

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. VII, No. 5

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THE LATEST ABOUT THE CAUSE OF TEKAKWITHA

It is genuine pleasure for a V. Postulator, before taking up a newspaper of a morning, to be handed clippings announcing a new step forward in the Cause with which he is concerned. The pleasure grows as he is hailed along the roadway by wayfarers, not all of them Catholic, who express hearty satisfaction that a Servant of God is nearer beatification.

On the Eve of the Epiphany, of all days, this was the news greeting the V. Postulator for the Cause of the beatification of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. The Cardinals of the Congregation of Rites had met in the library of His Holiness, Pius XII, to listen to their Secretary, Monsignor Carinci, read the Decree declaring that the Servant of God, Kateri Tekakwitha, was virtuous to an heroic degree, and that she may therefore be considered Venerable.

As early as last June His Holiness had approved of the findings of the Congregation and authorized this Decree, but time and care were needed to formulate it, since it is the result of years of the study of the documents which testify to these virtues, and of the proofs that belief in her heroic virtue existed during her life and ever since her death.

Of all days the Epiphany was appropriate for promulgating this Decree, the day con-

secrated as the manifestation of the Divinity of Christ Our Lord to the Gentiles, that is, to all the world and to every person in it, barbarous as well as civilized, even to the Red Indian. It fell on Tuesday this year, and Tuesday is the day set apart for meetings of the Congregation of Rites. Usually on the first Tuesday, the Cardinals of the Congregation adopt the program for the meetings, or sessions, as they are termed officially, throughout the year. They would therefore determine the dates for considering the steps to be taken in regard to various Servants of God, the Introduction of the Cause for some, the virtues of others, and apparent miracles of others still. Now that the virtues of Tekakwitha have been declared heroic, there remain for investigation only the miracles attributed to her, and according to the press the dates for that have been determined.

When the press tells us that the beatification will occur this year, we may hope so; but we know that this would be extraordinary, since the procedure is very definite and particular. Miracles attributed to Tekakwitha are actually under investigation, and they seem certain of proof. With due prayer on our part there will be no undue delay. So let us pray!

By An Eye-witness at Tekakwitha's Home

1680

A great loss and a great profit was also incurred this year. The earth lost and heaven gained. The mission gave to Paradise a treasure which had been sent to it two years before, to wit, the blessed soul of Katharine Tegakouita, who died on the seventeenth of April.

The esteem in which she was held during her life, the help which many have had from her since her death, the honors which they have continued to render her, and various other circumstances which adorned her life, have made her very well known throughout this country.

She served the mission by her good example; but we can say that she served it more after her death, for her lifeless body serves here as argument to the savages that the faith is worthy of credence, and her prayers continually aid this mission. We may say that she now enters into participation of all the good which is done in it, and which has been done here since her death.

At the hour of her decease, the Viaticum was carried to her in her cabin. This was not yet customary; the sick people were carried to church on a litter of bark, when giving them the Viaticum, in order to inspire the savages with the respect which is due to the Blessed Sacrament. The savages do not account themselves worthy that Our Lord should Himself take the trouble of going to seek them, however sick they may be.

The demon, who saw the glorious success of this mission, used another kind of battery. Transfiguring himself as an angel of light, he urged on the devotion of some persons who wished to imitate Katharine, or to do severe penance for their sins. He drove them even into excess. In order, no doubt, to render Christianity hateful even at the start; or in order to impose upon the girls and women of this mission, whose discretion has

never equaled that of Katharine, whom they tried to imitate.

1681

Who could relate the joy which each one felt at seeing the Reverend Father Frémin again in his mission? But an extraordinary prodigy which appeared in the sky once more disturbed people's minds. This was the great comet which appeared in autumn. The rumor of war kept all Canada in suspense.

Five days after the apparition of the comet, God blessed the mission; for it was then that a sick man, who had been given up, was cured the next day, after he had invoked the name of Katharine of the Sault. This prodigy of the earth did not yet appear sufficient to outweigh that of the sky. The people then commended themselves chiefly to the Saints of the country; and also, at that place of the Sault, addressed themselves to Katharine.

—CHAUCHETIÈRE.

HE DISTRIBUTED THE 3,000

"Kateri Tekakwitha, whose V. Postulator you are, has granted me a great favor. According to a promise I made, I shall help to make her known. Therefore, please let me know what 3,000 leaflets would cost, something on the style of the enclosed leaflet you sent me some time ago. I would ask you to kindly refrain from any public reference to this favor to me '*nominatim*.' With best wishes for continued success in the Cause and a Most Blessed Christmas."

—Pastor, Baltimore, Md.

TEKAKWITHA SEWING CLUB

A generous, well-disposed benefactor, who does not wish to have his name disclosed, is the author of the Kateri Tekakwitha Sewing Club. Less than two years ago the hand of death deprived him of his good sister, Catherine. In her memory he proposed an organization at St. Michael's Mission consisting

of Indian girls who are adepts at the needle. They mend and knit and sew. Complete dresses and fancy work are the products of their dexterous fingers. Last year one of the girls made a unique quilt that was the admiration of all visitors.

Our anonymous kind benefactor sends his monthly offering of \$5.00 to the Club with punctilious regularity. This furnishes the material that the girls need.

—*Northern Lights*.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY—NEW FORM

"At the suggestion of one of our Sisters, I began saying daily the 'Prayer for Catherine's Canonization and for Special Favors,' petitioning financial help to reduce our hospital indebtedness, and promising a letter of acknowledgment if the favor were granted. In a very short time we received money from several unexpected sources, together with increased monthly income from patients.

"About six months ago it seemed necessary to purchase new equipment; however, our debt was still too large to do this. Four months later we were able to purchase the particular machine, but found that the war rationing had prevented further manufacture. In spite of this, prayers asking Catherine's help continued daily, and about one month later we were notified that the company had one new machine available as it had been built before the rationing began."

—Wichita, Kan.

A MISSIONARY KEEPS THE SCORE

"Some years ago you kindly sent me a relic of Catherine Tekakwitha and, from that time, I have reported certain cures attributed to her. The following will bring things up-to-date:

"(1) One of our fourteen-year-old Indian boys recently climbed to the top of our rather high barn and decided to jump on to a pile of hay. He missed the hay, landing heavily on his feet. He was carried to his

bed and our really competent nurse said that at least one leg was broken. He was taken to the hospital where, after examining the boy, the doctor said that he had sustained a severe fracture, the exact extent of which would be shown by X-ray on the morrow. To the surprise of the doctor, the X-ray showed no fracture; we had prayed to Catherine Tekakwitha.

"(2) A fifteen-year-old girl severely cut her thumb on the day on which she was to have returned to school. Seven or nine, I forget which, stitches had to be taken. She arrived here, a month later, and, as she could hardly move her thumb, the doctor decided to suture the tendon. All went well until infection set in a few days after the operation, and it looked as if the girl would lose her arm (which was filled with pus) or her life. Again, we did a little praying to Catherine and I lent the girl the relic; in a very short time, she was well, and she can now use her thumb. The doctor felt very bad about the mishap and told me that, after things went wrong, he had read up on the case and had found that he should have done nothing for six months.

"(3) In October, a rather weak thirteen-year-old Indian girl came to school. She had had pneumonia and then an appendectomy had to be performed on her and the M.D. was quite proud of the success of the less-than-fifteen-minute operation. Pneumonia set in and the doctor (an exceptionally excellent M.D. with forty years of practice) was not only deeply affected (he hadn't had a case of pneumonia after an operation in ten years and it had to happen in this case with which he was particularly pleased), but disheartened. The girl's weakness, high temperature and case history made him practically give up hope. He didn't expect her to live. Again we prayed and used the relic—the girl recovered."

—Cranbrook, British Columbia.

"For request granted through the Indian Maiden."
—Bethesda, Md.

"Enclosed please find money order in thanksgiving for obtaining a position for my son."
—Brooklyn, N. Y.

"I am herewith sending another check to help along. She has brought blessings to my work."
—Tucson, Ariz.

"We have been saying the prayer for her canonization since January and have received many favors through her."—Brooklyn, N. Y.

"Please accept the enclosed contribution to the furtherance of the Cause of Kateri Tekakwitha, through whose intercession I have received many favors."—Geneva, N. Y.

"Enclosed five dollars is a thanksgiving offering to Kateri Tekakwitha for two favors granted, a position obtained for my sister, also for a friend."—Long Island City, N. Y.

"We received a donation of fifty dollars which is possibly a part of the three hundred we are asking of Tekakwitha. I am enclosing one-tenth for her."
—Houston, Tex.

"Protection of an eye which had a serious injury and was healed almost immediately. The grace given to a patient in hospital of receiving the Sacraments after refusal to go to confession."
—St. Louis, Mo.

"This is a thank offering for favors received through the intercession of Catherine

Tekakwitha. I hope also that in a small way it may help to further her Cause at Rome."
—Grinnell, Ia.

"Please pray for a nephew, Arthur McEvoy, who is missing in action, after receiving a silver star medal for taking MacArthur M.T.B. boats. Also for nephew, who is on verge of nervous breakdown."
—Methuen, Mass.

"I am sending \$2.00 to help little Tekakwitha's Cause for Sainthood for a favor obtained for me. I could not sleep and I appealed to her to help me and to get away from sedatives and she did."
—St. James, Minn.

"A couple of months ago I wrote you asking that my nephew would be left in Camp Roberts, Davis, California. I feel like my prayers have been answered. He is still in the office. I am asking again if he will be left there for always during the war. He has a very frail mother and such a good Christian—for her sake."
—Davis, Cal.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	4	Property Sale	1
Financial Aid	5	Relief in Distress	3
Employment	5	Not Specified	71
Examination Success ..	1		

PETITIONS

Cures	11	Relief in Distress	11
Financial Aid	5	Spiritual	1
Employment	4	Not Specified	17
Examination Success ..	3		

Obituary

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Albert E. Smith, Baltimore, Md.
Rev. James Hanlon, Dysart P.O., Pa.
E. J. Lynett, Scranton, Pa.

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