

many supplicants kneeling at the altar rail. All was quiet and no especial attention was directed to this paralytic.

« Continue praying, » says the priest ; « don't be discouraged. »

A little later, the priest bends over the man and inquires, « Have you courage to leave your crutches? Can you come with me, now? » The paralytic springs to his feet and leaps up like a child that had never known deformity. Throwing aside his crutches in an ecstasy of delight ; and a parish priest, who had been silently watching this case, snatches up the discarded crutches and, waving them above his head, rushes into the main church.

The cry goes through the throng, « A miracle ! A miracle » There is silence for a moment. Then men and women begin to laugh and weep hysterically and the vast assembly bursts into a *Magnificat* and finds relief for over-wrought emotions by singing triumphant praises.

« How did it effect you, Father Holland? »

« O, » said the Irish priest, evidently disgusted with himself, « O, I was crying like a sheep. »

Scarcely less remarkable was the case of Sister Mary Bernadette of Watertown N. Y. She was carried into the church utterly helpless, suffering from spinal affliction, and was placed before the altar rail.

The sisters of the same order, who accompanied her, began to pray. Then the time came for their train to leave, and Sister Mary was told that she must go. The other sisters arose to depart.

To the utter astonishment of all, she too, who had been a helpless invalid for months, and whom the doctors could not cure, arose from her chair, stepped out and walked steadily to the altar rail, where a full heart poured out its gratitude.

« What ! » cried the priest : « are you cured? »

« Yes, father, » answered the invalid with joy too great for expression.

« Don't you think she could imagine that? » inquired a doubting Thomas in the crowd.

« She certainly could if she had the imagination which you evidently possess, » responded the holy father. Another skeptical listener suggests with tact that there is a possibility of these two afflictions not being organic.

« Paralysis and spinal trouble might have resulted from mental conditions, which great religious enthusiasm removed. Now, what about people suffering from cancer who come here? » this doubter asks of Fr. Holland.