

present date, remained, and Mr. Ernest Gagnon, then a City Councillor, had this precious relic restored and gilt at his cost.

The date 1647 also agrees with the *Relations des Jesuits*, which states that in 1647, under Governor de Montmagny, one of the bastions was lined with stone. Additional light was thrown on this controversy by the inspection of a deed of agreement, exhumed from the Court House vaults, bearing date at Fort St. Louis, 19th October, 1646, and signed by the stone masons who undertook to *revêtir de murailles un bastion qui est au bas de l'allée du Mont Calvaire, descendant au Fort St. Louis*, for which work they were to receive from *Monsieur Jean Bourdon*, engineer and surveyor, 2,000 *livres*, and a puncheon of wine.

This musty, dry-as-dust old document gives rise to several enquiries; one, not the least curious, is the luxurious mode of life which the puncheon of wine supposes among stone masons at such a remote period in Quebec history as 1646. Finally, it was decided that this stone and cross were intended to commemorate the year in which the Fort St. Louis bastion, begun in 1646, was finished, viz., 1647.

This historic stone, which has nothing in common with the

"Stone of Blarney,
On the banks of Killarney,"

cropped up again more than one century later in the days when Sergeant James Thompson, one of Wolfe's veterans, was overseer of public works at Quebec—he died in 1830, aged 98). We read in his unpublished diary: "*The Cross in the wall*, Sept, 17th, 1784. The miners at the Chateau in levelling the yard dug up a large stone, from which I have described the annexed figure (identical with the present). I wish it was discovered soon enough to lay conspicuously in the wall of the new building (*Chateau Haldimand*) in order