

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

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HOPES

Nineteen hundred fifty-six is the three hundredth anniversary of Tekakwitha's birth at Auriesville, New York. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we so stepped up our prayerful invocation of the Lily between now and then, so that the two miracles necessary for the

next step in her Cause would be forthcoming in time for the Tercentenary? The letters relating favors and more favors still keep coming to our office from all over the land, but not the very definitely extraordinary events that are required by the Congregation of Rites in Rome.

PAINTINGS

Meantime we are looking for a definitive portrait of the Lily. Artists have time and again tried their brushes, but so far have been unsuccessful in producing *the* picture. We recently received a very fine painting by Sister M. Fides Glass, of Greensburg, Pa., which really approaches our ideal. Perhaps the artistic-minded of our readers may be prompted to try their hand.

BOOKS

We had a conference recently with a young lady who is enthusiastic about writing a new biography of Tekakwitha, and we wish her success. Her collaborator, a New York doctor, equally enthusiastic, has just passed away in New Orleans. We were happy to read in *Kateri*, the quarterly bulletin of our sister Tekakwitha League in Canada, some of the thoughts Doctor Rhodebeck, who was a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, had about a new biography. We give his ideas in summary:

A DOCTOR'S THOUGHTS

"Surely another life of Kateri Tekakwitha must seem unnecessary. Everything that is known about her — and that is very little indeed — has been written many times and in several languages, and the size of her bibliography is astounding. All that is known for certain can be found in the accounts by Fathers Cholenec and Chauchetiere, who were her confessor and spiritual director. Additional details are presented in the 'Positio' of the Historical Section of the Sacred Congregation of Rites. That is all there is."

"A number of biographies have been based on these earlier documents. In English, one of the first, that of Ellen Walworth, is particularly noteworthy. It is a scholarly piece of work. Father Wynne, S.J., late Vice-Postulator for the Cause, has written a short life which is authoritative, and there are many others. When all is said and done, these lives portrayed the cold and rather dull

portrait of an Indian girl placed in a setting of historical facts, and usually playing a secondary role in the glorious story of the Jesuit Martyrs who preceded her."

"Now I am very fond of Kateri. I met her a few years ago when a casual acquaintance gave me her medal. Immediately I sensed what newspaper men would call a 'human interest' story. How could a Mohawk girl of that age and cultural pattern tread such a path as did Kateri? What made her do so? What factors in her life played parts in the formation of her personality? What was her cultural setting?"

"She was the first 'Saint' in whom I became really interested. The accounts of the lives of others which I had read were so saintly that I had very little in common with them. They were not human. They needed defrosting, and I should not want that to happen to Kateri. I should not want her gilded up and surrounded with an aura in which the struggles and strivings of a little Indian girl, and a not too happy one, played no part."

"No! Here was an Indian child, orphaned, physically handicapped, who followed an adaptive pattern of life which seemingly led her insensibly to the end which she attained. One can see a gradual tilling of the soil, a refining of it, until the coming of the Jesuit missionaries and their teachings about the Incarnation and Redemption planted a seed which ripened with great rapidity and burst forth into an expression of all her repressed desires. She found 'One' whom she could love and trust without fear!"

"Now comes the problem of how to approach such a question. How is it possible

to make Kateri come to life? How portray her as a girl and woman growing in sanctity and not as a saint who was secondarily a woman? How show that her handicaps were used as stepping stones for the achievement of this purpose? How demonstrate also that God works best through His use of natural means and thus makes these things more comprehensible to us, who are but human beings with human understanding? How enable us to say when we have known and understood: 'There by the grace of God, and with my cooperation, I may go!'"

Doctor Rhodebeck's passing nipped the bud of his idea before it could blossom. We sincerely hope that his collaborator will see her plan to a successful ending.

MOHAWK VILLAGE SITES

Congratulations to the Very Rev. Thomas Grassmann, O.F.M.Conv., Director of Tekakwitha Friary and the Mohawk-Caughnawaga Museum at Fonda, New York, across the river from Auriesville, for his very authoritative brochure on Mohawk Village sites, including Kateri's birthplace and baptismal site. It was published in, and reprinted from, the Pennsylvania Archaeologist Bulletin last month.

SHRUB OAK

Our grateful thanks to those who, along with their offering to further the Cause of Tekakwitha, have helped to build up our fund for a Tekakwitha Memorial at the new Jesuit Seminary at Shrub Oak, New York. We are far from our goal of a seminarian's room as a memorial, but we are hopeful that more of our League members will respond.

THE LETTERS KEEP COMING

"I am enclosing this gift in thanksgiving for a favor received from Tekakwitha. I had a very serious sinus infection. The doctor ordered terramycin but it must have set up an allergy for when the prescription had to be refilled my whole intestinal tract was poisoned by it. The intestines and rectum were covered with a mass of ulcers and I was in dreadful pain. Diarrhea and the passing of much blood lasted for over a week. When the doctor said I might have to go to the hospital I really became frightened. So one night I rubbed my back with a medal of Tekakwitha. Thanks be to God I slept all through the night and in three more days the ulcers had disappeared."—Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I want to thank you for your many prayers and Masses for the restoration of my daughter's mind. For nineteen months she has been in the hospital. This morning my daughter appeared before the staff of doctors at the hospital. Everything depended on their word for her release. Before I left home and during the trial I prayed to Kateri telling her if my daughter came home I would know it was through her intercession for I prayed to many other saints during her illness. Today she is home with us on trial and just two weeks ago she never recognized us. This is indeed a miracle. I know now Kateri will come through all the way and she will soon be well and strong."—Dayton, O.

"Enclosed find a small offering which I promised dear little Kateri Tekakwitha some time ago in thanksgiving for my sister who had a spot on her lung and now is completely restored to health." —New York, N. Y.

"Enclosed please find offering for Masses of thanksgiving to the Holy Souls and Venerable Tekakwitha. They were instrumental in improving the health of Sister and restoring her peace of mind due to her illness."

—Philadelphia, Pa.

"I was very much upset because of the desperate illness of my mother. I read the little pamphlet and I prayed to the little Lily of the Mohawks. My prayers were answered."

—San Francisco, Cal.

"Last Spring I was faced with the problem of disposing of a small business as administrator of the estate of my son who died suddenly, and I prayed to Venerable Kateri for aid. I placed her picture with silk applied to her relic among the papers and correspondence pertaining to the business and within a week the business was sold for cash at my figure. I had promised Kateri an offering for her Cause and did send it the day of the sale. Since I had also asked her to procure for me a favorable reply from the attorney who handled the legal affairs of the estate, I was agreeably surprised at the modest fee he charged. While I had not promised any additional contribution, I am so well pleased with the results that I am sending the enclosed as a thanks offering to Venerable Kateri, as I feel that it was through her that the attorney's fee was so moderate."

—New York.

"Enclosed please find a small offering for the many favors received through the intercession of Venerable Kateri. Recently I had an assignment at the office which was very difficult to accomplish; at times I was wondering if I would get through it, but thanks to Kateri the work was finished in much better condition than I had thought possible."

—Denver, Colo.

"Enclosed is an offering for the Cause of Venerable Tekakwitha. It is in thanksgiving for a material favor obtained through her intercession. Each time I introduce her to another, she seems to say thank you by obtaining one of my many requests."

—Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

"We had some property which we wanted to sell in order to have a better working capital to operate our place. A real estate man had made us an offer for a client, which we had accepted although it represented a loss to us. There was a delay in closing the deal and finally the real estate man wrote us that his client had decided against buying the property. My sister, a Presentation nun, wrote me suggesting I pray to Catherine Tekakwitha. Almost at once I received a long distance telephone call from another realtor, stating that he had a check on his desk from a client who wanted to buy the lot if we were willing to accept his offer, which was \$400.00 more than the previous offer that we had accepted. The enclosed represents a percentage of the increased price we received for the property. I feel my prayers to Catherine Tekakwitha were answered with dispatch and efficiency." —Millerton, N. Y.

"My husband sends you this donation. He says 'his Catherine' is helping him make a success of his business, and he is grateful to her." —Philadelphia, Pa.

"Enclosed please find an offering for enrollments in the Tekakwitha League. We are sending these in thanksgiving for the sale of our property made possible through the intercession of Little Kateri."

—New Orleans, La.

"I wish to report favors I have received through prayers to the Lily of the Mohawks—marriage righted, return of my husband to the faith, sale of our house, quick finding of a home so the family could be reunited in a different town, and many personal favors."

—Tucson, Ariz.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	9	Financial Aid	8
Apartments	1	Relief in Distress	12
Employment	3	Not Specified	66

PETITIONS

Cures	30	Employment	10
Apartments	5	Financial Aid	8
Not Specified	40		

Obituary

Most Rev. Emmanuel B. Ledvina, Corpus Christi, Tex.
 Most Rev. Philip G. Scher, Fresno, Cal.
 Rt. Rev. Msgr. James J. Brown, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Rev. J. J. Clink, S.J., Boston, Mass.
 Rev. D. E. Dougherty, Kane, Pa.
 Rev. Lawrence C. Gorman, S.J., Scranton, Pa.
 Rev. John L. King, S.J., London, England.
 Rev. John W. Murphy, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Rev. Stephen A. Shea, S.J., Boston, Mass.
 Rev. Clarence E. Sloane, S.J., Worcester, Mass.
 Mrs. Gertrude A. Burns, Millis, Mass.
 Miss Margaret Castell, New Orleans, La.
 Mrs. C. Delaney, Sr., Jersey City, N. J.
 Mr. Joseph J. Dreher, Dubuque, Iowa.
 Mr. Frank J. Feibusch, New York, N. Y.
 Miss Cecilia Hellmuth, Chillicothe, O.
 Miss Helen M. Lang, Ramsey, N. J.
 Mrs. Frederick J. Sauerwald, Almont, Pa.
 Mr. John J. Walsh, Catonsville, Md.

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- I—Sketch and prayers.
- II—Novena, with daily reflexion.
5c. for 2; 25c. a dozen

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By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 15c.

MEDAL

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

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- " lithograph, color, silk applied to relics... 20c.
- Large—lithograph in color, 12½ x 8½ inches,
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class or private room... 60c.

Bookmarks, 20c. a dozen

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TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

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

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