

# THERE KATERI BELONGED!


(A yearly account of the foundation of the Mission of the Sault up to 1685

by

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A.D. 1672 (Cont'd.)

NE can see by the registers and the baptismal documents that the devil was fooling himself because, by these beginnings of persecution, he succeeded only in lighting the torch of faith among our Christians by obliging them to inform themselves about many things, and the love of charity by uniting them more and more to God whom they felt they needed. That is why, from that time on, the Indians were seen in church, at Mass, and at prayer shaming the old Christians [by their devotion]; since then, they came from very far away during winter to assist at the ceremonies of Midnight Mass or of Good Friday; sometimes they were even seen adoring the Cross in the woods, as we know thanks to the report of the Frenchmen who have seen them so doing and have assisted at the ceremony. The church was divided into two sections, one for the French and the other for the Indians although, all together, the Frenchmen and the Indians formed only one, as they were seen during public festivities, their visits to one another, and the little helps that they rendered each other.

This mingling, however, furnished the devil with the occasion to tempt the Indians. He used the French who dealt with the Indians and wanted to open a tavern at Laprairie seeing that there was already quite a population; but divine Providence used the supreme authority, which later went back on its word, to destroy this demon. Monsieur the Count de Frontenac was grateful to Father Frémin because he had furnished flour to Fort Caterackoui. Coming to Laprairie the following summer, he made an ordinance and express prohibition against the selling of intoxicating liquors at Laprairie; thus was the devil's stratagem foiled at its inception.  
(Next issue, A.D. 1673.)

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by love...