

## FLIGHT AND ASYLUM

(Continued.)

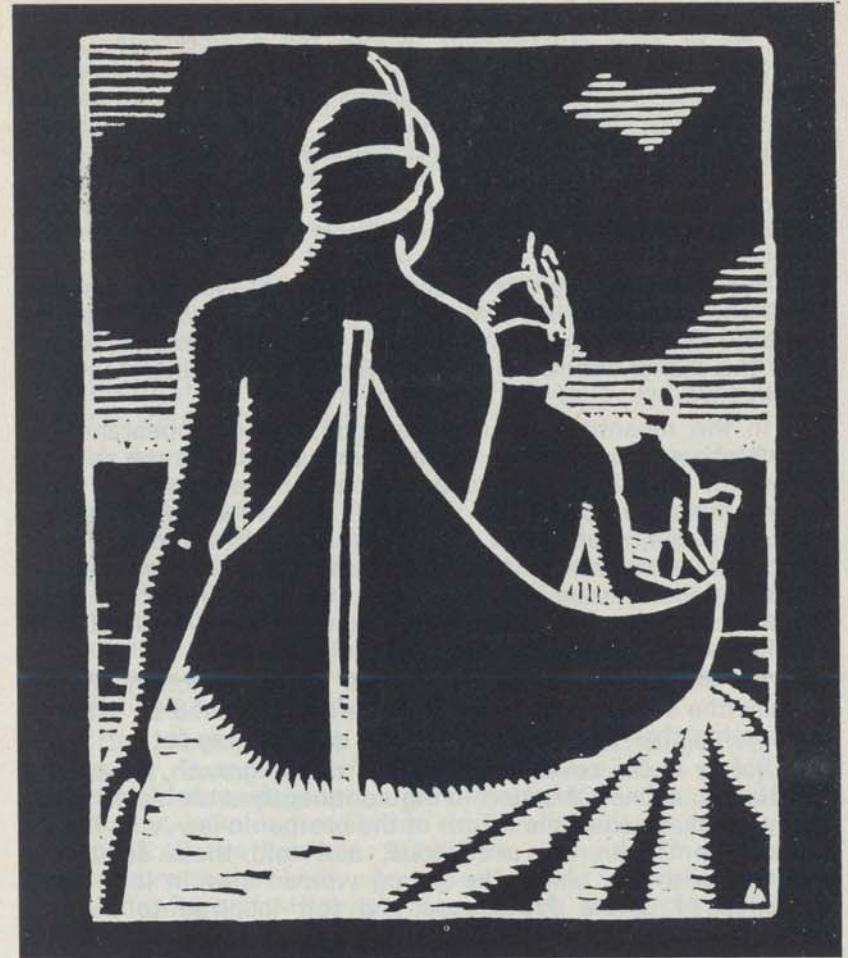


SHORTLY after arriving at the Mission of St. Peter at Gandaouagué, Kateri's brother-in-law sought her out secretly. He informed her that he had made the trip with his two companions in order to take her back to St. Francis Xavier's. His wife wished to have her in her long house. He graphically described the happy life of the Indians at the mission on the St. Lawrence. The pockmarked face of the young woman gazing up at him seemed to be transported with delight, and he was glad that he had come.

Meanwhile Father de Lamberville had another talk with Hot Ashes to whom he was desirous of speaking about Kateri. He was happy to learn why the Oneida had come to Gandaouagué, and unhesitatingly entrusted her to his care.

As soon as the young chief was able to see her alone, he promised that he would give her a helping hand and explained how he would do so. As he had planned to evangelize his Canton of Oneida and other cantons, he would give up his place in his canoe of red elm to her. She would then find it easy to leave with her brother-in-law and with his friend the Huron. The occasion was all the more favorable as her uncle was then away, bartering with the English or Dutch.

Before Kateri set out, Father de Lamberville encouraged her to put her trust in God, added some good advice, and gave her a letter for Father Jacques Frémin, superior of the Mission



of St. Francis Xavier, where she was going to live. She could not decipher a single word of it, and, had she been capable of doing so, would have been embarrassed:

"Catherine Tekakwitha is going to live at the Sault. Will you kindly undertake to direct her? You will soon know what a treasure we have sent you. Guard it well! May it profit in your hands, for the glory of God and the salvation of a soul that is certainly very dear to Him."

All three, the brother-in-law, the Huron, and Kateri then took to flight, while Hot Ashes hurried away in the direction of Oneida. The fugitives paddled rapidly, quietly, taking the curves