

SEBASTIAN RALE

remains, but some one cut it down. Later on a rude memorial in stone was placed there, and finally on August 23, 1833, the one hundred and ninth anniversary of the massacre, a throng of people, among whom were Penobscot, Passamaquoddy and Canadian Indians, gathered around a granite shaft about twenty feet high which the second Bishop of Boston, Benedict Joseph Fenwick, had erected to commemorate the glory of the hero. The great bishop thrilled his hearers on that day with the story of Narant-souac. Fenwick himself was a Jesuit.

During the time of the Knownothing excitement the monument was thrown to the ground, but was put in its place again soon after. It has stood there ever since, and the railroad guides indicate it as one of the points of interest for travellers in that part of Maine.

In spite, however, of its solidity, the storms of seventy years had opened the seams of the pedestal, and undermined the foundation. The shaft was out of plumb, and the ruin of the monument seemed imminent. To avert the disaster the Bishop of Portland, the Right Rev. Louis Sebastian Walsh, who regarded the custody of the place as a sacred duty, had the foundation strengthened and set the obelisk again squarely on its base. Meantime excavations were made in the hope of finding the precious remains beneath, but without success. The danger of undermining the monument prevented a very thorough search.

When all this was done, a pilgrimage to the holy place was announced, and although Indian Old Point is really in the woods, and affords no shelter in case of a storm, six or seven hundred people assembled to do honor to the martyr. A rustic altar was constructed at the base of the monument, and in the sanctuary were the relics that had been loaned for the celebration by the Portland Museum. Distinguished men were present and the speaker of the occasion happened to be the present writer, who could not help feeling the emotion that arose from the fact that he