now about two hundred and forty pupils, one half of whom are boarders. Attached to the institution is an elementary cha-



THE URSULINE CONVENT.

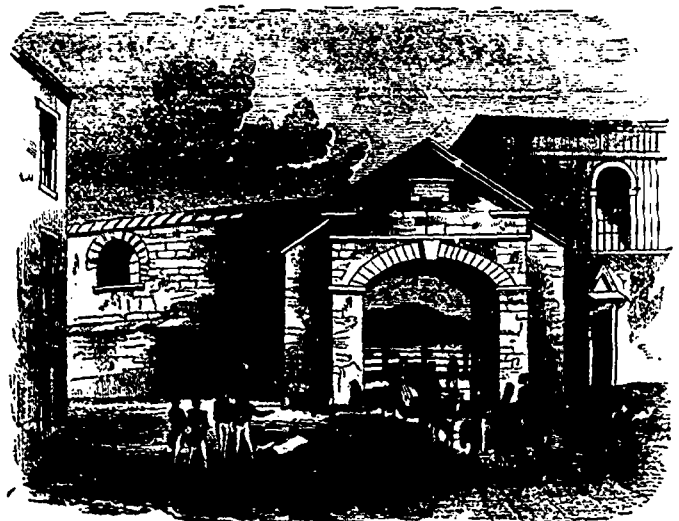


ST. LOUIS GATE, OUTSIDE.

Palace Gate, owes its origin to the appeals of the nuns in Canada (8).

(7) General Montcalm was buried in the church of the Ursuline convent immediately under the marble slab erected to his memory by Lord Aylmer, and not in a breach made by a bomb shell, as has been pretended. [Ed.]

(8) This is not altogether correct; these institutions, were already established under the auspices of the religious Ladies who originally



HOPE GATE (IN-DOOR).

city school, of about one hundred and sixty scholars. The house of the foundress, into which the nuns were received while the convent was first rebuilding, remained upon the premises until 1836.

After leaving the convent of the Ursulines I proceeded to make sketches of the five gates of the city. I had that of St. Louis about half finished when a couple of soldiers came along and informed me that no one was allowed to take views of any portion of the

founded them. The Ursulines arrived in Quebec in 1630, but only took possession of their convent in 1641. [Ed.]

(9) And still is. [Ed.]