

of Bethlehem, that while the usual exorcism of the Church was read over the young woman at her request, every other circumstance, cruel and painful, contained in the article, is absolutely false. All reports about ill-treatment of the sick person are malicious inventions.

The following letter will throw some light upon the case, written as it is by the director of the clinic of St. Ann, at St. Maurice, to Mr. Henry Biolley, Chief of Department of Public Instruction at Sion and one of the State Counsellors:—

'Sir,—As I do not know English well I cannot well follow all the details of this correspondent writing from Geneva on June 10, 1904, and giving as a remarkable piece of news a version of a case that was decided here in December, 1901. The photographs are false.* You may compare the portrait of the young girl with the photograph taken at the clinic, copy of which is in the hands of Counsellor of State Henri de Tonante. On the 28th of November, 1901, I went to Fins-Haut to observe the case of Henriette Gay. My report on the case and my conclusion that the young girl was suffering from hysteria major have been published in the 'Gazette de Valais' and 'L'Ami du Peuple,' of December, 1901. My article received the approval of the scientific press. I have nothing to add to the article except to say that it was confirmed by subsequent developments. Henriette Gay had a serious attack the day after her admission into the clinic, and a psychic treatment, joined to good nourishment, completely cured her in two months. She has never left the clinic since her arrival here. She is the most happy of young women, enjoying perfect health, together with the confidence of the Sisters. Deign, M. le Conseiller d'Etat, to accept my sentiments of highest esteem, etc.

'S. BOURBAN,

'Director of Clinic of St. Ann.'

The following categorical questions were put to the director of St. Ann's clinic and your readers will see how they accord with the Curtis Brown correspondence:—

1. What is the age of Henriette Gay?

Answer—Am not certain, but believe she is about 20 years old.

2. Has she been, as described by the Springfield 'Republican,' etc., different in manners, cultivation, etc., from her brothers and sisters?

A.—She has always been an ordinary child (fille tout ordinaire), different from the other peasant children in nothing except her malady—nervous hysteria.

3. Is the picture in the American journal a photograph of Henriette Gay?

A.—It is not, as you will see by comparing it with her photograph, which we are sending you.

4. Is it true that she was treated cruelly by her parents and the population?

A.—Absolutely false.

5. Are there two priests at Fins-Haut (as stated in the article), and is the picture of Father Paillet a true picture?

A.—There is but one priest, and his name is 'Duillet,' and the picture in the American paper bears no likeness to him.

6. Was the exorcism performed?

A.—Yes.

7. Did she suffer the slightest corporal pain during the ceremony?

A.—Positively no. And let me add that the lying character of the article is apparent from the fact that it says that she travelled sixty miles to St. Maurice. Now, the distance to St. Maurice from Fins-Haut is 14 kilo., about ten English miles.

8. Was any priest suspended by the Bishop on account of this affair?

A.—No.

9. Where is Henriette Gay at present?

A.—She is at the Clinic of St. Ann, where she has remained in the capacity of a domestic. Permit me to add that the population of Fins-Haut is in rather easy circumstances, has a reputation for intelligence, is a charming place, and is much frequented by tourists.

* The real photograph of Henriette Gay is in the possession of the International Catholic Truth Society, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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