

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

1937, No. 2

NOVEMBER

Kateri's Letter of Introduction

Thus read the letter of Father de Lamber-ville introducing Kateri to Father Cholenec, who with Fathers Frémin and Chauchetière, was then in charge of the mission: "Catharine Tegakwitha is going to live at the Sault. Will you kindly undertake to direct her? You will soon know what a treasure we have sent you. Guard it well! May it profit in your hands, for the glory of God and the salvation of a soul that is certainly very dear to Him."

Their first care was to lodge her with a pious family and naturally they selected the cabin of the one who had guided her from her home on the Mohawk, her brother-in-law as she called him. His kindness was to bring him and his family many graces. In the cabin was an elderly woman, Anastasie Tegenhatsiongo, who was like a mother to Kateri. She devoted her time to preparing women and young girls for baptism. What an entirely new environment it was, far from the scandals of the pagan village, free from the persecution of her own household, and brightened with the glow of an affection which she had never known! Gratitude added new incentive to her desire for an undivided service to God. She had long outgrown the disposition to know merely what she must avoid. Her sole thought now was to learn to do what was most pleasing to Him.

The chapel became her rendezvous whenever she left her cabin, from four in the

morning when the doors opened until all the Masses were over, often during the day, especially in winter and the rainy season when she could not work in the fields, and always for night prayers in the evening. On Sundays she spent most of the day, with the rest of the Mission, in the chapel, at the usual Mass in the morning, the Rosary, and in the afternoon with the Confraternity of the Holy Family, and at Vespers. At this last devotion, instead of psalms, the Indians used to chant things which the Fathers wished them to learn, a form of morning prayer, a prayer for Mass, another to the Guardian Angel, a fourth for Faith, a fifth, the Commandments.

"Prayer" was the word all these Indians used to express religion, the Faith, the Church and its teachings. They seemed to grasp that the essence of all religion is union, or communing with God especially by prayer. When at all in earnest they were fond of prayer, especially of prayer in common, and even its solitary practise became easy for them. In Catherine, faith enlivened every prayer and she soon realized that her relation with God was personal, that love of Him must be the only worthy motive of all she did for Him, that the slightest unfaithfulness was unthinkable, as it was a grievous offence in her eyes.

It was this purity of heart that led the missionaries to admit her to receive Holy Communion the Christmas Day after her

THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

arrival at St. Francis Xavier's, whereas they usually kept others waiting a year or more in preparation. After this the Eucharist became her one desire, and when she received it so great was her recollection, and so attractive her piety that other Indians liked to be near her as the sight of her increased their own devotion.

Winter was the hunting season and the hunt lasted four months. Few even of the women remained at home. Out over the snowbound St. Lawrence and through the denuded woods the men tracked and killed elk, bear, beaver, wildcat, fox, porcupine, otter and seal, the women bringing home the quarry, dressing the meat, preserving the skins, setting up the cabins, and doing the household work. This was the Indians' fondest occupation and often an occasion of license. The missionaries had gradually accustomed them to follow a simple rule of life during the hunting season, and to meet

daily as much as possible for prayer. They had calendars on birch bark marking Sunday, holydays and days of fasting and abstinence. Men were assigned to give the signal for prayer and to preside at it.

Catherine accompanied an adopted sister with her husband. She did her full share of work in camp and cabin. Not content with the prayers said in common, she made her own oratory in a glade of evergreens, carving on one of them the cross. Little did she imagine that her journey to and from this solitude was to be misconstrued by a woman of her own cabin who was jealous of her. After the hunt this woman denounced Kateri to the missionary, who, like all men of sense, insisted on getting the story of Catherine before forming a conclusion. Naturally he trusted her. In a short time the jealous accuser, unlike so many more civilized Christians, recognized her injustice and deplored it bitterly.

In the Court of Holiness—XIII

Six Months in the Congregation of Rites

On February 17 Cardinal Laurenti announced the formal introduction of the Cause of the Servants of God, Peter Olivaint, Leo Ducoudray, Alexis Clerc, John Coutert, and Anatole de Bengy, of the Society of Jesus, known as the Martyrs of the Commune, the communist riot in Paris, 1871.

It is a very busy Congregation and it has more to do than studying and advancing the cases submitted to it for the beatification and canonization of Servants of God. It has to regulate Divine worship and the doctrine and bestowal of the Sacraments.

How active this Congregation is may be estimated from the number of beatification

cases it reports to His Holiness in any six months.

In January, 1937, the members, Cardinals, Prelates and Consultors, considered the virtues of the Ven. John Nepomucen Tschiderer, Bishop of Trent.

Two weeks after they considered the introduction of the Cause of Adolph Petit, priest of the Society of Jesus, and the writings of Mari Notari, foundress of the Sisters Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament, of Leone Dupont and of Francis Coll, priest of the Order of Preachers.

A week later they inquired into the validity of an Apostolic Process that was presented to them from Florence; the processes

THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

on the miracles which were presented from two other dioceses; the Cause for the beatification and canonization of Justin de Jacobis, Bishop of Naples, and first Vicar Apostolic of Abyssinia, of the Congregation of St. Vincent de Paul; and the Causes of nine other Servants of God.

On February 22 six Causes were considered and two more on March 9 and 16. On March 16 the miracles attributed to Blessed Andrew Bobola were examined.

On April 6 inquiry was made into the heroism of the virtues practised by Francea Xavier Cabrini, foundress of the Missionary

Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; on April 20 the virtues of Domenico della Madre di Dio; and on April 27 the virtues of Piacida Viel.

In May and June four Causes were considered. The *Acta Apostolica Sedis* for June has the favorable decision of the Congregation on the miracles attributed to Blessed Andrew Bobola.

When it is taken into consideration how conscientious and painstaking all these Processes are, we can form some estimate of the labors of this Court. The virtues of Mother Cabrini were declared heroic October 18.

FROM TWO PHYSICIANS

One a Protestant

... Recently Mrs. D. has informed me that this sudden period of improvement in her daughter's condition has coincided very accurately with her wearing of a Relic of the Maid, Lily of the Mohawks, known as Kateri Tekakwitha, who is soon to be sanctified. Now it appears to me that this is and has been a considerable and possibly the principal factor in accounting for the girl's great improvement. At any rate, it has served to greatly re-enforce her faith in an ultimate cure and I feel greatly indebted for this great aid to me in accomplishing a re-

sult which of its very nature appears to be miraculous and hardly to be achieved by means of treatment administered by our very human and therefore often inadequate hands.

—Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Other Catholic

... I wish to verify what I believe to be a miraculous cure of a patient who was desperately ill with little hope of recovery. After having received the benefit of everything medicine had to offer, he still was in a precarious condition; and it was not until after a relic of Kateri was applied that he regained his health.

—Pa.

TEKAKWITHA'S MOST ATTRACTIVE SOUVENIR

Worked in wood, her image stands out like a statuette one-quarter inch from background, with Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawks, in raised letters.

The features are clear cut and drapery as distinct as in the favorite picture of her by Mother Nealis, of the Art School of the Sault, Canada.

The Gothic frame also stands out one-quarter inch and the arch is pointed and

pierced. It is called a plaque, but is more like a wood-carving. The wood is known as Barwood, with an admixture of wood from an oak-tree growing at her birthplace, Ossernenon (Auriesville), when she was born.

It is a graceful wall-piece, in oak finish, 5 3/4 x 3 inches. The price is 40 cents post-paid. It is a handsome Christmas gift.

All dealers in Catholic religious articles have this plaque.

THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS

THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF TEKAKWITHA

"The settlement of a will to my satisfaction, for which I thank the "Lily of the Mohawks" sincerely." —Brooklyn, N. Y.

"The Sister who is wearing the relic was prevented from undergoing an operation which the doctor said was unavoidable."
Milwaukee, Wis.

"After nine years of unsuccessful attempts to sell property, prayed to Kateri and after two months the property was sold satisfactorily."
—Bellville, Ont.

"Thanksgiving to Almighty God for having recently spared me from a horrible death in an elevator accident. The operator was killed, while I received some fractured ribs."
—Wheeling, W. Va.

"Mother Superior, Community and children wish to give thanks for a favor obtained to-day. A Superior asked Catherine to obtain one thousand dollars for a pressing debt. She obtained double the amount."
—N. S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

"My youngest sister became very ill and, at first, the doctors did not know what was wrong with her. However, they decided to take her to the hospital and operate. She was operated on at 8.30 in the evening. The doctors found her appendix had been ruptured three days and gangrene had set in. She is in very good health now. Everyone said that only the relic saved her life."
—Pittsburgh, Pa.

"In Texas, my father has a very large wheat farm. At this time of the year, it is necessary that he has rain, in order to plow the soil. About a month ago, there were scattered and general rains over the northern

part of Texas. It seemed that they were around my father's farm, missing it entirely. One Saturday afternoon, at Amarillo, Texas (about sixty miles from the farm), it clouded up, and I asked Kateri's intercession that it might rain on my father's farm. I told her that I would publish the account, should it rain within the next two days. By Monday afternoon, it had rained six showers, with a total precipitation of over two inches. I feel that this was a direct answer to my prayer. I have entrusted the crop for next year to her care."
—New York.

"We are overloaded with debt in Kouts. Since we have been praying to Tekakwitha our collections have gone up from twenty-five to fifty dollars every Sunday. I have also been very successful in the annual dinners and bazaars. Individual members of the parish have also realized success in business transactions, lost deposits in banks and otherwise. . . . September 5 we had our fall festival. On the way from the mission to my parish where I wanted to get things under way as soon as possible, I met with a terrible accident. Both cars were demolished, myself and the man with me and, the three boys in the other car were severely injured. Fortunately, none of us were killed; and I think I owe it to my scapular and the Lily of the Mohawks that we are alive, for I prayed to her that morning most sincerely. So Tekakwitha is not all money either, I see. I think she is for everything."
—Kouts, Ind.

Cures	40	Relief in Distress	5
Financial Aid	33	Property Sale	3
Positions Obtained	24	Examination Success	3
Spiritual	4	Not Specified	97

Make Tekakwitha Known

The Lily of the Mohawks Monthly Message . . . Subscribe at 60c. a year; 2 copies, \$1.00
Leaflets—I, cures—II, money aid, employment, etc.—III, Novena . . . 5c. each; 25c. a doz.
" —IV, special for priests and communities . . . " " "
Life, by Wynne, 64 pages, 3 illustrations . . . 25c. a copy; 5 for \$1.00; discount on quantities
Pictures, colored . . . 5 x 3 in., each 5c.; 10 x 13 1/2 in., each 40c.; discount on quantities
Plaque of Kateri, with wood of tree from her birthplace . . . 5 3/4 x 3 in., 40c.
Medals . . . Oxidized silver, 15c.; \$1.50 a doz.; aluminum, 50c. a doz.

(Prices include postage)

REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J., 226 E. FORDHAM ROAD, NEW YORK