## INTRODUCTION.

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We will now add a word concerning the pilgrimage of St. Anne d'Auray, in Brittany. Evidence of the love and devotion borne to St. Anne in Brittany is to be found in the national records and legends of that country, however far back we may seek. In the seventh century, St Meriadec, Bishop of Vannes, had raised a chapel on the very spot where the celebrated pilgrimage church now stands. A statue of St. Anne was there exposed to public veneration; but in the month of February 699 a hoard of barbarians pillaged the sanctuary. The holy statue alone escaped from the ravages of these impious men, and this by having been buried in the ground, in the same place where it had been venerated. There it awaited the decrees of God's Providence for nine hundred years. An apparition of the Saint herself to Yves Nicolazie, in 1624, revealed to that pious husbandman

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