

at the piscina or before the grotto, kneeling in the dust and humbly kissing the ground. To plead still more urgently with God, they take their rest at night on the seats of the Basilica or the pavement of the grotto, weeping and praying until morning light, when their only food is a piece of bread, and their only drink some water from the miraculous spring. It is also to win Mary to be propitious to their prayers, that holy priests watch until midnight to commence the masses which follow one another in uninterrupted succession and at all the altars up to the hour of noon the following day.

And Mary, she who is queen of that France, whom she delighteth to honour with many of her heavenly apparitions, Mary, I say, shows, how this devotedness touches her heart by showering her choicest favors on this people whom she loves so dearly in spite of their many short-comings, and whom she desires to save, almost in spite of themselves, we might say, for the sake of the many just who are expiating their country's fault by prayer and penance.

From the very first day of our pilgrimage, many miracles had attested the power of Mary and the efficacy of the prayers offered by her faithful pilgrims. Those that took place the first day were duly authenticated and published on that excellent journal *la Croix*. Those that took place on the following day, were as numerous and as well authenticated. I myself saw a patient who had been suffering from "caries of the bones on the left side" as was announced on the label which is attached to the patients of the various hospitals, on their leaving their respective institutions.

This poor sick person suffered atrociously at every movement, but on her return could walk quickly and without any pain, whilst she could lie down on her affected right side, a thing she had not done for years. Her appetite and general health, too, were completely restored, and the cure was attested by five physicians,