

(Practical treatise on the building of churches) : « The space before the church is indispensably needed for giving air to the side and perspective to the front. Formerly this place was called *parvis* a contraction of the word paradise. In fact, it represented symbolically the terrestrial paradise in which man, through sin, incurred the death penalty, hence its situation to the West. » Two rows of trees will surround it and will provide shade for processions when they go outside the church. In the middle will be a cross, or an obelisk, surmounted by a cross. At the foot of that Tree of life will be a fountain of limpid water which it is a tradition to adorn with a pious inscription.

Our readers will be pleased to have some particulars respecting the work done up to the present or which will be completed next spring. The St. Anne Railway Company, through the kindness of M^r Russell its obliging superintendent, has prepared and enlarged the grounds. The old wooden platform has been removed, the pilgrims fountain has been placed elsewhere; the station has been put 150 feet further to the south; finally, 210 + feet have been added to the church grounds. No less than 150 car-loads of stones have been brought to fill the hollows of the beach and to macadamize the roads. All this has been done in a fortnight thanks to the efforts of M^r Pelletier, who superintended the shipments, of M^r Huart, section foreman, who directed a working party of about thirty men, all of whom were happy to work for St. Anne. On the other hand, a party of laborers and carters tore down the old fences, leveled the grounds, laid out the alleys, planted trees and at present the place represents a vast rectangle of 8000 square yards, of which, 3500, are macadamized, 620, are covered with trees and the remainder is converted into lawns. All this space is surrounded by walls, except on the side of the river which will be ornamented with an iron railing. Thus, the trees will protect the pilgrims from the heat of the sun; the verdure and flowers will please the eyes; the vast avenues will allow processions to move with ease and the surrounding wall, by isolating the garden, will contribute to make it a place of recollection and prayer. Finally, the garden will supply the insufficiency of the Basilica which, vast as it is, we would frequently wish to see twice as large. The xixth century approaches its end; the holy year of the xxth will soon begin: two circumstances which, in accordance with the desires of the Holy Father, should be turned to the benefit of religion by imposing manifestations to the glory of Jesus-Christ. We know the scenes of these solemnities: they are the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in the world. Ste Anne de