

Seventy-nine years ago to-  
day the famous Apparitions  
of Our Lady began at Lourdes..

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
February 11, 1937

..This is the Feast of those  
Apparitions. There were  
18 extending to July 16.

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Three Remarkable Cures At Lourdes.  
By Arnold Lunn.

Question XXIX. Will you summarize the evidence of some of the more important cures at Lourdes?

Answer. Let me mention three outstanding miracles.

1. Joachine Dehant. Dr. Froidebise gave a certificate to this patient before she left for Lourdes that she was suffering from a dislocated right hip-joint, contraction of the lateral tibial muscles so as to produce the effect of a club foot, and an ulcer covering two-thirds of the external surface of the right calf. The ulcer had lasted for twelve years, and had eaten deep into the flesh, partly destroying the muscles. Suppuration was free and the pus extremely foul. The bone itself was necrosed. The foot, lacking support, was inverted, and the knee long ankylosed in flexion. Joachine's ulcer was perfectly cured at the second bath; the foot, the hip-joint, and the knee were cured on the following day. She weighed only 4 st. (one stone is equal to 14 pounds) 3 lb. on arrival at Lourdes; a few years after the cure she weighed 11 st. 10 lb. "The sudden cure of a sore," as Professor Vergez of Montpellier says, "or rather a spreading chronic ulcer, in a very decayed constitution and the spontaneous reduction of dislocation of the hip are facts quite outside natural explanation."

2. Madame Biré. I reproduce the summary from the C.T.S. pamphlet on Lourdes. "There have been many instances of the cure of blindness. Madame Biré arrived at Lourdes completely blind from atrophy of the optic nerves due to some cerebral cause. The blindness had lasted six months. This was certified by her doctor, Dr. Hibert of Lueon. She received back her sight suddenly at Lourdes as the Blessed Sacrament was being carried by after the procession. She was at once taken to the Medical Bureau and was found able to read easily the smallest print. As the examination was proceeding, Dr. Lainey, a Rouen specialist in eye diseases, entered the Bureau and at once was asked to examine her eyes. He did so, and on returning from the inspection declared that the case was quite straightforward--that the woman evidently had atrophy of the optic nerves and was stone blind, the fundus in each case being pearly white and the blood-vessels filiform and hardly traceable. 'But she can read!' said the President; and she read easily as before Dr. Lainey's entrance. It was true. The function had been given back before the organ had returned to its normal condition. It was nearly a month before the appearance of the optic nerve was certified as normal. 'It seems,' said Dr. Cox, who gave the writer these details, 'as though the Almighty were having a little joke with us medical men.' The full account of the case, with the certificates of Dr. Hibert and Dr. Lainey, is given in Dr. Boissarie's Guerisons."

3. Marie Borel. For five months her faeces passed through six fistulae, which closed up spontaneously with no treatment beyond the application, with prayer, of a little spring water, in the space of twenty-four hours. The purulent cystitis of the bladder, which complicated the case, was cured at the same time.

Questions For Press Month.

You know all about Father Nieuwland in science and Knute Rockne in football. Have you ever heard of Father Zahm, whose four volumes on South America have become classics, whose Dante Collection in the University Library is one of the wonders of scholars? Ever heard of Father Hudson, for fifty years editor of the Ave Maria, which is considered one of the outstanding Catholic magazines in the United States. Ever read the Ave Maria? February is Catholic Press Month. Maybe you need not one but twelve Catholic Press Months.

PRAYERS: (deceased) grandfather of Chauncey Rooney (Dill.); Sister Agnesia (Holy Cross); Mother M. Ascensia; Mother M. Xavier; mother of Fred Lorek (Morr.). Ill, Jim Shaw '22, appendectomy.