

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

Vol. X, No. 9

JUNE, 1946

AT LAST -- A KATERI CABIN AT HER BIRTHPLACE

There is no proper memorial of this Venerable Servant of God at her birthplace, the site of her Mohawk Indian village, Ossernenon, near Auriesville, New York. There has been for some years a lodge named after her, but nothing characteristic of her times, life, and tribespeople. Of all the Indians three hundred years ago the Mohawks and their fellow Iroquois Nations, as they styled themselves, were the only ones who lived in something like houses, 'Cabins,' as they were styled. So distinctive was their housing that they were known as Cabin Indians. Other Redmen dwelt in tepees or cone-shaped tents.

In September, 1942, THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS proposed that a Cabin should be erected at Tekakwitha's birthplace, but shortly after that war conditions intervened and it was not possible to get the needed money, labor or materials. Now it is; an appeal for the funds is actually in circulation. Thanks to Tekakwitha devotees, the appeal is receiving a favorable response. Soon there will be a proper memorial of Tekakwitha at her birthplace.

Fortunately the missionaries of Tekakwitha's day described the cabins in which they themselves had to eat and sleep, and they told how there was warmth in winter, but no ventilation, no windows, but only holes in the roof to let the smoke out, and rain or snow in. The walls were of bark, which is not easy to get now. For doors they used

animal skin; for sleeping they had rude berths on the Pullman car plan, with wood fires on the ground along the passageway. Their primitive appointments need not be reproduced now, but their cabin structure can be, and, as it was grape arbor like, it can be made very attractive.

The real attraction of the Tekakwitha Cabin will be its interior. Therein will be in neat show and book-cases the documents which won the comment of the Congregation of Rites, when they received the first Process for her beatification: "Few causes ever better documented," and the decision of our Holy Father that these documents have the equal value for testimony in favor of her Cause as that of eye-witnesses, so that only two miracles are needed for her beatification instead of the four usually required. Thank God, the Congregation has already the Apostolic Process on two miracles, attributed to her intercession.

To preserve these documents the Cabin must be fireproof; and beside the documents there will be other memorials of Tekakwitha.

God willing, on July 31 I shall be seventy years a Jesuit. As the only observance of that rare occasion I would like all who read this to assist me by an offering to erect this Cabin as a memorial of Tekakwitha this Tercentenary of the Martyrs to whom, after God, we owe her holiness.—John J. Wynne, S.J.

FROM A FAMOUS CITY

"My son, who has had a paralysis of his arm, due to injury while in the Pacific in action, has regained the use of his arm. I will do all I can to make Venerable Kateri known to others."

—Marion, O.

BEST WAY TO REPAY

"I am interested in spreading devotion to Blessed Kateri, particularly among our school children. It was through her powerful intercession that a close relative of mine only recently recovered from a serious illness; doctors seemed powerless to render satisfactory aid in effecting a cure." —Syracuse, N. Y.

A KATERI PROMOTER

"Yesterday, April 9, I went to Leominster to show the film of Kateri. The group was a small one; the Daughters of Isabella in that section number about 150, and the film was shown gratis. Father Haddad of that parish had been in Caughnawaga and he spoke of his interest in Kateri and of the crutches a Pittsfield girl left at her tomb."

-Brookline, Mass.

CONFIDENCE UNBOUNDED

"I am to undergo an operation Saturday morning and promised to have this Mass said in thanksgiving for my recovery. Also I will continue to send you the same each month for twenty months in thanksgiving for a quick recovery and for the many favors my baby and I have obtained through faithful devotion to Kateri Tekakwitha. I can't put in words my appreciation for favors received."

—Syracuse, N. Y.

No TIME LOST

"For a favor I asked for a cousin of mine. They had some dealings with oil land and a very slow process. She said the suspense was almost more than she could take, so I prayed to Little Tekakwitha that regardless of fa-

vorable or unfavorable results please let it be settled quickly, and what usually takes about ninety days was settled in thirty and more than favorable."

—Houston, Tex.

A Precious Link

"Enclosed is an offering for petitions granted through Katherine Tekakwitha's intercession. I want you to know how close this little 'Saint' is to my life. For eighteen years I have been out of the Church and now through a series of circumstances I earnestly desire to return, and please pray that I will be taken back. I feel somehow that Tekakwitha is directly responsible, as for a long time she was my only link to the faith. She is always with me and has never failed me in any request."

—Harrison, N. Y.

A PARADE WORTH WHILE

"My sister and I had planned to go over to New York to see the St. Patrick's Day parade. We had paid on our hotel room, as we were going Friday morning till Sunday night. The week before my sister was taken very ill while at Mass. I said the rosary to Tekakwitha that week that she would be able to go. Thank God, she was able to go and did not get sick while away. In thanksgiving I am sending you this offering to use for dear Tekakwitha's Cause." —Chester, Pa.

OFF WENT THE MEDALS

"No doubt this letter will be somewhat of a surprise to you, but our interest in the Cause of the canonization of our dear 'Lily of the Mohawks' is mutual. We have the statue you gave us some years ago of Katherine Tekakwitha and we prize it very much. However, it has been the privilege of two of our Indian Sisters to have in their possession one of her medals, and since she is in a particular way 'Our Saint,' because we are all of the Indian race, would it be possible to obtain about a dozen of her medals?"

-Marty, & Dak.

PATRONESS OF ALL SORTS

Some years ago I read about Kateri Tekakwitha in the Sunday Visitor; the article stated she was a patron of money. We were badly in debt, so I began praying to her. Now we find ourselves better financially fixed. Last year we had some equipment on hand we wanted to sell to get our money out of, but it seemed like nobody wanted to pay that price for it, so I made several novenas to her with the promise if we sold it I'd send this much of it to you, as Vice-Postulator of her Cause. We did sell the equipment for the price we asked."

—Marty, S. Dak.

WHAT MORE TOUCHING?

is feeling her way to be known among the blimd people. This is the way it happened. My youngest sister, Gabrielle, has taken up the study of braille for some time. She has been asked to do a forty-page manuscript. As Kateri was herself almost blind and did about the same kind of work now taught to the blind, my sister thought it would be a good chance to make Kateri known to them. She has chosen to use my forty-page résumé of the life of Kateri, which you had the kindness to criticize a few years ago."

-Brookline, Mass.

THE BETTER REALISM

"Years ago I lived in New York and learned quite a lot about the 'Lily of the Mohawks,' and two weeks ago I was nervous and much in need of a change and rest which seemed in every way impossible. Looking through a chest drawer I found a leaflet and appealed to her for help—and promised a Mass in thanks if a trip was made possible and so here I am in Pittsburgh—the place I wanted to be and my nerves much better, and enclosed is the modest offering for the Mass at your earliest convenience and may I add I could almost feel her presence—this is

a broad assertion, but true: I love this little girl and thank her from my heart."

-Pittsburgh.

THE INVALID ANOTHER KATERI

"I am sending you an article entitled, 'Pennies from Heaven.' It refers to an invalid girl who had great devotion to Kateri Tekakwitha. She collected 'Indian head pennies' because they reminded her of Tekakwitha—also other pennies and sent them to missionaries for Masses for the Poor Souls. I read this article to our Tekakwitha Girls and they decided to do likewise, but send their pennies once every month to you. One of their intentions is for the recovery of a member. This girl is unaware that they are doing this mainly for her. Please pray for her recovery; also for a non-Catholic friend for the grace to become a Catholic."—Cincinnati.

ON KATERI'S BIRTHDAY

"April 17 was the anniversary of Kateri's death. I prayed for big favors from our Venerable on that day. In anticipation of the day the wife of Andres Perez came to thank me and the Rev. Mother M. de L. of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word and actual Mother Superioress of Santa Rosa Hospital for the cure of Andres. He was admitted to the hospital of the Sisters in a dying condition when gangrene had already set in on an infected foot, so badly infected it seemed it would fall off by itself. Yesterday, after his foot had been amputated and his leg healed, he returned home safe and sound." -San Antonio, Tex.

"The following favors for which I promised an offering and publication have been granted: (1) favorable diagnosis; (2) recovery from illness. Kateri is indeed very powerful before the throne of God. Ann enclosing an offering and \$1.00 as a member-ship fee in the Tekakwitha League."

-Mankato, Minn.

"I know of a friend who has the prayer and relic; she has been very sick, but is getting along just fine."

—St. Louis.

"Will you kindly have a Mass said in honor of the Indian maid, Tekakwitha, for favors received and for a special financial intention."

—Cincinnati.

"The enclosed offering is in gratitude for one of the greatest favors we have ever asked of Tekakwitha. She never fails to answer our petitions."

—Hanover, Pa.

"To be used for promoting veneration to Kateri Tekakwitha and bringing about her honor as Saint, in thanksgiving for favor received."

—St. Louis.

"I have been praying very sincerely to Catherine Tekakwitha and she really has made my health much better, so I want to spread devotion to her." —Cleveland, O.

"I am sending this which I had promised if I found a sum of money I had lost. Thanks to Kateri Tekakwitha." —Fall River, Mass.

"A year ago I asked Kateri to take charge of the heating plant of our Catholic parochial school and church, and she has not failed us."

—Punxsutawney, Pa.

"In thanksgiving to Tekakwitha for favors received. She is more than generous with her favors, and I hope soon she will be a Saint of the Church." —Spearville, Kan.

"Enclosed find offering which I promised to send you to further the Cause of Katel Tekakwitha for a favor received. Kindly remember the soul of my sister, who passed away last July."

—Riverside, Cal.

"I want to thank you for publishing the testimonial of my son-in-law's recovery, which, up to date, is everything we could hope for. Yesterday, Palm Sunday, he was godfather to his second grandchild."

-Philadelphia.

"I had a picture of Kateri Tekakwitha and by accident lost it. I feel that I have received so many wonderful favors through her that I do not like to be without her picture. Therefore I am asking you kindly to send me another one with her relic."

-New Orleans.

"My son was in a wreck; a bus sideswiped him throwing his car into another, then back hitting the same bus, but no one was hurt.

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