

# Oddments



(Armour Landry Photo)

*Das Mädchen der Mohawks.* By Franz Weiser. Regensburg: Verlag Josef Habel. 212 pp. Approx. \$3.75.

This most recent biography of Kateri Tekakwitha, written in German, came out in January, 1970. Fr. Franz Weiser, S.J., the well-known historian, did a thorough job of research in order to have at his disposal all possible authorities concerning the Iroquois Maiden. He twice visited the Mission of St. Francis Xavier at Caughnawaga, P.Q. His psychological characterization of Tekakwitha vividly conjures her up before the reader's eyes. Like Fr. Weiser, it is high time that intelligent and broad-minded writers offer the reading public lives of saints that do not exude boredom. In the last days of his life, Pius XII wrote: "...it is clear that a century and a society wherein the cult of saints is abandoned and the meaningful admiration for their virtues is diminished, are not the fields best adapted for a splendid flowering of sainthood."

*The Mohawk Indians and their Valley. Being a Chronological Documentary Record to the End of 1693.* By Thomas Grassman, O.F.M., Conv., Director: The

*Mohawk-Caughnawaga Museum Fonda, New York.* 724 pp. \$20.

For nearly fifty years, the Author painstakingly gathered his material for this work. His book is now a must for anyone interested in the Mohawks, in the Jesuit missionaries of the Five Cantons and in the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. A comprehensive index adds to the value of the book. I don't wish to cavil but I noticed that St. John de La Lande's name is missing. *The Mohawks and Their Valley* is a masterly achievement.

*He and I.* Translated and condensed by Miss Evelyn M. Brown. Editions Paulines, 250 N. Boul. Saint-François, Sherbrooke, P.Q. 191 pp. \$2.75.

Miss Brown is a distinguished writer. Her biography, *Kateri Tekakwitha, Mohawk Maiden* in the *Vision Book* series, published by Farrar, Straus and Cudahy of New York, is now in its seventh edition. In 1959, it was done into French and launched by the *Editions du Pélican* of Quebec. A recent book, *He and I* is the translation of *Lui et Moi*, a work of several volumes, edited by *Beauchesne et Fils* of Paris. It is purported to contain the words of our Lord to a French woman called Gabrielle Bossis, a person of culture and wealth, who died in 1950. There is no better time than the present to offer to the English world the spiritual wealth enclosed in these tomes. Miss Brown has accustomed us to nothing less than perfection in her writings. She abides by this high norm in *He and I*. No wonder Cardinal Daniélou warmly congratulated her.

As we are about to go to press, the sad news of the death of Fr. Charles Miccinelli, S.J. has come to the attention of the members of the Kateri Center. For many years, he was the Postulator General for the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of the Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha. In the next issue of *Kateri*, will be featured a summary of his untiring efforts to hasten the Mohawk Maiden's Beatification. R.I.P.



(Armour Landry Photo)

Kateri's Second Communion.

Happy  
Easter  
Kateri  
Style!

...Easter was drawing near; and those who were not far from the village, on the hunt, returned to the mission according to their custom, to celebrate the great day. It was the first time Kateri celebrated it with us for the great good of her soul. She assisted at all the services of Holy Week, and admired all these solemn ceremonies, receiving from them a new esteem for religion. She was so touched by sweetness and consolation that she shed many tears, especially on Good Friday during the sermon on the Passion of Our Lord. Her heart melted at the thought of the suffering of the Divine Savior; she thanked Him a thousand times for it, she adored and kissed His cross with feelings of the most tender gratefulness and the most ardent love. She attached herself to the cross that day with Him, taking the resolution to repeat on her virginal body the mortifications of Jesus Christ for the rest of her days, as if she had done nothing until then. On Easter Sunday she received Holy Communion for the second time, and did so with the same disposition and ardor and spiritual fruits she had on the feast of Christmas...

Pierre Cholenec, S.J.  
1678, at the Mission  
of St. Francis Xavier