



The Kent House

boarding houses. There are many days in the year when these are crowded to excess by the vast tide of humanity, while hundreds get their meals at the convent or beneath sheds in the open air.

The name and fame of this little village and its wonders have gone abroad over the face of the earth. It is known on both sides of the ocean. It is the objective point of pilgrims from all quarters of the globe. As many as 200,000 have visited it in the course of a year, numbering people of all ages and of all ranks of life. The whole parish of Ste. Anne has a resident population of considerably less than 2,000, but there are days in summer when from 5,000 to 7,000 strangers visit the shrine and crowd the roads. There are pilgrims by the hundreds even in the dreary months of winter, for no season is too severe for the sufferer who hopes that his faith may be rewarded by the cure of his bodily ills.

To the matter-of-fact man of the world to-day, the existence of the Shrine of Ste. Anne and its miracles may appear an anachronism in the twentieth century. The age of miracles is past, says the doubter; in reply, Ste. Anne de Beaupre points to its thousands of crutches and other tokens of the lame, the halt and even the blind, who have come to the shrine and have walked away cured. Whatever be the creed of the visitor, however he may strive to account for what takes place, the substantial evidence that it does take place is before him. He may even chance to see one who has