

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. X, No. 6

MARCH, 1946

Tekakwitha and Financial Aid

In the *Listening In* column of *The Register* the Venerable Tekakwitha is mentioned as obtaining many favors in answer to prayer, especially in financial matters, and the writer mentions that for this fact he has never had an explanation, though many letters reporting such favors are received by *The Register's* office.

It is a fact that many favors involving money are attributed to the saintly Indian Maiden. One explanation may be that so very many these days have been in need of money or of the means of obtaining it. Tekakwitha knew what poverty is. She was so poor that her relatives used to urge her to marry in order to be sure of support.

Very properly do so many report favors received (by invoking Tekakwitha) to *The Register*, because this excellent weekly has done so much to make her known and venerated; but the reports of such favors nat-

urally come to us in greater number, and while many of these reports are for employment, disposing of property, recovery of moneys due, quite as many are for cures, reconciliations, conversions, safety in danger and relief from all the ills that flesh is heir to.

Read the extracts from letters that are published in this March message of THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS. Some of the financial favors received are extraordinary: clearing of debts amounting to many thousands; acquiring enough to build churches, schools, hospitals, convents; winning court decisions against unjust claims, and many others. The important point is that whatever the nature of the favors received, publication of them begets confidence in Tekakwitha as enjoying favor with God in heaven, and therefore obtaining His blessings for those who invoke her aid.

Imitating and Petitioning

One of the duties of a Vice-Postulator is to make the servant of God for whose canonization he is acting widely known and venerated. This implies much more than recommending the one in question as a wonder worker, who is to be invoked for favors in every need: it implies imitation as well as petitioning. The Latin word used to express our relation with God's special servants is *cultus*, and this suggests cultivation. Now

to cultivate relations, say friendship, with any others is to become in a measure like them; and fortunately this is not only easy but pleasant in regard to Tekakwitha.

To mention her name is to recall Our Lord's: "Suffer little children to come unto Me, for such is the kingdom of heaven." The LITTLE Indian Maiden is a common way of speaking about this child of God. All her virtues were childlike—her innocence,

her purity, her hatred of sin, her dependence on others, particularly on her spiritual guides. And the same for her devotional practices, her rosary, love of the Cross, fondness of the chapel, love of the Sacrifice of the Mass, and of the Blessed Sacrament. In her there was nothing all cannot imitate and imitate with pleasure. Her spiritual advisers write about her special union with God, and of her extraordinary insight into things divine, but that was her own secret and that never appeared on the surface. Her companions all knew there was something about her above their comprehension; they were not surprised when after death her slightly pocked features became radiant with beauty.

They formed a band, our TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE, to invoke, imitate, venerate her.

PLEASANT SURPRISE

"Sometime ago I prayed to Kateri Tekakwitha for financial help; before my novena was over a friend told me that she had just remembered me in her will."

—Seattle, Wash.

A WELCOME PARTNER

"Kateri is a great benefactor of mine in that she keeps my bank account up and always above the red. We have gone into a little business which I keep before Kateri always and with our Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, she is doing a good job for me."

—Highland, Md.

A FELLOW FEELING

"Enclosed is an offering for another extraordinary favor granted me through Katherine Tekakwitha. Never have I petitioned this saintly maiden that she has not granted my request. Her powers are very remarkable, and I personally feel most close to her, as she, too, had bad eyesight as have I."

—Rye, N. Y.

AVERTING AN ODISIOUS PRACTICE

"My brother and his wife were getting a divorce. I prayed that through some miracle they would be reconciled and thank God till their dying day. I promised Kateri an offering toward her canonization if she would obtain that favor for me and I faithfully believe that through her God has granted that favor."

—Grand Rapids, Mich.

PASTORS HAVE GOOD REASONS

"The enclosed check is an offering of thanks for the Cause of Venerable Tekakwitha. I have personally prayed for her Cause and have on numerous occasions mentioned her to my parishioners, urging their help and also encouraging them to ask Tekakwitha for her intercession in Heaven. I am sure that she has helped us in a financial way. Only four years ago we built a grand new school and last November we paid off our debt. I have reason then to make this offering to her Cause."

—Waterford, Wis.

KATERI FAVORS GOOD FAITH

"An elderly gentleman in New Hampshire was very ill in the hospital. Although they were non-Catholics, a woman in Boston sent his wife a Tekakwitha medal and leaflet. The medal was pinned on his clothing and to everyone's surprise the man recovered. His wife has had a gold locket case made for the medal and wears it all the time."

NOTHING LIKE PERSEVERANCE

"You cannot imagine the happiness I have recently experienced. For years I have told my friends about Tekakwitha, but apparently was unable to develop little interest in her. Recently, I have had requests for the prayer, and that has been a joy to me since it means that she will become better known. About two months ago, a young girl who was suffering from excruciating headaches was told that she must undergo an operation on her head. Although she is not a Catholic, I asked

her if she would wear the Tekakwitha medal in her hat (she's a WAVE). I gave the prayer to two girls with whom she lives and asked them to say it since they are Catholics. Within a week, she was back from the hospital, the operation postponed, and since then has suffered no headaches."

—San Francisco, Cal.

"Enclosed is \$1.00 for membership in 'The Tekakwitha League'—the person to be enrolled is Louis A. F. of New Orleans, La. This boy was a 'Paratrooper.' The word paratrooper alone will tell you he has seen plenty of action, especially in Normandy, Bastogne and four other campaigns. While in Europe he took advantage of seeing the most interesting things—the one that struck him most was 'Lourdes.' He could not help noticing how Catholic most of the European countries were and how many 'saints' they had; when he thought of America he could name none. He was mentioning the fact to me when I mentioned 'Katherine Tekakwitha.' Immediately he wanted to know what he had to do to become a member of her league in order to further her Cause. It made me feel very happy to see an American youth with so much zeal."

—New Orleans.

KATERI FOR CONFIDENCE AND COURAGE

"Visiting in the summertime at the home of a girl friend of mine, when I was about to leave I happened to reach in my purse for something and chanced to pick a picture of Kateri and as this girl's mother had been suffering for some time with a leg infection, I asked her if she ever had prayed to Kateri. It was a picture of Kateri with a little cloth attached to the bottom of the picture. She said she had not, but reached for the picture and one would really think she was meeting her in person because she constantly prayed to her after that. She hardly ever left the picture out of her hands. She had not been able to go to church on account of her leg.

We talked about having the priest come to see her, but the whole story is about how she prayed to Kateri, and the faith she had in Kateri—she got along wonderfully; her leg never got any worse, and she went to church many times after that. When I would see her in church she would always say how the Lily of the Mohawks helped her, and I have always wanted to write and tell you of the almost wonderful cure. She always thought that her leg infection would really be the cause of her death and she was always afraid that she would have her leg amputated. But she had been getting along until December 3, when she, getting ready to go to Mass, took a heart attack. She had a beautiful death with the last rites and all her family around her. She had a lovely family, four boys and two daughters, and some of her grandchildren were there. So I hope when Kateri is canonized she will be right there with her because she sure did take a great liking to her. Her daughter has given me this to send to you, to spread devotion to Kateri."

—Pittsburgh.

In Memoriam

To the prayers of the members of Tekakwitha League we recommend the soul of Mr. Harry McCarthy, who died February 3. As owner of the Sibbel Studio he made the statue of Tekakwitha which stands at the entrance to the shrine at Auriesville, her birthplace. It is modeled on the statue that faces one in the vestibule of Dunwoodie Seminary, fashioning Kateri as a princess since her father and uncle were notable chieftains of her people, the Mohawks. Its unveiling was the occasion of a notable ceremony. It is one of four statues that stand at the entrance to the site of the martyrdom of Father Jogues and his companions, Goupil and Lalande, now Saints. May Kateri soon be declared like them a Saint!

"For blessing in answer to my prayers."
—Sacramento, Cal.

"This is for financial favors anticipated and obtained through her intercession."
—Utica, N. Y.

"I am enclosing thanks offering from one of my former pupils for favor received."
—Rochester, N. Y.

"I promised to send the enclosed in thanksgiving for three favors Kateri helped me to obtain. Please use it to further her Cause."
—New York.

"I am enclosing an offering to Kateri Tekakwitha for the help she has given."
—New Orleans.

"I put her name on a raffle ticket and it came out a winner; my family and I sure were surprised and happy."
—Pittsburgh.

"I have received a very great favor through Kateri's intercession, St. Joseph and the Holy Family. It was a spiritual favor."
—Seattle, Wash.

"Little Tekakwitha has answered my prayers so often that I owe her so much and can never thank her enough, but I say her little prayer on the leaflet every day."
—St. Louis.

"Enclosed find offering which I promised last summer to send to you if Venerable Tekakwitha helped me to get well again."

Thanks to her intercession, I feel much better."
—Osseo P. O., Minn.

"Enclosed you will find offering which I promised to send you if granted a special favor and which like half a dozen others that I asked was promptly granted."
—Philadelphia.

"A woman was very very ill after an operation and a relic I had taken from Caughnawaga in August was given to her. Although little hope was held for her recovery she is now well."
—Brockton, Mass.

"I prayed to her and several others for return of my deposit money in connection with the purchase of a house. I am glad to say that I received it back quite unexpectedly, for which I am truly grateful."
—Toronto, Ont.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	4	Relief in Distress	3
Financial Aid	3	Not Specified	31

PETITIONS

Cures	7	Relief in Distress	5
Financial Aid	10	Property Sale	2
Not Specified	20		

Obituary

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Matthew J. Traynor, New Britain, Conn.
Sister St. Joseph of the Presentation, Waterbury, Conn.
Mr. Jeremiah F. Cronin, Jersey City, N. J.
Miss Teresa Casey, Chicago, Ill.
Mr. Harry F. O'Mealia, Jersey City, N. J.

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