

dangerous and had baffled the skill of the best physicians of that region. The illness had increased to such an extent that all hope was lost, and the Sister was warned to prepare for death. She received the last Sacraments, in perfect resignation to God's holy will, and generously made the sacrifice of her life.

Nevertheless the physicians who attended her did not give her up entirely. They still endeavoured to save from death the victim who was escaping from them in spite of all their efforts. Finally they held a consultation and agreed to propose an operation to the sick nun. This was, in their opinion, the only way to save her. Their proposal was not received by the patient as they expected. She was already prepared for death, and did not care to run the risk of a painful operation, the idea of which was repugnant to her. She therefore refused. The physicians spoke to the Superioress, but she also was unable to obtain the patient's consent. They went still further and tried to secure the intervention of the ecclesiastical authorities. But Monseigneur Gabriels replied that he could only advise, not order, in such a case.

All seemed lost. On her side Sister Bernadette retained in her heart a secret hope that she would be cured. But her confidence laid in heavenly succor, and not in human resources. She sent for the Superioress and said to her: « Reverend Mother, if you really wish another attempt to be made for me, let me go on a pilgrimage to Ste Anne de Beaupré. I am sure that that great Saint will cure me. » Her request was granted by the good Superioress, and she was allowed to go to Ste Anne.

It was under these circumstances that Sister Bernadette started from Watertown. She had to be taken from her bed, and carried to the cars with very many precautions. As may be imagined, the journey was but one long suffering, the slightest jar causing intolerable pain. When landed at Ste Anne, after such a journey, she looked more like a corpse than a living person. She had then to be lifted into a carriage with her head surrounded by cushions to convey her from the boat to the Shrine.

On arrival she was placed in an arm chair at the foot of St. Anne's statue where she remained throughout the pilgrimage. What passed during that time between St. Anne and her? How many acts of confidence and at the same time of resignation were expressed by her heart? No one knows. What we do know, is that one of our Fathers, Reverend Father Lemire, went from time to time to visit Sister Bernadette and to make her venerate the Holy Relic.