

hills showed to advantage in the limpid atmosphere. Our beautiful Canadian sky had never been more faithfully reflected in the waters of the St. Lawrence, and on both sides of the river the verdure stood out green and fresh against the more sombre back-ground of the Laurentian Mountains and the chain of hills that runs through the Island of Orleans.

It was the season of the spring-tides, and on the morrow the N. E. wind blew at its ease, the temperature became chilly and some rain fell from time to time. But St. Anne is too good and wise not to conform to the dispositions of divine Providence. From the Basilica and from the houses in the village streamed numerous bright colored flags waving gaily, and the wind bore away the joyous and sonorous peals of the splendid church-bells, their lovely harmonies announcing the good tidings of the consecration to those who dwelt afar.

At eight o'clock another contingent of priests arrived swelling the number of clergy, regular, secular and seminarists present, to about one hundred and fifty; while a cardinal, two archbishops, seven bishops, besides domestic prelates, canons, superiors of religious houses and of seminaries, had by common accord met together to honor the august Patroness of Canada.

The ceremony of consecration commences outside of the church, before the principal entrance. Kneeling on a faldstool beneath a baldaquin or canopy decked with evergreens, the consecrator implores the blessing of God and the protection of the Heavenly Court, while the Litany of the Saints is being sung. The Pontiff's assistants were Abbé Gauvreau and Abbé Laflamme, the former of whom had shewn the greatest zeal for the glory of St Anne, and had worked perseveringly for the majesty of her sanctuary, during the period when he had had charge of the parish. A choir, under the direction of Reverend Father Mallengie, and consisting of the usual parish-choir aided by son