

and planted a cross above it. Some days later she brought it to Cape St. Anne, letting it float after her canoe. Tradition adds that on its being buried next day in the little village where the dead priest had ministered, a superb cross of gold was placed above it. This young girl afterwards became a sister of the Congregation of Notre-Dame in Montreal, under the name of Sœur St-Paul. Monsieur Morel, also for some time at St. Anne's, enjoys the distinction of being the first Canadian priest. M. Portnouv, who, after leaving Petit-Cap and its shrine, became curé of St. Joachim, was forced to place himself at the head of his parishioners to offer resistance to the English, who were putting everything to fire and the sword. He, with many of his little band, fell victims of their own heroism on the 23d of August, 1759, and the brave curé was buried without a coffin.

In or about 1871 the first steps were taken towards the erection of the present church (\*). In May, 1872, the Bishops of the Province issued a Pastoral Letter calling upon the faithful to unite heart and soul in this enterprise. The parishioners at once subscribed amongst themselves the sum of sixteen thousand dollars, and the foundations of the new structure were laid as early as June, 1872. But the parishioners were not left alone in the work. From all parts of the Province subscriptions poured in, and hosts of pilgrims flocked thither, bringing offerings to lay at the feet of the "good St. Anne." The new church, which has cost close upon two hundred thousand dollars, is fifty-two feet long by sixty-four broad. The steeple is forty-five feet high. The whole stands as a splendid monument of the faith and love of the people. It is in vain that petty and

---

(\*) The Basilica of St Anne, as it now stands, has undergone as many changes and improvements since the present article was written, that the following description is no more accurate. For exact description, our readers may consult G. M. Ward's "Pilgrim's Manual of Devotion to Good St Anne".