

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

1938, No. 10

JULY

"The Glory of Our Race"-II

In the June number of this monthly message petitions to the Holy Father from the Indians in the United States, expressing desire for the beatification of Tekakwitha were described and illustrated. They have made a profound impression. The simple, or, let us say, natural and sincere tone of the people of her race appeals to everyone. They have an esprit de corps, and they like to make it known that they glory in one who shone like the star of those who lead others into justice. Saturday, June 11, Monsignor Vagnozzi, of the Apostolic Delegation, Washington, took these petitions, and the petitions of Indian Missions in Canada, to Rome to be presented to His Holiness Pius XI.

Now we have the petitions from Canada to describe and illustrate. They are quite different from those of the States. The sign language and the Indian alphabets are characteristic. The names of the tribes and of the chieftains and braves, women and children, are also peculiar to their own country, many of them in French, adopted, no doubt, or given by their missionaries.

Here are the names of some of the tribes:

CREE	SQUAMISH	WEYMONTACHING
CARRIER	SAUTEUX	MANCEWAN
SHUSHWAP	Iroquois	OBEDJIWAN
CHILCOLEN	SEKANESE	BLACKFEET
CHIPEWAYAN	MALICITE	TCHIPWEYAN
HAGWILGET	Місмас	CHESASSEN

And here are some of the 2,355 signatures:

CHIEF PIERRE	PANY ERMINSKIN
EMILIENNE HEADMAN	JIMMY LISTENER
CHARLIE ROASTING	JENNIE SMALL BOY
PATRICK FIRESTONE	MADELIENE LIGHTNING
JOSEPH SHORTNECK	HELEN CUTKNIFE
NANCY TWINS	MARY LOUISE RATTLESNAKE

Such names among the Cree Indians doubtless were given as Tekakwitha was given to Kateri, descriptive of some trait of character, "She moveth all before her," and she does. Other names in the Blood Indian Reserve are: Chief F. Red Crow, Willie Eagle Plume, Mike Blood, Jim Big Throat, Tom M. Owl, Pete Bruised Head, Jim Whiteman, Jim Many Feathers, Buster Mills.

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[From Fort Smith, see next page]

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Holy Father, Tekakwitha is the glory of our race and we would love to have her declared Saint because she was so good and it will help us to follow her example.

Senniserato Kenti.

Diawens ne iosnore aiakosennaren tsi iesennaronnion n'Akoiatato-Kentison akosenna ne Kateri Tekah Kwitha Kiken Katsitsiio On Kwe onweke Teiotsitsiane Karon.

St. Regis Reservation Chaf Saksari Astiskourne Chief Sose Ositakete Chief Louis Alsitainienton

Most interesting, however, is what is written in these letters of petition. Here is one from Chief Peter Squirrel that will surely appeal to the Holy Father:

"To the Great Father of the Prayer, Rome.

"I am the old chief of the Indians living in Fort Smith, Canada. My hand shakes as I am writing for I know that You are Great. But our good Bishop Breynat told us that You were our Father and You loved us very much. For this reason I am pleased to write You a few words to ask You for a favor in the name of all my subjects. We would all be so glad if You would declare 'Holy' one of our country, maiden Catherine Tekakwitha. It would encourage us to pray better and be good Christians.

"I am 86 years old and I stay at the hospital of Fort Smith where I am well treated by the Sisters. Perhaps tomorrow God will

call for me. How I should be happy to learn before I die that you have said 'Yes' to my demand.

"Your Son that loves and prays for you,
"Peter Squirrel."

Here is another from the Chipewayans at Fort-on-Moose Island:

"This is for the Father of the Prayer, Our Great Father,

"We, Chipewyans, have heard also how the maiden Kateri Tekakwitha always lived. We also know that through this saintly maiden God has performed many miracles, showing He too has her in saintly esteem. Therefore, we too Chipewyans, in union with many bishops who have asked You, are earnestly and humbly praying that you declare through your voice, that she lived a saint and is now in heaven so that we can publicly pray her. Kissing Your ring, with all our heart

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we thank You. I, the Chief of the Chipewyans, say this in the name of all my people. (Signed) "ALEXIS BEAULIEU."

The Blue Quills School writes, and Roseamma Cardinal signs for them:

"His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, Rome, Italy. "Most Holy Father:

how you are taking the place of Jesus Christ here on earth, that you are the successor of St. Peter and that whatever you say is always the truth because Jesus Christ said that the Holy Ghost would always be with you and therefore we ask you to tell all the people all ower the world that Catherine Tekakwitha is in Heaven and that you allow us to have her statue in our Church, so that we may pray

to her as we are now praying to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus. We would be very happy if we could do the same to our Indian Saint, Catherine Tekakwitha, because we feel sure she is in Heaven because she obtained already many favours and graces for many people who have asked her to pray for them.

"Dear Holy Father, if you will grant us what we ask you, we would be encouraged to imitate the virtues she practised when she was on earth, especially her purity, her love of

penance and her obedience.

"So dear Holy Father, we heard that you were healed through the intercession of St. Theresa and we were very glad to hear that. We shall continue to pray for you, that you will remain many years yet with your children who are scattered all over the world and

Holy Father,

We Indians Natley people, Stella
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people , Huncha Lake people, B.C. Canada, Our father hwetenney, Huncha Lake hwetenney, B.C. Canada, Neypa

et Rome to ezdethenil hokwazninzen we all at Rome to tell we want hweni tsyauh

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to to pray one day the same way Saint Agnes and tse thezdethitli itloh dzin tsyauh Nto Agnes inkez

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Saint Teresa to them we pray was.

Nto Teresa he petsen thenazdetli Andley

CHIEF MAXIME GEORGE, CHIEF DAVID, CHIEF ISIDORE, CHIEF PADDY ISAAC, CHIEF THOMAS PETER, CHIEF KEOME MORICE.

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with whom we join to tell you our love and to console you by our fidelity to our Christian duties and asking for your blessing, we remain,

"Your humble children of the Blue Quills School, per ROSEANNA CARDINAL."

In four languages the Kamloops Indian School ask:

"We, the little Indian children of the Shushwap Tribe, kneeling at Your feet, humbly beg Your Holiness, Pope Pius XI, the Common Father of all Christians to beatify our little sister, Kateri Tekakwitha." From the Cariboo Indian School, St. Joseph's Mission, British Columbia:

"To Our Father the Pope—Chief of all the Catholics in the world:

"We kneel down before you our Father the Pope to ask you to have Kateri Tekakwitha 'beatified,' as the white men call it. We like her. She helps us sometimes in our sickness and gives us a strong heart in our struggle against soil. We are all Catholics—1,400 of us in this district and try to do what our priests, O. M. I., tell us to do. Not one sawash or Indian has been beatified."

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The Cause of Tekakwitha

In his radio message to the Quebec Eucharistic Congress, the Holy Father spoke of Tekakwitha as one of the glories of her people.

The Historical Section of the Congregation of Rites has finished its work on the Cause of Tekakwitha, and the Relator-General will now present his favorable Report to the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation.