

vice in Europe. His name, like that of many of his brother officers, is preserved in the counties of this province. He was born in 1638 in the diocese of Perigieuse, in France, and came to this country with his regiment. He was a Huguenot, but changed his religion for that of the Roman Catholic at Quebec in 1665 in the presence of Monseigneur de Laval, of de Tracy, de Courcelles and Talon.

After the regiment was disbanded he married, at Quebec, on the 11th October, 1672, Miss Marie Le Gardeur, daughter of Charles Le Gardeur de Tilly and Genevieve Juchereau. There were present at the wedding, among others, Pierre Saurel, Jacques de Chambly, Jean Juchereau de la Ferté and Nicholas Dupont. The first-named of these gentlemen was not only a brother officer, but a brother-in-law, having married Miss Catherine Le Gardeur. In the immediate future they were neighbours on the river St. Lawrence. Berthier was at this time thirty-four years of age and his bride twenty-one.

Less than three weeks after Captain Berthier's marriage he received another seigniory in the county of Bellechasse of two leagues square.

To any one acquainted with the old noblesse the above names recall many memories. Some of the connections are still known to us.

Captain Berthier was living in Canada in 1708. It is presumed he returned to France, as his burial is not recorded in this country. After certain mutations the seigniory passed into the hands of this Pierre Noël Courthiau.

On the 24th January, 1778, John Hooke Campbell, of Baugeston, Lyon King of Arms, at the request of Captain James Cuthbert, certified that the following Ensigns armorial were martulated in the public registers of the Lyon office as belonging to him; "or, on a fess azure, three Frasers, Argent-in-Chief, a serpent gliding in Pale of the second, armed and langued Gules. Above the shield is placed an Helmet befitting his Degree, with a Mantling Gules, the doubling Argent. On a wreath of his liveries is set for Crest an armed dexter Arm issuing out of the Wreath in Pale, holding an Arrow, both Proper, and in an Escroll above the crest is this motto—"Fortiter"; and certified he was the eleventh in descent from the George Cuthbert who commanded the Inverness forces at Harlaw and had seized the standard of the Lord of the Isles, and that this George Cuthbert represented the ancient Saxon Northumbrian family.

Captain Cuthbert settled on his seigniory, and began to instil among the new subjects of His Majesty sentiments of loyalty and attachment to the crown of England.

The minds of the French Canadians were disturbed by the different views advanced for their government, which assumed a definite shape in the Quebec Act. The American Revolution quickly followed. The revolted colonies made direct overtures to the Canadians to join them, and much anxiety was experienced by the Government.

On the invasion of the Province by the Americans, Berthier and its neighbourhood became the theatre, not only of differences in political sentiments, but of military operations.

Here not only was the judgment and firmness of Captain Cuthbert of great value in suppressing insurrectionary movements, but his military experience was again called into requisition. The Americans were in possession of Sorel. They proposed to surprise and capture seven heavily laden ordnance transports which were in the river. Cuthbert visited their camp and acquired information of this intention. He thereupon crossed during the night in a bark canoe, with muffled paddles, to the headquarters of General Simon Frazer at Three Rivers, informed him of the enemy's design, and, on his advice, the British advance post at Point du Lac was reinforced and the transports ordered to fall down the river to Cap Madelaine. They were thus saved.

A masked battery was also erected on the shore at Point du Lac, by means of which the American flotilla, conveying their army at night from the River Nicolet, where they had secretly collected, was so warmly received on nearing the shore that they were entirely defeated and their boats destroyed.

The American General at Sorel being informed of this service of Captain Cuthbert, sent a detachment of troops to Berthier, seized the person of the seigneur, burnt the Manor House, took possession of his mills, and destroyed property to the value of several thousand pounds. Cuthbert was sent a prisoner in irons to Albany.

The British Government never indemnified the family for this loss.

While himself a devoted member of the Reformed Church, he appears to have left to his sons rather the choice of their religious belief than to have expected them necessarily to have followed his. He sent them to be educated at the Roman Catholic college at Donai, in Flanders. It is unnecessary to recall the fact that many of the Highland families were Roman Catholics.

To Captain Cuthbert belongs the honour of having built the first Protestant place of worship in New France, and the first bell whose notes echoed through the forests of this province calling its hearers to a service according to the faith of the Reformers, was in the belfry of this church.

It was primarily intended for and principally used as a family chapel.

Most appropriately the gallant Highlander, whose ancestors had fought on so many Scottish battle fields, dedicated this church to the patron saint of his native land, and the first Protestant Church in Canada received the name of the apostle who first followed his Lord and Master, St. Andrew. The services were at first conducted in the Presbyterian form by a Scotch clergyman, who was a member of Captain Cuthbert's family, and was tutor to his children. A few years later the Anglican clergyman at Sorel would come over, and officiated for the family of the seigneur and such other Protestants as were then to be found at Berthier.

It is not easy at this distance of time to say when the services were discontinued in St. Andrew's Church, but in all probability it was shortly after the erection of the first church in Sorel.

This interesting building, of which an illustration appeared a short time since in this publication, is built of rough stone, and is situated about half a mile from the River St. Lawrence and from the first manor house of the English seigneur of Berthier. It is about thirty eight feet in length and twenty-five feet in width. The walls are two feet thick. A spacious belfry, for the size of the church, surmounted it. Its diameter was about a third of the length of the building; it had eight openings, and terminated in an octagonal spire, very little exceeding in height the belfry. The whole of this addition to the chapel was about the height of the gable wall. The present belfry and steeple are substitutes for the original ones, which perished with time.

In the middle of the wall of the opposite end was a very tastefully and neatly executed pulpit, surmounted by a covering or canopy, and ascended by a straight staircase. There were no pews. The members of the family and other worshippers of position occupied the floor of the chapel in front of the pulpit, seated on chairs. An elevated gal'ery, about ten feet wide, at the other end, was devoted

to the servants. There were no permanent stairs to ascend, a moveable set of steps being used. The family burial place was under this gallery, the interments being made with the heads of the deceased to the wall of the church. There was no vault, properly speaking, the whole structure served as such also.

The last seigneur informed me that it is not definitely known who have here found their last earthly resting place nor the precise locality of interment. Besides the Cuthberts, there are some members of the Antrobus family here interred. On the wall is a tasteful, and dignified for that time, monument to Alexander Cuthbert, son of Captain Cuthbert, who died on the 9th January, 1810, aged 42 years. The material of this memorial is wood, the inscription on an oval, under a kind of pediment, and below is a text on a piece of drapery. The whole is five feet by one foot ten inches.*

The church is a touching memorial of a bereaved husband to the virtues of a faithful wife, who was removed at the early age of 40, after a married life of nineteen years, and having borne him three sons and seven daughters. This is gracefully recorded on a marble tablet, nearly three feet in length, framed in stone, and inserted over the door on the opposite side to that by which entrance is now made to the church. This door is circular at the top, and taken in connection with the dedicatory tablet, was evidently at the erection of the building the principal entrance. It is now permanently closed.

Mrs. Cuthbert was a Miss Catharine Cairns.

The inscription on this tablet, which is to be found at full length in our issue of 21st February last, records the fact that the chapel was the first erected in the province since the conquest, and recites the manors held by Captain Cuthbert. Besides these he held the fief d'Orvilliers. This was in the year 1786, and that following the death of his devoted wife.

The bereaved husband was in course of time laid to rest with his wife and daughter, Caroline, in this memorial chapel. Besides the Antrobuses and Alexander Cuthbert, whom we have noticed, are here interred James, Captain Cuthbert's nephew, of about the same age, the only son of the Hon. Ross Cuthbert—his monument is handsome—Georgina, daughter of Major Ferneret, two daughters of the late seigneur Edouard Octavian Cuthbert, and others of the family and connections.

The chapel has been thus used to hold the ashes of the Cuthberts to the present generation. There are three small windows on each side of the building, which contained the usual old-fashioned small panes of glass, six inches by seven. The second Honourable James Cuthbert, son of the

* This monument served originally to mark the precise spot of the burial of him whose name it bears, and was erected on the ground at the end of the chapel.



GROVE IN FRONT OF BERTHIER MANOR HOUSE.