

Name and address were given of a woman afflicted with cancer, who had received treatment in the Quebec hospital and whose case was there pronounced incurable. As a last resort, the woman was brought to Ste Anne's. She was set down in the church. The relic was applied and prayers were made in her behalf. Carried back to the hotel she grew rapidly worse. Priests and physicians thought death near.

One of the fathers carried the relic to her hotel and applied it, but in vain. The woman was told to prepare for death. She then took the relic of St. Anne in her own hand and cried out, « O, I am cured ! »

This woman, who had not been able to stand for months and whose cancer the doctors declared incurable and certain to result in early death, ascended the whole length of the holy stairs, step by step, unaided, and went about the village of Ste Anne alone for a whole week, before departing for her home.

« But the doctor might have been mistaken, » interrupted an unsatisfied auditor. « Has there been a case of a person radically and plainly defective from birth who has been cured here ? »

« Why, the case of young Riley from Reading, Penn., was of that description, » answered Fr. Holland. « This boy was born blind. His people had a certificate from the doctors that he could not be cured. His mother brought him here a few weeks ago. Mother and son knelt at the altar rail.

« The mother was silently praying, while the relic was passed over the boy's eyes. The boy, before leaving the altar, opened up his eyes, picked up a five-cent piece, and found and picked up a pin on the floor.

« The strange thing about it was that the little chap couldn't understand glass. When we showed him the jewels in glass cases, he tried to put his little fist through the glass and couldn't understand what stopped him. That boy is now all right, and his people are erecting a tablet to commemorate the miraculous cure. »

A more impressive monument to religious belief and human gratitude than the interior of the basilica could not be found. Neither artistic skill nor money has been spared to honor St. Anne by lavish decoration of the great church.

On every hand are what appeals to artistic sentiment and pleases the eye ; but in the great basilica are many things that call up tender echoes of human sufferings.