

armed vessel, and distributed the plunder more or less equally. Old Lemaistre must have had in his house some hiding place in which were concealed a number of varied objects.

One day old Lemaistre sent everybody out to work in the fields, and only kept in the house with him the young wife, who was to do the house-keeping as he expressed it. As soon as the house was empty, he led his daughter-in-law to the garret, and there showed her the spoil which he had won in battle. Evidently his intention was to make her a present, and amongst other things, he brought out several paintings which did not attract the young woman's attention. At last, however, he showed her, one which pleased her very much, and she put it aside with the remark that it was a beautiful picture. Did she admire it because it represented the Virgin of all Virgins? Did it please her because her cultivated taste recognised the master hand? As she put it aside, did she think of the Canadian priest who had taken so much interest in her, and to whom she could offer it as a token of her gratitude if ever she saw him again?

However this may be, it happened some time afterwards that Francis Lemaistre accompanied by his wife returned to Canada in his capacity of Lieutenant-Governor of Gaspé. Before settling in Canada, they came to Quebec to purchase certain supplies. The young lady did not delay to visit Abbé Plessis, the future prelate who had been so kind to her. After exchanging the usual enquiries as to her health, and also as to her spiritual welfare she presented the picture to the Abbé on behalf of her husband.

As soon as Abbé Plessis saw the beautiful picture, which he perceived was a masterpiece, he decided to have it placed above the high altar in the cathedral at Quebec.

About 1804, Francis Lemaistre having finished his term as Governor of Gaspé, returned to Quebec and died at his residence, St. Famille street, near the Hope gate, on the 14th February, 1805.