

did not feel it, although the doctor pointed out to me the marks left by his nails.

Dr. Lefebvre in his work describes a multitude of experiments which he made during the ecstasies, but all to no purpose, as Louise's body is completely insensible. Later on the doctor caused some surprise by presenting to Louise his purse, on which was printed in large gilt letters "porte-monnaie." What was still more surprising, Louise smiled and put up her hands to touch it. Every one was eager to know what was the cause of this unlooked-for phenomenon, and M. Neils asked him if he had any blessed object in his purse. The doctor then opened it, and from the midst of his money produced two venerable little blessed medals. The Curé of a neighboring parish caused a large covered object with a white cloth to be brought in. Judging at first from its shape and size, I took it to be a sugar-loaf, but when held near Louise she expressed extraordinary symptoms of pleasure and joy and sat upright in order to touch it. The Curé then informed us that it was the statue of his Lady Chapel, to which in her early days, Louise had great devotion. When this covered-up statue was removed Louise fell back like a dead body and her countenance instantly resumed its expression of sorrow. Many have been the experiments to show with what delicacy the ecstasies recognize the blessings and prayers of the Church. One of the commonest is to present a medal or a rosary which has never been blessed— Louise is insensible to its presence. If it be now taken away, blessed privately, and then presented, she smiles and seeks to touch it.

As has been already stated, medical men have entirely failed, with all the means at their disposal, to restore Louise to consciousness during her ecstasy, but the merest word or sign from her spiritual superiors—that is, the Bishop or Curé—never fails to cause the ecstasy to cease. What is strangest is that this authority can be exercised from any distance and can be delegated to any person. Wonderful instances of this marvellous obedience to legitimate authority—no matter by whom exercised—can be seen in all the works that have been published about her. However, this recall to consciousness is seldom practised now, as it causes her to suffer, and she has already passed through years of trials and experiments in the hands of eminent learned men.

Suddenly, and without any premonitory sign, Louise stretches out both arms in the form of a cross. Her head turns con-