

## THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



## THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. V, No. 6

MARCH, 1941

### TEKAKWITHA AN INSPIRATION

Many a communication from missionaries among Indians might be published to show that she is an inspiration for them now as she was during her life and notably after her death. One such inspiration, which may be considered a by-product of veneration for her, is the development of an industry, or rather an art, among the Cœur d'Alene Indians at Desmet, Idaho. It promises not only to provide largely for the support of the reservation, but also to give men, women and children a new purpose in life, to improve their habits, and to Christianize their natural good traits. Gradually it is becoming known to Indians on other reservations and they will also thrive by it and grow better. It serves to show the benefit of making Tekakwitha known and loved.

About five years ago, as interest in the Indian Maiden was developing, a Sister of Charity of Providence at the Cœur d'Alene Mission formed a club of the women there and named it the Kateri Club. It appealed strongly to the members, in fact, inspired them to do something worth-while out of devotion to their patron. They began to work on leather with crude material at first, refining it gradually until now it is considered fit for the market of high-class leather goods. The enterprise has the encouragement and aid of the government in Washington and leading dealers in leather goods are competing for the Kateri Products.

### HER CHIEF DEVOTEE

Very many who while on earth pleaded for the success of the Cause of Tekakwitha are, we may piously believe, now pleading in heaven for its happy termination. They are there, we trust, in company with this Servant of God. One of the latest to leave us, on January 28, the Reverend Arthur Melancon, of the Society of Jesus, not only pleaded, but worked earnestly to bring about her canonization. He was custodian of the precious archives that are kept in St. Mary's College, Montreal, among them the principal documents relating to Tekakwitha. Without these it would have been love's labor lost to attempt to bring about her canonization. He was more than an ordinary custodian. Not only was he familiar with the contents of these documents, but he was keenly interested in them. In the earlier days of his priesthood, he was an assistant at St. Francis Xavier's, Caughnawaga, Canada, where her relics are kept. When invited to give testimony about her before the tribunal which instituted the process for her canonization in Albany, although he was beginning to feel the infirmities of age, he came gladly from Montreal, edifying the members of the tribunal by his simplicity and amusing them by his gentle humor. It was touching to receive his letters, always prompt, to the point, full of information imparted with the ease of the expert, and always with prayer for Kateri's canonization.

## VIRTUES OF KATERI, IV — CHARITY

When asked by the tempting doctor of the law, which is the great commandment in the law, Jesus replied: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind." Simple words, but how few dwell on them and fewer still act upon them!

One of the habits of Saint Ignatius was to take simple words seriously, to take one at a time, love, heart, soul, mind, fathom the meaning of each, and test his own observance of it. Most people take such words in a general way, take for granted they know all they mean, and never know what love of God really is.

Tekakwitha learned from the missionaries what our Lord meant by love of the heart, the soul, the mind, and in her simple manner took them seriously. She knew what it was to set her heart on anything, to feel her soul, that is, her whole being attracted to something, and to have her mind, that is, her thoughts so occupied with this object that there was no room for anything else. Night and day she had God present in her thoughts; night and day she had in her thoughts and affections what she had heard of God's power, goodness, love of mankind. The more she saw of the evils surrounding her, the more she felt attracted to the goodness of the Great Spirit Who so loved her that He gave His only Son for her salvation.

Saint Joseph is primary Patron of Canada. Recently the Holy See has approved as secondary patrons the Martyrs John de Brebeuf and Companions. The hierarchy of Canada has appointed a committee to study and promote the lives, virtues, and renown for sanctity of all the holy men and women who were connected with the origins of that country when it was known as New France.

## GLIMPSES OF HEAVEN — IV

What is life in heaven like? A part answer to the question is in the prayer in the Mass beginning, *Nobis quoque peccatoribus (To us sinners)*, in which, hoping in the multitude of God's mercies, we ask fellowship with the Apostles and Martyrs, with John the Baptist, Stephen the first martyr, Mathias (chosen apostle in place of Judas), Barnabas (the companion of Saint Paul), with the Saints Agatha, Lucy, Agnes, Cecilia "into whose company we beseech Thee to admit us, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences."

It is a sublime invocation, opening up a vision of the glorious company gathered in the heavenly realm about the Throne of God. It makes us think of Saint Peter, his brother Andrew, John the Apostle of love, the great Augustine, Ambrose, Athanasius, Chrysostom, Martin of Tours, Patrick, Boniface, Thomas of Canterbury, Bridget, Elizabeth, Theresa, Joan of Arc, and the host of God's holy ones, whom we regard now with awe.

It is an invocation which leads us to recall the holy men, women and children, whom we have actually known and revered for their goodness here on earth, among them, thank God, some of our own—an invocation for reunion in the dwelling of peace and eternal happiness. O Heavenly City, Jerusalem, blessed vision of Peace!

The hierarchy of the United States is about to forward to the Holy See a petition to approve of instituting one process for the canonization of all the Early Martyrs who died for the faith within its territory. These Martyrs were over one hundred Secular priests, Franciscans, Dominicans, Jesuits, where there are now thirteen States and many dioceses.



"My class prays daily and sings the Kateri Tekakwitha hymn in her honor. We are begging so many favors." —St. Louis, Mo.

"A very good friend of mine has just come out victorious in a contest for state senator in a nearby state. His statement to me was 'Tekakwitha did it.'"—Belfast, Me.

It is a new thing when a legacy comes to the Vice-Postulator of the Cause of Tekakwitha, but may it not be unusual! Since our last issue there were two legacies in our favor, one a U. S. Government bond for fifty dollars, and another for Masses. Most of these Masses are celebrated in Rome by those who are helping there to advance the Cause of Tekakwitha.

"Our Annual Thanksgiving Bazaar, being our sole means to keep our small parish of fourteen families and our priest, a lot depends on the weather. This year it looked as if a genuine dust storm was on its way, but it cleared. She has helped the last three years regardless of dust storms the day before or after." —Milesville, S. D.

As a test for acquiring a certificate as a trained librarian at the Catholic University, Richard X. Evans submitted a list of books, pamphlets and articles in periodicals about Kateri Tekakwitha which were published prior to June, 1940. This bibliography appeared in the 1940 July and August numbers of *Le Bulletin des Recherches Historiques*, Quebec. It is an evidence of the widespread and continued interest in the saintly Indian Maiden.

One of the members of the Historical Section of the Congregation of Rites, Monsignor John P. Kirsch, departed this life on February 5. He was a very learned historian and Director of the Pontifical Institute of Archaeology. He had written very many val-

uable articles for the Catholic Encyclopedia and had thus come into contact with the editors and become familiar with subjects of North-American interest like Tekakwitha, so that he was fully competent to pass judgment on the documents concerning her.

"The children of the primary grades at Sacred Heart Academy, Waterflow, New Mexico, organized a mission unit, November 1, 1940. We named it Kateri Tekakwitha Mission Unit, as the purpose of our unit is to help to take care of the souls of the Indians in our diocese. We promised Kateri when we organized our unit if by Christmas we could raise the sum of twenty dollars we would send you one dollar to help her Cause along. She surely answered our prayers for we have now thirty-five dollars to give to Father Clementin to help take care of the Indians."

## Tekakwitha League

*Founded when Kateri died, 1680*

*To cherish her memory*

*To venerate and imitate her virtues*

*To invoke her for all manner of blessings*

*To have her declared Blessed and Saint*

*Members are daily recommended by*

*the V. Postulator for her Canonization*

*Rev. John J. Wynne, S. J., and his associates*

*in Holy Mass and the Divine Office*

*The Universal prayer of the Church*

*recited by priests an hour every day*

*Offering, \$1.00 or more*

*An attractive certificate is sent to all members*

*Your departed may be enrolled*

"I prayed to Kateri for the return of a stolen car. It was recovered."—Portage, Pa.

"Two Mass offerings in thanksgiving for favors received through her intercession."

—Windthorst, Tex.

"In thanksgiving for my sister's restoration to health, I enclose an offering towards the beatification of Kateri."—Chillicothe, O.

"Acknowledging a favor partially granted, I promised to distribute leaflets to acquaint people with her Cause and pray for her canonization."

—Detroit, Mich.

"In thanksgiving for a favor received through her intercession, I am enclosing one dollar for some leaflets to distribute and further veneration for her." —Columbus, O.

"I promised to distribute 100 leaflets, either No. 1 or 2 for favors received, to help further her Cause, so I am enclosing check to defray the cost."

—Chicago, Ill.

"During the month of December, my aunt, a nun, prayed that I would get a better position by Christmas. A few days before, I got a promotion that I never even expected. Another niece also was benefited by Kateri."

—Philadelphia, Pa.

"My boy met with an accident and I promised her if she would help him to get along nicely and get back to work, I would

send something for her Cause. Thanks to her wonderful intercession, he recovered and is back to work."

—Collingswood, N. J.

"I wanted to receive a letter from my brother for Christmas who had not written since we both left the old home eighteen years ago. I did not receive it for Christmas, instead it came yesterday, and was greatly appreciated."

—Fort Lyon, Col.

"I needed a job very badly. That was quite a while ago before Christmas. I started praying to her and I got a job almost at once. It was temporary, but soon after I got another almost immediately."

—Topeka, Kan.

"For several years we have been making novenas, and making small sacrifices to the end that our sister might find some sort of permanent employment which might make her self-supporting. This past Fall I began praying daily for the intercession of Kateri. In a few weeks she obtained a temporary job, then another, then a permanent position which provides quite amply for her needs."

—Greeley, Neb.

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures .....	10	Financial .....	7
Positions .....	3	Examination Success ..	1
Not Specified .....	30		

#### PETITIONS

Cures .....	18	Relief in Distress .....	2
Positions .....	7	Examination .....	5
Financial .....	18	Not Specified .....	23

#### OBITUARY

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter John Kirsch, Vatican City.  
Rev. Arthur Melancon, S.J., Montreal, Canada.  
Rev. J. Baker, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

#### TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

(Prices include postage)

Sketch by our Apostolic Delegate ..... 5c. a copy  
Life, by Wynne, 64 pages, 3 illustrations .. 20c. a copy  
Leaflets with prayer and remarkable favors  
5c. each; 20c. a doz.  
Novena Leaflets ..... 5c. each; 20c. a doz.

Tekakwitha book-marks ..... 10c. a doz.  
Pictures, colored, large ..... 13 x 10 in., 40c.  
" sepia, small ..... 5 x 3 in., 5c.  
Pictures, colored, silk applied to her relics, 5 x 3 in., 10c.  
Medals ..... Oxid. silver, 15c.; aluminum, 50c. a doz.

REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J., *V. Postulator of Her Cause*  
226 EAST FORDHAM ROAD, NEW YORK