

The natural question arises, how came the silver spoon and fork into the possession of the Convent. The answer is that after nearly fifty years of separation from her family in New England, Mother Esther Wheelwright, as she then was, was visited at the convent by her nephew, Major Wheelwright, who placed in her hands in the name of her family a gift of a silver fork, spoon and goblet.¹ The spoon and fork, engraved with the Wheelwright arms, have survived the storms and perils of time, but the goblet could not be traced.

The spoon and fork are of French workmanship—an ascription which is made on the authority of the marks stamped upon them. But a curious and interesting fact was revealed by the writer's examination of these interesting relics, namely, in the discovery of another maker's mark upon them—the mark of Jacob Hurd of Boston, Massachusetts (1702-58), a prolific silversmith and the maker of many vessels for churches in New England.²

A pair of silver candlesticks,³ which was presented to the Church of the convent by Lady Carleton, wife of the Governor of Canada, have disappeared.

The Hôtel Dieu Convent and Hospital founded in 1639 by the Duchess of Aiguillon the friend of St. Vincent de Paul and niece of Richelieu, was once famous for its artistic and historic treasures; but many of these perished in the great fire of 1755. Subsequent losses have also been chronicled. A French 17th century clock made in Paris and fitted in a long wooden case by a Quebec carpenter in the 18th century, was exchanged by the authorities of the Hôtel Dieu some few years ago, and was bought by the present writer in Quebec. A silver bust, enshrining the skull of Jean de Brébeuf, the Jesuit missionary, and the bones of his fellow-martyr, escaped the observation of the writer in the chapel of the Hôtel Dieu.

The church of Indian Lorette is conspicuous for its possession of several important objects and beautiful vestments. These comprise a small 17th century reliquary, set with crystals, which is associated with Chartres; a pair of ewers with tray; four beautiful French vases in the style of Louis XV; a large French sanctuary lamp dating from the end of the 17th century; and two silver statuettes of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin. To this inventory may be added: six French tripod candlesticks and a crucifix of early 18th century; and a pair of French plain octagonal candlesticks of domestic rather than ecclesiastical character, which are marked with an unknown maker's mark,

¹ *Glimpses of the Monastery; Scenes from the History of the Ursulines of Quebec*, 2nd Edition, 1897, p. 308.

² *The Old Silversmith of American Churches*, by E. Alfred Jones, 1913.

³ *Glimpses of the Monastery*, etc., p. 312.