

Fairest flower that ever



# THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

Vol. IX, No. 12

SEPTEMBER, 1945

## AFTER ALL THESE YEARS

Three hundred years ago devoted missionarties were doing all in their power to make Christians of the benighted and savage peoples whom they found in the forests of New France. They were highly cultured priests amd sisters whose one motive was to save souls; and in those regions they meant to redeem men, women and children from the lowest depths of degradation.

For this purpose these heroic men and women crossed the perilous seas, often sufferimg shipwreck; for this they sacrificed every human comfort, living in wretched hovels, om meagre and insipid food, in momentary dunger of a cruel death after long and rewolting tortures.

For years they made comparatively few Christians, usually women, and dying children whom they succeeded in baptizing. Many of them were put to death by savage Indians, and others perished in destitution and exposure.

Their chief enemies were the Mohawks, a branch of the Iroquois family, who never gave them and their converts any peace. When boldly they established a refuge in Canada for the better disposed Indians of many tribes, even some Mohawks flocked to its peaceful precincts. For many years at Laprairie and later at Caughnawaga, this

Christian haven remained in spite of attacks by more warlike Iroquois, until finally its Jesuit missionaries were withdrawn on the advent of the British into Canada.

Fortunately other priests were ready to continue their work, but their lot was not only exile but defamation. Their courage and endurance were admitted, but the nobility of their motive was denied. Historians belittled them as time servers for the French Government; their zeal and self-sacrifice were looked upon as religious fanaticism ending ignominiously with paltry results.

The years have gone by and lengthened into centuries when, lo and behold, just one, only one, of the fruits of their apostolic mission shines forth in splendor. In the Mohawk Valley and on the border of the St. Lawrence they nurtured one tender plant which has left a fragrance of holiness even now pervading most distant regions, delighting with its odor thousands upon thousands and leading them to fashion themselves on its beauty—the Lily of the Mohawks, our Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha.

Had Tekakwitha been the only fruit of their ministry, the missionaries would have considered their labors well repaid. One such soul was for them the pearl of great price, the image and child of God.

## TEKAKWITHA'S SIGHT WAS POOR

"I am most grateful for the relic you so kindly lent and which I am returning today by insured mail. You will be pleased to know that our Pastor's sight has improved through prayer and the application of the relic. Monsignor and I feel confident of the canonization of our dear Indian friend."

-New Britain, Conn.

## THE SAINTS HONOR US MORTALS

"It seems that there is no end to the things we want her to do for us. Does she find apartments? Or shouldn't we burden her with things like that? I have great faith in her, but sometimes I think they must get tired in heaven listening to the queer things we mortals pray for and which we think are so very important. I hope I do not sound flippant for I sincerely think that they are always willing to help us in everything if we pray to them."

—Cincinnati.

#### IN CONSTANT TREPIDATION

"Two years ago, if you remember, I wanted a favor from your favorite Kateri. It was to protect my church and the village from the danger of falling rocks from the top of the island. For companions I gave her St. Therese and the Sacred Heart. Previous to that one rock had damaged the church; other boulders are hanging dangerously. But for the last two years none of them budged. I am sending you a small money-order to forward the Cause of Kateri."

-King Island, Alaska.

## A MOTHER SPEAKING

"April of last year our oldest boy attending his last year in high school received a V-12 scholarship in the Navy, but was turned down physically on account of imperfect eyes. He had been working in the shipyards at night and attending school at day, and had received a leg injury a few weeks before his Navy examination. In October of the past year he was placed as

apprentice seaman in the Navy with no very bright future. I applied to Kateri, and through her help he again received a scholarship and this time passed physically, and in early July takes his studies up in the V-12 unit at Trinity College. Am enclosing \$6.00 for which please say three Masses—one in thanksgiving and two for his success."

-Portland, Ore.

## ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

"Thanks to Kateri for reconciling a young war married couple. Two years ago a Mexican school girl married a Catholic soldier on his way to the war against Hitler. Two months after the veteran's discharge a reunion of the old veteran group disrupted the married couple. Both the girl and her veteran husband came to the rectory to get their consciences clean. The girl prayed to Kateri and cherished her relic. Next day they made up with each other in presence of the priest who had married them. Thanks to Kateri who was invoked alone."

-San Antonio, Tex.

#### THAT BLESSED LEAFLET

"I promised the little Lily of the Mohawks that if I got out of debt, which was thousands of dollars, I would write to you. We had property worth many thousands, but my husband got ill. It looked like we would lose all. I was given a leaflet of little Kateri Tekakwitha; I prayed and before my husband passed away we sold the property, paid all bills, and I have enough to take care of me. I have received many other answers to prayer. I have never stopped asking the Holy Mother and the little Lily to watch over my son, Jerry, in this terrible war."

-San Francisco.

#### A FITTING REMEMBRANCE

"Mrs. H. died after an automobile accident in Arkansas, where she was stationed in the Army Nurse Corps. She was a Catholic, as is her brother. The brother gave me the

rosary his sister received at her confirmation when a small child, and because I appreciate his trust and the beautiful gift I thought enrolling her in the League would be one way of showing appreciation.

"My son, the marine, and who was wounded at Iwo Jima, is still receiving wonderful protection from our Venerable Katherine, and we're all extremely grateful.

"I'd like to add for interest, that Mrs. H. worked among the Indians here in Oklahoma and in the southwest in her nursing profession and was loved by everybody."

-Pawhuska, Okla.

#### MAY IT CONTINUE

"So far everything has been granted that I have requested in the interest of my family. It may please you to know that my son, for whom I have made a plea many times, received his law degree from Loyola University of Chicago on June 23. Though in the ervice, he never lost an opportunity to better himself. If left here he will take the bar exam in only two subjects Then I hope he will have his sheepskin. Tekakwitha's Cause will be remembered generously at that time. Only a miracle could have brought it to a successful ending. Kind regards and may you live to have your Cause in behalf of Tekakwitha realized!" -Oak Park, Ill.

#### A LIVELY RECOVERY

"I want to thank you for your prompt reply to my plea for the leaflets and prayers to Catherine Tekakwitha. I gave them to a number of people, and asked them to pray for my son-in-law's operation, which was performed the first Friday in June. Our family doctor and a few others were present and witnessed what they term a serious and a most perfect operation ever performed on any man whose whole life depended on the skill of a Catholic surgeon. He could not take ether because of a heart condition, and because of the nature of the operation. He

was fed through his veins for ten days and had three transfusions, and we owe his recovery to Venerable Catherine Tekakwitha. Today he has fully recovered and is able to run his car, go fishing every week, and will return to his office cured. Everyone of us are amazed at his wonderful comeback as his condition pointed to a growth which if left any longer would have proved fatal."

—West Philadelphia.

## MISHAP AT KATERI'S TOMB

"Divine Providence on the afternoon of May 22 has done what we thought nobody here would do: pull down the cross. Yes, a very strong wind struck the kiosque and the cross was separated from it and fell near the shore without any damage. That was a real shock for us all, but after the first surprise we realized that the cross was intact, so we erected it again on the same spot apart from the kiosque. We hope that as it is, the cross will stand for another year, and then we will be ready to erect the new structure over the tomb. A year later, if everything is successful, the permanent cross will be erected. Our bishop, Monsignor Forget, is very pleased and wants the collection to begin this very summer. In July we will form our committee and begin the work of publicity, propaganda and contribution."

-Pastor, Laprairie.

## TEKAKWITHA AND AN INDIAN MISSION

"I prayed almost every day for a school our missionary needed very much, and he purchased not only the school but a building for a convent also. I say those prayers in honor of the three Kings whose relics are in Cologne's Cathedral to get the dictators out of the way. Two are gone; how long the third will last I do not know, but may I ask your prayers to drive those isms from the hearts of men that our Holy Mother Church be free in peaceful devotion to God and souls."

—Sister M. W., Abilene, Kan.

". . . the promise of a daily community prayer in common." —Hays, Mont.

"I promised these subscriptions to Kateri for helping me to find my ration book."

-East Liverpool, O.

". . . to thank her for all she has done, is doing, and will do for me, and all of us."

-North Lancaster, Canada.

"Please find enclosed an offering that I promised if we sold our home. Catherine Tekakwitha has answered many of my requests."

—Syracuse, N. Y.

". . . for a wonderful answer to obtain work for my brother-in-law received through the intercession of Venerable Tekakwitha."
—St. Louis.

"Enclosed is an offering I promised Ven. Katherine Tekakwitha if I received a discount on a debt I was compelled to pay. Today a check for a refund arrived."

-Bristol, Pa.

"I am thanking you so much for your prayers and for Catherine Tekakwitha's prayers. I have been able to pay my rent and I see possibilities of paying my other bills."

—Washington, D. C.

"Thank you and thank God for all the favors I have received, some of them no doubt through the help of Venerable Tekakwitha. My foot is almost cured. I can walk miles at one time; I am 72 you know."

-Philadelphia.

"Some time back I had asked her to let me get enough money to buy a few small houses Now I have realized my ambition. Many thanks. I will ask you to please send me a few images, so that I can spread her faith to others."

—Lafayette, La.

"Enclosed please find a check which I promised Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha if she would obtain for me the cure of a throat ailment and eliminate the need of an operation. Doctors don't talk much, but certainly my doctor did not waste time in dismissing me when I returned for an examination."

-Pine Grove, Ky.

"Enclosed is two dollars for the Cause of Venerable Tekakwitha. I have made a novena to her all this month for my eyes and did not have to undergo an operation on the 24th. The doctor told me the eye shows definite signs of improvement when usually in cases of this kind medicine never helps."

-Columbus, Q

#### ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures 5	Relief in Distress 8
Financial Aid 2	
Salary Increase 1	Not Specified25
PETI'	TIONS
Cures 8	Salary Increase 7

 Cures
 8
 Salary Increase
 7

 Financial Aid
 10
 Safety
 10

 Not Specified
 20

## **Ohituary**

Mrs. Mary C. Hagerty, South Boston, Mass. Miss Catherine G. Tierney, Boston, Mass.

#### TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

### LEAFLETS

I—Medallion, prayer, sketch, favors.
 II—Novena, with daily reflexion.
 5c. for 2; 25c. a dozen

#### LIFE

By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 12c.

#### MEDAL

Image and title "Lily of the Mohawks," special metal, 15c.; silver, 60c.

## **PICTURES**

	FICTURES	
Small-	with sketch and prayer lithograph, color, sketch and prayer lithograph, color, silk applied to relians	10c.
Large-	Large—lithograph in color, 12½ x 8½ inches, mounted so as to need no frame; for class or private room	

Prices include postage Reduction on quantity

REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J., V. Postulator for Her Canonization 317 East Fordham Road, New York 58, N. Y.