

The
Shrines
of the
St Lawrence

St. Joseph's Oratory
Cap de la Madeleine
Ste. Anne de Beauprè
Chapel of Perpetual Adoration

Published by
The CANADA STEAMSHIP LINES LIMITED
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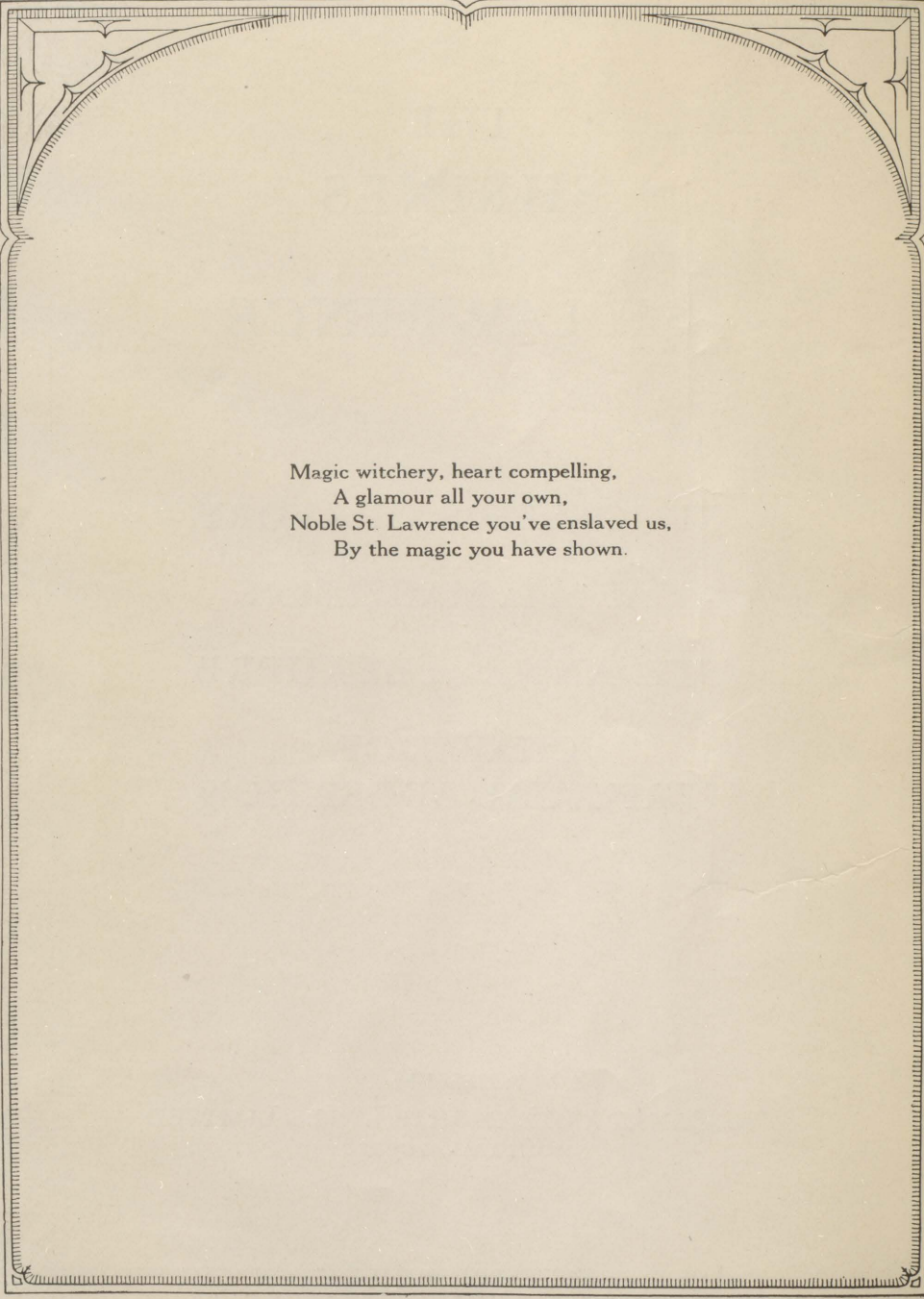
The Shores of

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THE
SHRINES
OF THE
ST. LAWRENCE

ST. JOSEPH'S ORATORY
CAP DE LA MADELEINE
STE. ANNE DE BEAUPRÉ
CHAPEL OF
PERPETUAL ADORATION

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Magic witchery, heart compelling,
A glamour all your own,
Noble St. Lawrence you've enslaved us,
By the magic you have shown.

The Shrines of the St. Lawrence

ORATORY SAINT JOSEPH

GRAND and majestic, the noble St. Lawrence winds its unceasing way through the heart of French-Canada. No river in the world has such a magic, such a history. Its shores on either bank, from Lachine to Gaspé, have witnessed many of the greatest dramas of the New World. The appeal of Quebec is surpassing in its beauty, and history—the tourist cannot withstand the glamour of the Past that hovers over this glorious river.

Here were fought battles which decided the fate of the whole American Continent. Here were sown seeds which time has turned into myriad impulses for good. Here fought the Cavaliers of Old France against a savage foe—here, heroic in their endeavour and sacrifice, the Godly churchmen and churchwomen of Old France planted the standard of Christ and indomitably withstood perils and hardships that stamp them for all time as heroes and heroines.

True to the task which was set for them by their Superiors in France these noble men and women held firm to their God-given work, the creation of a great French Catholic Church in Canada.

Little dreamed Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve on that memorable day in 1642, when he arrived to form his colony on the slopes between Mount Royal and the river, that 285 years later the great city of Montreal would be the glorious harvest of his effort.

As Maisonneuve landed on the shore below Mount Royal, he and his goodly company fell to their knees in thanksgiving, and then an altar was raised near the landing, and it was decorated with taste by the gentle ladies of France who accompanied Maisonneuve and Montmagny.

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There before the first great shrine in Montreal they knelt as the Host was raised aloft, and then as Parkman, the great historian, narrates from the records he had scanned, the good Priest turned to the company and addressed them:

"You are as a grain of mustard seed," he said, "that shall rise and grow till its branches overshadow the earth. You are few, but this work is the work of God. His smile is upon you and your work shall fill the land."

'Twas thus Montreal began its first day of life. And truly today as one visits this great city, and witnesses its great extent, and importance, and sees the children of New France in their hundreds of thousands, one cannot help but exclaim—"Indeed, this was God's work—His smile has been upon them these two centuries and a half."

And then, thrilled with the knowledge of this first great shrine, one looks for other shrines. And then as night arrives, the gleaming cross on the summit of Mount Royal stands superbly beautiful over the teeming city as a reminder of the Past, for there is the spot upon which Maisonneuve erected the first cross of Montreal away back in 1642.

Notre Dame Street, St. François Xavier, St. Paul, and many other streets are replete with historic and religious memories. Everywhere on every hand church spires and domes and resonant church bells remind one that the influence and impulses of the French Church have reached a full fruition.

Notre Dame reminds one that a church has stood on this sacred ground since the founding of the Colony in 1642, and the Hotel Dieu de Ville Marie founded in 1664, and the Seminary of the Gentlemen of St. Sulpice founded in 1657 links the Present with a Past pregnant with history and romance.

Canada, and Montreal particularly, owes a great deal to France. It is a remarkable story, the story of the French Catholic Church

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of Canada, and whilst the Old World lost untold advantages by the migrations of its great churchmen, Canada has fruitfully multiplied in Christian greatness as a consequence of the labours of these Godly men and women.

In 1847 Montreal received another great benefit from France when a Godly priest and eight brothers came from their Mother House in Manis, France, to Montreal and settled in St. Laurent, a suburb, where a parochial school was erected which afterwards became the College of St. Laurent.

Later they had to extend their quarters and they acquired properties at Côté des Neiges, where a Junior College was started. Later this college attempted to secure the site on the mountain opposite the college. Several attempts were made but they failed.

It is said "that the Superior, Rev. Father Geoffrion and Brother Alderic, a member of the Second College of the Holy Cross order in Canada strolled one day up the mountainside, and Brother Alderic here produced a medal bearing the image of Saint Joseph (who in 1871 had been chosen by His Holiness Pope Pius IX as Patron Saint and Protector of the whole Catholic Church). They knelt on the mountainside and prayed that at length it might become the property of their College.

"Then rising to their feet they planted the medal at the base of a great pine tree."

Four years later the property was acquired, and then a shrine in the honour of St. Joseph was erected thereon.

Among the good brothers of the College was one, Brother André, who for forty years had served as porter, door-keeper and general utility man at the Côté des Neiges College. This worthy man performed his daily menial tasks with precision, always preserving in a marked way his devotion to his Patron Saint, Saint Joseph. His piety, patience and humility attracted attention. By good works, kindly deeds, good nature and understanding he became beloved

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by the pupils, and they in their turn spread the name and fame of good Brother André afar.

Hundreds came to the humble porter for advice, physical as well as mental, and many thousands of people as the years passed benefitted from his advice and his intercessions to Saint Joseph for the afflicted and distressed. Many cures were recorded and the fame of Brother André became so great that the crowd of visitors to the College created a serious problem for the College authorities. Some desired to stop the good work, but those who had been benefitted by his intercessions to Saint Joseph and his prayers interceded in his behalf.

It was decided that those who desired to see Brother André should do so after school hours, but this was not satisfactory, and after repeated requests and refusals Brother André received permission to build a small chapel. Thus the ground which had been obtained for new buildings for the college became a place for pilgrims.

This little chapel was opened in 1904 on November 19th; and therein Brother André and the thousands of pilgrims who visited him made their supplications before the Statue of Saint Joseph.

News of the great deeds of Brother André spread all over the continent, and a veritable stream of pilgrims continuously besieged the good Brother. Again accommodations were found insufficient. Several additions to the original chapel were built and then Brother André received the reward of his patience and good works. On May 5th, 1910, His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal, the Most Reverend Paul Bruchesi, D.D., granted Brother André the right to hold Divine Service in his chapel, and also appointed a committee of well-known priests to investigate the cures said to have been brought about at the Oratory of Saint Joseph.

Many prominent physicians and 170 people who had received benefits testified favourably. The committee reported favourably

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ST. JOSEPH'S ORATORY—MONTREAL

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and as a result on February 26th, 1910, His Holiness Pope Pius X granted his Apostolic Benediction to the Shrine, the Oratory of Saint Joseph.

Brother André, modest but faithful in all things, continued his good work and again it was necessary to build extensions to the original chapel. The Most Reverend Paul Bruchesi, the Archbishop of Montreal, blessed this extension, and in his address spoke in part as follows:

"It would seem Saint Joseph wishes to be honoured in a special manner in this Oratory on Mount Royal, just as Mary Immaculate wished to be honoured in a special manner at Lourdes in France. I see here a pious movement that consoles me. This grain of mustard seed, at first so small, will soon produce a large tree.

"In the beginning a devout servant of Saint Joseph placed here a medal bearing his image. Soon a little chapel was built. Thereupon the clients of Saint Joseph came hither in crowds until the chapel had to be extended once and again and yet again.

"The work has but begun. I foresee in the not distant future, a Church, a Basilica built in honour of Saint Joseph on this beautiful spot on Mount Royal. Shall I say that miracles are wrought here? If I denied that such were the case the ex-votive offerings in yonder pyramids would belie my words.

"I need make no investigations. I am convinced that extraordinary occurrences have taken place here; corporal cures, perhaps, although it is quite easy to suffer illusion in such cases, and spiritual cures still greater have been wrought here. Sinners have come, have prayed, and after prayer, have purged out their iniquities and have gone away at peace with their God.

"On an extended trip to the Pacific coast, here, there, everywhere I was deluged with questions about Saint Joseph's Oratory on Mount Royal. These testimonials suffice for me. Come here then

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ST. JOSEPH'S ORATORY—INTERIOR

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and pray. Come here often to implore the aid of the all-powerful and all-generous Saint Joseph."

Today, as predicted by the Archbishop, whose far-seeing eye discerned the future of the Oratory of Saint Joseph, a beautiful crypt has been erected, and the Basilica is under way. Here today a scene of surpassing beauty is disclosed and a new Montmartre has been born.

Tens of thousands of pilgrims from all over the world have made pilgrimages to the Oratory of Saint Joseph presided over by the ever-modest, ever-devout Brother André, the Miracle Man of Montreal.

'Tis here the tourist feels the glamour of the Old World. 'Tis here looking down upon the vast city of Montreal, the child of its founder Maisonneuve, that the centuries that have passed are rolled away, and again, as in olden times, the Vesper Bell calls the weary traveller to prayer at a shrine whose good work and wonderful cures have resounded in the remotest parts of the earth.

A visit to the Oratory of Saint Joseph is a golden opportunity. Montreal has not been truly visited or re-visited if this Beautiful Shrine of the St. Lawrence has been passed by.

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THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN AT CAP DE LA MADELEINE

Down the St Lawrence Mother Nature is calling,
Come unto me, O Pilgrims of mine;
Here 'neath the glamour of Yesterday,
Sweet shrines are awaiting, supremely divine!

AND so, answering the call, the pilgrimage to the shrines of the St. Lawrence is renewed after the pleasant sojourn at Grotto Saint Joseph.

Three Rivers, or Trois Rivières, is reached after a pleasant boat trip of a few hours. Here again the Spell of the Past percolates into the innermost corners of the heart, for this city is old in tradition and story.

It was an outpost of New France three centuries and more ago, and it was here that a Recollet monk, Father Le Caron, celebrated the first Mass on this part of the St. Lawrence on July 15th, 1615. The city itself was founded in 1634 by Chevalier de Laviollette, and was called Trois Rivières because at this point three branches of the St. Maurice join the St. Lawrence.

Located in the primeval wilderness this was the farthest point west Frenchmen had dared to make a settlement. Here the Indians journeyed to sell their furs, and here was the meeting place where the French and the Indians made their first treaties.

It was from here many of the most important expeditions against the Iroquois and the British were planned and started owing to its close proximity to the Richelieu River on the south shore.

Father Le Caron, on his arrival in 1615, caused a house to be erected for himself and his confreres, and a small Chapter House. This was the first religious house in Trois Rivières. A few years later the famous Church Conception de Notre Dame was built.

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From this church radiated influences to the west and north that history records as epoch-making, and the story of these pioneers of the Christian religion in the savage wilds of Canada is perhaps the most romantic in all the annals of missionary efforts in the world's history.

Three leagues west from Trois Rivières lies "The Cap." A man called Hertel was the holder of "the fief" or land at this point and he heroically made the first settlement here in 1647. "The Fief" was then called "L'Arbre a la Croix."

According to the legend—"A white woman, a heroine of New France caused the death of the chief of the Iroquois who was attacking this very, very small outpost of civilization, and as a result the Indians retreated and the settlers were saved."

Many a battle between the French and the Iroquois took place at this point up to the year 1655. It was indeed the road to the Cross and death for many a settler of New France who faced untold dangers and hardships here.

To mark the heroism of commoners, soldiers and priests, the Cross was erected away back in 1647. Today at "L'Arbre a la Croix" can be seen three masts planted around a cross.

Later the name became Cap de la Madeleine in honour of the donor of the fief, M. de la Ferte, Abbe de la Madeleine in France.

It was he who finally by contract settled the fief or seigniori on the Jesuit Fathers, who were to use the revenues of the land for the college to be established for the profit of the savages converted to the Faith, and here a small Chapter House was erected in 1647, the scene of many of the romances of the Jesuit Fathers.

The name "Cap de la Madeleine" was given to the settlement in 1650 after the Fathers had settled there, and it has borne that name ever since. Here tarried for a while famous Jesuit martyrs, Lalement Daniels, Jogues, and others famous in history. The savage Indian wars with all their attending disasters did not daunt these

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CAP DE LA MADELEINE—THREE RIVERS

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heroic men, and from that day to this, in weal and woe, in joy and sunshine, there has always been a church and a settlement at Cap de la Madeleine.

Reared by such men as these, heroic priests of Old France, fed on traditions wherein sacrifice, devotion and love were the fundamental motives, it is no wonder that the Church should become the centre around which the community would revolve, and as years passed and holy men one by one followed in the footsteps of the pioneers, doing kindly and noble deeds, that a sanctuary, a Holy Shrine, should be established here.

And so in 1714, the humble Chapter House became a noble Sanctuary—"The Sanctuary of Tres Sainte Rosaire." This church is one of the most prized and valued of Canada's antiquities, the one that has been kept most completely in its original state.

This great national shrine has been blessed by curative waters, and the cures that have been recorded here in the past two centuries and more have made this one of the most frequented shrines of Canada. Over 100,000 people yearly visit this glorious shrine.

Steeped in tradition, a true daughter of the Mother Church, here "yesterday" may be revisited, and here may be obtained a true insight into the Glory of Old France, a keener insight into the causes of the permanency and stability of the French race in Canada.

A Holy Shrine, a Place Divine,
Tis well to tarry here awhile,
For as you journey on your way
You'll feel the grace of its kindly smile.

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THE SHRINE OF SAINTE ANNE DE BEAUPRÉ

AGAIN the call of the St. Lawrence lures us eastward, and again by boat we wend our way to another glorious shrine just about twenty miles below Quebec City.

Here in the pretty little town of Ste. Anne de Beaupré, basking in the summer sun at the foot of Mount Sainte Anne, we find beauty itself revealed and an old world quaintness that in itself would alone repay us for our visit. But here also awaits the glorious shrine of "La Bonne Sainte Anne," and in its magic sweetness and glory we feel that our pilgrimage has attained the apex of its appeal.

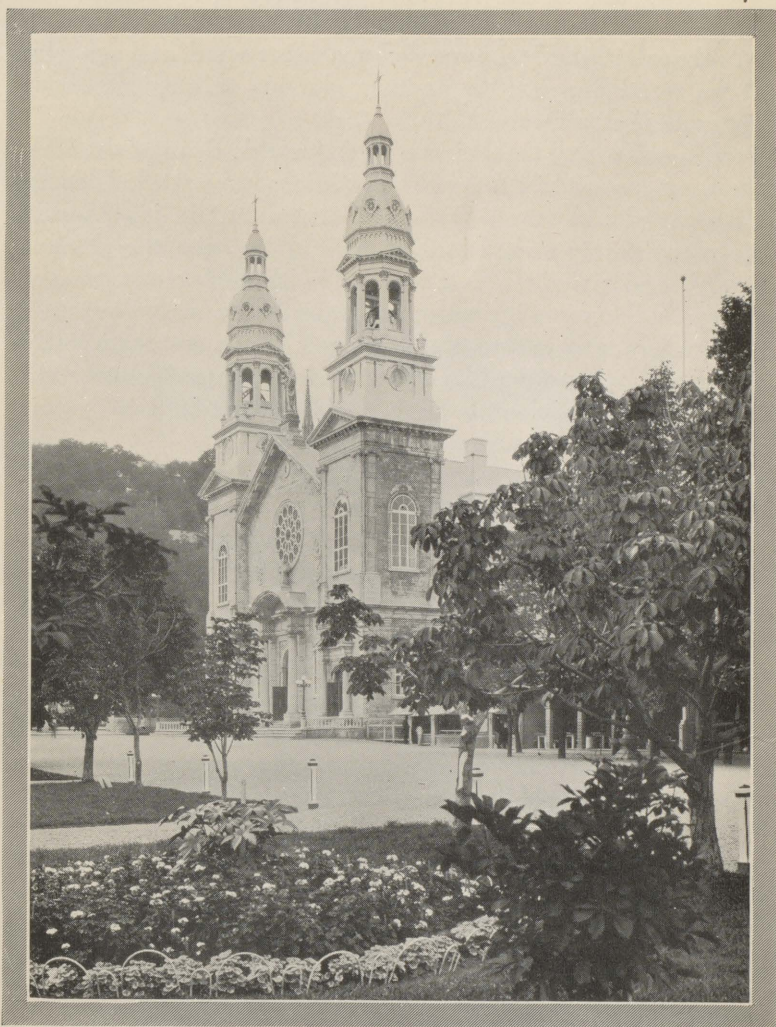
Everywhere as we journey through rural Quebec, and particularly in the area of Beaupré, we find by the roadway, wayside crosses and garden shrines. Here close to the open sea Ste. Anne holds a supreme place in the heart of the French-Canadian.

It was she who protected the ancient navigators to these shores, who tenderly cared for, encouraged and protected the Breton seafarers from Old France who settled here. She is loving, she is tender, she is dear to the heart of the habitant, and to the fisherman and the sailor of the St. Lawrence. Everyone carries a little figure of Ste. Anne on his person. Ste. Anne is as inseparable from the St. Lawrence as is the St. Lawrence inseparable from Canada.

Her beneficent influence is felt on every hand on the north shore. Everywhere the wayside cross, the humble garden shrine, the Sacred Heart, images carved by simple craftsmen whose forefathers learned their art in old France, in Brittany and Normandy, mark religious thought and sincerity.

Everywhere are evidences of a simple faith which time and changing years and customs cannot destroy. The habitant has a personal belief in the good of the Cross, the Sacred Heart and Ste. Anne, and truly the evidence of comfort displayed on every hand in rural Quebec in this area would make one believe that a kindly influence is at work here.

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STE. ANNE DE BEAUPRÉ—QUEBEC

The Shrines of the St. Lawrence

Tradition tells us that some sailors of Brittany vowed during a terrible storm to erect a shrine to Ste. Anne, their patron Saint, if they were spared from death. The storm miraculously ceased, and they landed, and where they landed the first chapel was erected in 1658. This is the first recorded miracle.

By 1660 many miracles were reported to have occurred here, and in 1661 a larger church was built, a beautiful Basilica with two spires towering high in the sky, with a statue of Ste. Anne high between in "The Crow's Nest," ever on guard over her children who go down to the sea.

Some years later Bishop Laval, the great Bishop of New France, brought a relic of Sainte Anne here and then the fame of Gentle Sainte Anne spread far and near. This relic—a finger bone of Sainte Anne—was presented by the Bishop of Carcassonne in France, and was exposed for veneration later in 1670.

Other sacred relics of Sainte Anne were placed there, and as a consequence from six to seven thousand pilgrims now in one day crowd Ste. Anne de Beauré. It has become the shrine of this continent and like the Oratory of Saint Joseph it is known as the Place of Miracles.

Tens of thousands of pilgrims have come in the last 300 years to Sainte Anne for surcease from sorrow, and ills of the flesh and body, and cruel distempers of the soul; and tens of thousands have been cured and benefitted by the faith they have had in good Sainte Anne.

In the foundation stones of the Basilica were set forth in letters deep-cut the virtues of Ste. Anne. They are as follows:

"La Protectrice de Pecheurs—de navigation—du Canada."

Inside the Church a scene of surpassing grandeur greets the pilgrim—the great altar, flowers everywhere, beautiful stained-glass windows, myriad priests in priestly robes and beautiful white, white linen, thousands of votive candles in the side chapels,

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thousands seeking aid—the lame, the halt, the blind—creeping slowly forward to kiss the Holy Relic, supreme in Faith and rewarded in accordance with the Faith. A sight unforgettable is this in the Lourdes of Canada, the Holy Shrine of Ste. Anne.

In the Sacristy thousands speed to give their gifts, for great has been their faith and still greater their reward. Here good Sainte Anne for 300 years and more has seen the very souls of tens of thousands of her pilgrims come to her shrine.

Fire ravaged this noble shrine terribly in 1876, and again in 1922. Four churches have been built on this site and a fifth and a greater and a grander is now in process of erection.

In spite of flame and fire Ste. Anne still rules supreme in Ste. Anne de Beaupré, and in the hearts of countless thousands in every quarter of the American continent.

She has been an inspiration to the French-Canadian, and in the life of a great part of our Canadian population she is forever enshrined.

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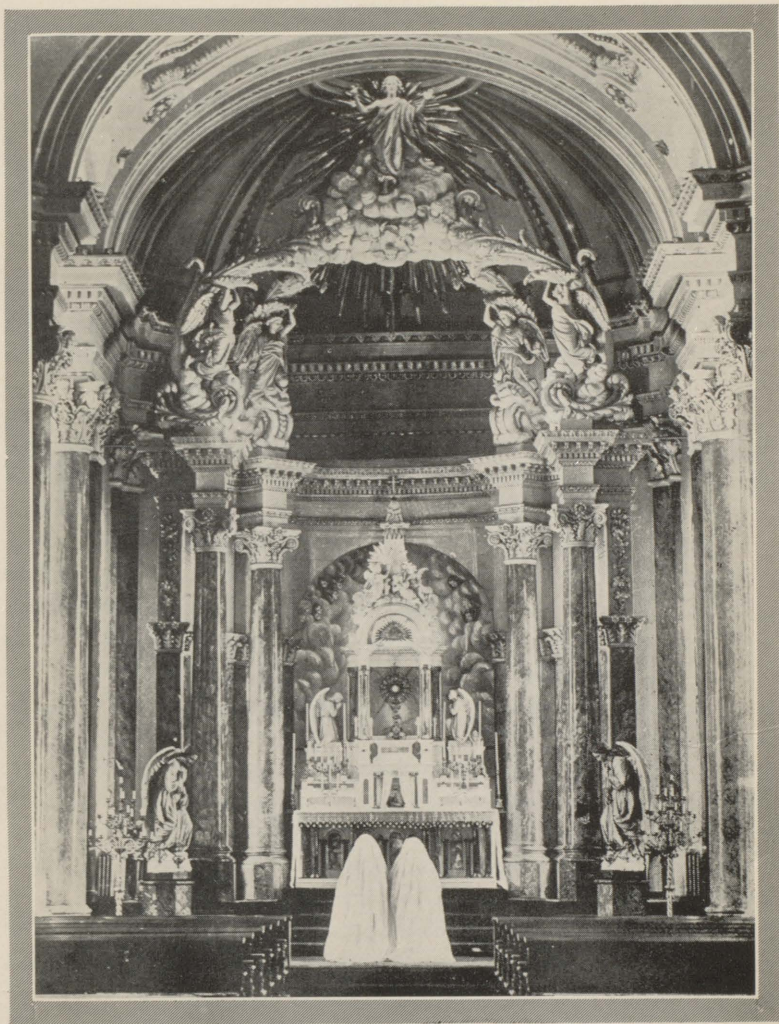
THE CHAPEL OF PERPETUAL ADORATION

ONE of the most interesting of the many interesting places in the city of Quebec is the Chapel of Perpetual Adoration in the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, 180 Grand Allée. In this Chapel for nearly 30 years prayers have been offered up unceasingly, day and night, before the altar. The chapel was built at the instance of the late Mgr. L. N. Bégin, Archbishop of Quebec, and was organized by the Rev. Father L. A. Paquet. It was opened in 1900 and was placed in charge of the Sisters known as the Franciscan Missionaries of Marie, recently arrived from Rome. Since then the Sisters, robed in white, have always been at their post, and day and night their prayers have been offered up. The Sisters, two by two, take their turn for one hour at a time. On every Thursday some of the ladies of the city take their turn, and at night, from 6 to 9 o'clock, the men of the city also come in turn. The Sisters are missionaries in the heathen missions. They earn their living by producing fine needlework and embroidery, which they sell to the many visitors who come to the city during the summer. Members of the Association of the Perpetual Adoration, which comprise ladies of the city, meet regularly to work on the manufacture of sacerdotal ornaments for the poor churches. At the end of the year an exhibition of the work is held, and the distribution rests at the discretion of the Archbishop.

The church itself has been paid for by generous benefactors, and these benefactors, as well as those who help the Sisters in other ways, share in the prayers and works of the missions.

We regret to leave the beloved shores of the St. Lawrence and, as we journey along homeward we are tempted to land and tarry awhile, and learn more of the wonders and glories of this romantic country. Everywhere on every hand, she has mysteries to reveal, she has shrines to recall memories of heroic men and noble women—a splendid heritage of a wonderful people.

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CHAPEL OF PERPETUAL ADORATION—QUEBEC

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