

Solemn benediction was then sung and the blessing of the Most Blessed Sacrament given to all present by Monseigneur Decelles. Then the pilgrims defiled once more for the veneration of the Great Relic, which is offered to the public only on that day. All the pilgrims came one by one to piously kiss those precious remains.

What a difference between the ceremonies of the Church and worldly festivals! The latter are noisy; they enervate and stun for a moment, leaving behind them but emptiness, trouble and how frequently remorse! The « Poms of Jesus » on the contrary do good to the soul; they purify it and lift it up. The faithful return happy and stronger to the struggles of life!

Sermon of the Rev. Delargy. — The preacher takes occasion of the oig crowd to put them a question: « Why, dear brethren, do you come, year after year, to this famous Shrine? I know! It is to show your respect, your veneration, your love for St. Anne. It is also to ask Her graces, as you know by experience She is « so good! » Let us therefore briefly examine the great titles St. Anne has to this veneration, and let us see in the same time what we can learn from it. »

Then the Father goes on showing St. Anne as a noble Mother, as a holy Mother, as an almighty Mother.

St. Anne is a *noble Mother*, he says, since She has in her veins the blood of royalty: She comes down from David. . . But She is in a special way a noble Mother because She gave birth to Mary. . . and so She is the Grand-Mother of Jesus Himself. . . We should therefore venerate Her most humbly. . . !

St. Anne is a *holy Mother*, because She received so many graces from God, and yet more, because She cooperated to them. By this cooperation She increased at every moment the treasure of those graces and of her merits before God. . . We have been regenerated in the Baptismal Font, we have received so many graces in our life. But could we say we have cooperated to them as St. Anne did? Let us ask of Her to be more faithful in the future, and to persevere to the end!

St. Anne is an *almighty Mother*; every one knows St. Anne is the great Worker of Miracles of America! Why those so many crutches and ex-votos, why this splendid Basilica, why