

Josette fell to the ground after hitting the corner of the stove ...

She got up and continued to play. But after ten minutes, she developed an increasingly severe headache and a feeling of dizziness. When she returned home, her mother noticed her daughter's discomfort and put her straight to bed. But she got up and began to vomit, her eyes wide and glazed. She then lost consciousness. Her mother, realizing the gravity of the situation, called the neighbors for help. They did their best to rouse the little girl and encourage her to speak, but they got no reaction from Josette. Her glazed eyes turned towards her head wound. She slipped into a deeper and deeper coma. A neighbor, Madame Lambert, sent her daughter to seek a doctor. This took about an hour.

Doctor Galaine, a doctor known for his competence and availability, realized the urgent need of medical intervention. He drove straight to the Poulains' house. On his arrival, he noted the following:

- 1- The time between the incident and the onset of the coma.
- 2- The vomiting.
- 3- The left-sided facial paralysis with the gaze turned towards the wound, a right-sided hemiplegia (paralysis) and an active Babinski reflex in her feet (the sign of a brain or nervous system abnormality).
- 4- The slow pulse.
- 5- The deep coma.

He diagnosed an intracranial hematoma.

The doctor took the girl to his clinic, accompanied by the mother and the neighbor's daughter. He immediately called the surgeon who at that time was operating on a patient in a nearby town. In the meantime, the girl was still in a coma and was yet to receive any treatment. She was, however, being readied for a trepanation of her skull (the drilling of a hole to allow surgical access to the brain).

Her mother went home and on the way she met Josette's teacher, Sister Madeleine, who immediately asked her community of Combours to pray to Father de la Mennais. She gave a relic image to be placed under the little girl's pillow.

The surgeon arrived at around 8.45 pm He went straight to Josette together with Dr. Galaine. There they were surprised to find that the girl no longer had any of the symptoms: *"Coming out of the coma, she no longer showed signs of aphasia, nor the left facial paralysis, nor the right hemiplegia, nor the Babinski foot reflex, though her pulse was still slow and she still had the left temporal-parietal bruise with a particularly sore central spot."*

The two doctors believed there was no longer need for a trepanation. The girl remained in the clinic under observation for a week. She then went home in perfect health.

Here we have the cure that the Postulator retained as worthy of being presented to the Congregation of Rites.