

THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*



THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. XV, No. 2

MARCH-APRIL, 1951

## NOTES FROM THE BIG CITY

### *Standing By*

We passed the great St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City the other day, to take another proud glance at the figures of St. Isaac Jogues and Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha in glorious bronze on the front portals. Kateri is taking her own good time in answering our prayers to intercede before the throne of God for the two miracles necessary for her beatification. While 'standing by,' awaiting God's attestation of the sanctity of the Lily of the Mohawks, we are doing what we can. Father Charles Miccinelli, S.J., Postulator at Rome, has encouraged us to seek more specific information about favors which have already been called to our attention, and which have appeared in our journal.

### *In Old New York*

We were also one of the seven million who stood on the curbstone last week to cheer the homecoming hero, General MacArthur. It is a far cry from 1643, when another hero, Father Jogues, who died a martyr at Auriesville ten years before the birth of Kateri at the same place, saw New York for the first time. It has occurred to us that some of our readers may not have seen the description of New York written by St. Isaac Jogues at that time. During the three hundredth anniversary of the Auriesville martyrdoms, in 1946,

we presented New York's Mayor with a photostatic copy of Father Jogues' essay, and the event received nationwide publicity. Here is a somewhat condensed version, using always the words of Jogues himself:

### *Manbatte's Island*

New Holland, which the Dutch call in Latin *Novum Belgium*, and in their own language *Nieuw Nederland*, lies between Virginia and New England. The mouth of the river, which some people call *Nassau*, or the *Great North River*,—to distinguish it from another which they call the *South River*, and from some maps which I have seen, *Maurice River*, is at 40 deg. 30 min. The channel is deep, fit for the largest ships, which ascend to *Manbatte's Island*, which is seven leagues in circumference, and on which there is a fort to serve as the beginning of a town to be built here, and to be called *New Amsterdam*.

The fort, at the point of the island, is called Fort Amsterdam. It has four regular bastions mounted, with several pieces of artillery. For the garrison of the fort, and another which they built still further up against the attacks of the savages, there were sixty soldiers. Within the fort was a pretty large church, the house of the Governor whom they call Director General,—neatly built of brick,—storehouses and barracks.

*Melting Pot*

On the island of *Manbatte*, and nearby, there may well be four or five hundred men of different religion and nationality. The Director General told us that there were men of eighteen different languages. They are scattered here and there. Some, mechanics plying their trade, are ranged under the fort. All the others were at the mercy of the Indian raids, and in the year 1643 while I was there, the natives actually killed some forty Hollanders, and burnt many houses and barns full of wheat. The river, which runs due north and south, is very straight. Ships lie at anchor in a bay which forms the other side of the island, and can be defended from the fort.

Shortly before I arrived there, three large 300 ton ships had come to load wheat. Two found cargoes, the third could not be loaded, because the savages had burnt part of the grain. No religion is publicly exercised but the Calvinist, and orders are to admit none but Calvinists. This is not observed. There are in the colony Catholics, English Puritans, Lutherans, Anabaptists, etc. When anyone comes to settle in the country they lend him

horses, cows,—they give him all provisions, all of which he returns when he is able. As to the land, after ten years he pays to the West India Company one tenth of the produce which he reaps.

*Peaches in October*

It is about forty years since the Hollanders came to these parts. The fort was begun in the year 1615. They began to settle about twenty years ago, and there is already some commerce with Virginia and New England. The first comers found lands fit for use, cleared by the savages, who had fields here. Those who came later cleared the woods, which are mostly oak. The soil is good. Deer hunting is plentiful in the fall. There are some houses built of stone. They make lime from oyster shells, great heaps of which are found here. These were left by the savages, who subsist in part by that kind of fishing.

The climate is very mild. There are many European fruits, such as apples, pears, and cherries. I reached there in October, and found even then a considerable quantity of peaches.

## THE LETTERS KEEP COMING

*PHYSICAL RELIEF*

"My sister was greatly concerned and we were all worried about persistent growths under her arms. Everyone is so afraid of cancer these days and my sister, the mother of two small babies, was really quite anxious. She had had one operation for the removal of these growths whatever they were, but they returned and the doctors were talking about another operation, grafting skin, etc. A relic was applied and she made a novena to Venerable Kateri. The growths disappeared and she has had no further trouble."

—St. Louis, Mo.

"Enclosed please find an offering for Masses in thanksgiving for a favor received. I had to discontinue using a partial lower bridge because of an inflamed tooth. The inflammation spread along the jaw and I was afraid if I consulted my dentist he would talk of extracting the inflamed tooth. I invoked the intercession of Kateri and applied the picture with the silk attached every day and said the prayer for her canonization. My heartfelt thanks to her for her intercession. The tooth began to lose its soreness and the gums became less inflamed and in about two weeks they were healed."

—Worcester, Mass.



"Last summer I wrote about a little girl who had developed a very serious heart condition. The doctors weren't giving her parents much hope, and they were greatly alarmed. Finally one of the consulting physicians diagnosed the trouble as a congenital heart condition for which there was no cure. In the meantime I had written asking for prayers for her. In his kindness Father sent the relic which her mother used to bless her many times in the week that we had it. She seemed to improve and a new doctor who took over the case prescribed new treatment which made her parents feel more consoled. However, they were told to resign themselves to any and all complications that might arise from congenital heart disease. In June of last year, she was ordered back into the clinic for a yearly check-up. You can't imagine how surprised we were when the report came in. 'This child has only a functional heart condition which will in no way interfere with her normal life provided normal precautions are taken.' We know that this isn't a cure, but it is such a remarkable change that we felt that Kateri deserved public thanks."

—Scranton, Pa.

#### HEALTH RESTORED

"The enclosed is a small offering in thanksgiving to Kateri Tekakwitha for helping me through an operation, a subsequent nervous breakdown and another operation. Incidentally, I thought you might like to know that Kateri has stimulated attendance at Mass, so far as a namesake is concerned. I have a dear friend named Katherine and I gave her the relic picture and asked her to pray to Tekakwitha. Pretty soon my friend who seldom went to Mass on Sunday started to attend regularly."

—Old Greenwich, Conn.

"Please accept this small offering in fulfillment of my promise to our saintly Kateri. My little girl, just five years old, was born with an enlarged heart. The last X-ray was the first picture in her life showing the heart

completely normal. She needed to have her tonsils removed so I began a novena to Kateri and my child had the tonsillectomy, and hardly even noticed her throat being sore."

—Dayton, O.

"My baby daughter was very frail and sickly after her birth. I asked Tekakwitha to help her sleep through the nights so that she would become strong and healthy. Also that my husband and I could sleep at night in order to be better fitted for the constant care she required during the day. Apparently the Lily of the Mohawks heard our prayers because now our little girl is three months old and coming along nicely. She has slept well every night."

—Tiffin, O.

#### RELIEF IN DISTRESS

"Please offer another Mass for me for the canonization of our Katherine. My daughter went to the hospital for chest X-rays. I asked Katherine to help her. The reports came back negative. As I am so thankful, I want to thank Katherine, too."

—Cleveland Heights, O.

"Enclosed is a small offering in thanksgiving to little Kateri for helping me. She was so wonderful just two weeks ago when my head seemed bursting with the worst headache I have ever had. I put her relic picture to my head and in an hour's time the dreadful pain and ache subsided and I could stop walking the floor in anguish. I am deeply grateful to the little Lily."

—Chicago, Ill.

"Enclosed is an offering which we promised if the Venerable Kateri would help us. A few months ago we became involved in a poor real estate deal; although everyone told us we could not expect our money to be returned we called upon Kateri to help us and carried her relic picture with us when we made our final plea. We learned later that even before we reached home, a check for the entire amount was in the mail."

—Chicago, Ill.

## EMPLOYMENT

"Recently I was an applicant for a position. The prospects for getting this job were not very favorable. At the suggestion of a friend I made a novena to Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha requesting her help in my behalf to get this position. Shortly after I completed this novena I received the position for which I am most grateful. Please accept the enclosed small offering to further her Cause."

—Buffalo, N. Y.

"I am enclosing an offering for the Cabin or any way you think best. I promised this and made a novena in little Kateri's honor and received my favor. My son wanted a new assignment which was hard to get and I know dear little Kateri prayed to God for me and He heard her prayers."

—San Antonio, Tex.

"Enclosed is an offering in thanksgiving to little Catherine Tekakwitha for securing my camp position for the summer. Also wish to thank her for a considerable amount of unexpected money."

—Jackson Heights, N. Y.

## PROPERTY

"Enclosed is my offering to advance the canonization of Venerable Katherine Tekakwitha. I promised this if she obtained for me an advantageous sale of some property, which she did. Thanks be to God. Now,

Father, I would be pleased if you would send me some literature to distribute among my friends to promote devotion to her. She has never failed me and I want many others to know her."

—Washington, D. C.

"Enclosed please find an offering for enrollments in the Tekakwitha League. I am sending you these in thanksgiving for sales made through the intercession of little Kateri."

—St. Petersburg, Fla.

## ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures .....	13	Relief in Distress .....	16
Apartment .....	1	Sale of Property .....	2
Employment .....	5	Spiritual .....	1
Financial Aid .....	13	Not Specified .....	107

## PETITIONS

Cures .....	15	Financial Aid .....	26
Apartments .....	5	Relief in Distress .....	8
Employment .....	10	Sale of Property .....	1
Not Specified .....	80		

## Obituary

Rev. J. L. Bastien, Oakwood, N. D.  
 Rev. Timothy J. Coughlin, S.J., Bayonne, N. J.  
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Dworzak, Yonkers, N. Y.  
 Rev. Thomas Fay, S.J., Buffalo, N. Y.  
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. William B. Finigan, Cambridge, Mass.  
 Rev. William Hammeke, Reading, Pa.  
 Rev. A. Jande, Wahpeton, N. D.  
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis Thomay, Chicago, Ill.  
 Miss Annie C. Bruton, New York, N. Y.  
 Miss Rose Callahan, New York, N. Y.  
 Mrs. Albert Foutant, Nashua, N. H.  
 Mr. Arthur Kenedy, New York, N. Y.  
 Mrs. Theloa Kohen, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 Mr. E. M. Scanlon, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 Mrs. J. P. D. Shiebler, Patchogue, L. I., N. Y.  
 Mr. John J. Walsh, Catonsville, Md.

## 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, 15c.

## MEDAL

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

## PICTURES

- Small—lithograph, color, sketch and prayer . . . 10c.  
 " lithograph, color, silk applied to relics . . . 20c.  
 Large—lithograph in color, 12½ x 8½ inches,  
 mounted so as to need no frame; for  
 class or private room . . . . . 60c.  
 Bookmarks, 20c. a dozen

Prices include postage  
 Reduction on quantity

## TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

30 WEST 16TH STREET, NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

REV. THOMAS J. COFFEY, S.J., V. Postulator for Her Canonization