



THE LILY OF

*Fairest flower that ever*

THE MOHAWKS

*bloomed among true men*

VOL. XI, No. 11

AUGUST, 1947

## NOT 'CAN BE,' BUT 'SHOULD BE' MENTIONED

Reverend and dear Father:

The Canadian Government appointed on May 16, 1946, a Special Committee of the Canadian Senate and House of Commons to examine and consider the Indian Act.

The members of the Canadian Episcopacy, who have Indians in their dioceses, and our Catholic Missionaries at large, entertained fears lest this Committee would be led to secularize our Catholic Indian Schools and Hospitals.

Because our Catholic Indians number 52 per cent. of the total Indian population, we were asked to present a Brief to support our views in regards to education and hospitalization. The preparation of this brief gave those interested a great deal of trouble.

About a month before the date set for the presentation of our Brief, I was prompted to place the interest of our Canadian Indians under the protection of our Venerable Tekakwitha and began to recite the rosary for her beatification and for the relief of all Indians who might still be in purgatory. From that day, all obstacles and doubt disappeared as if by magic. His Eminence Cardinal McGuigan accepted to head our delegation with the Archbishop of Ottawa, Archbishop Murray of Winnipeg and Bishop Belleau of James Bay. Our school principals, to the number of six, came to Ottawa; we were very cordially received by the Committee, our Brief was listened to attentively and the effect on the members of the Committee, from all the reports that I have been able to gather, was of an excellent nature.

I thought that whilst this is not a fact or favour that can be used for the canonization of Venerable Tekakwitha, it is something which can be mentioned among the many graces obtained through her intercession.

Very truly yours in Christ,

J. O. PLOURDE, O.M.I.

## A TEKAKWITHA STATUE

At last we are to have a statue worthy — the sculptress would say, somewhat worthy — of the Venerable Servant of God. Ever since she began to be known as popularly as she is now there has been a demand for her statue, for outdoor shrines, for school grottos, for private devotion.

Various attempts have been made to model her statue, but none of them could be recommended. They are too gross, not of sufficient Indian type, raiment and decoration. Statuettes, especially those provided at Auriesville, the figure arched over, have met with favor, but they suit only small private oratories. The need has been for something on a larger scale, not too large, but tall enough to appear on a lawn or in a garden and sufficiently

expressive of the Indian features as altered and sublimated by the Christian devotion for which Kateri became so remarkable.

There is a statue of Tekakwitha which was originally designed for the vestibule of Dunwoodie Seminary, representing her as an Indian princess, or chieftain's daughter, and there is an heroic copy of it at the entrance to the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs at Auriesville, New York, where she was born, but not every site for a statue is so spacious as that.

The new statue is of delicate and graceful proportion, not over three feet in height, base and all. It follows the lines of the famous water-color by Mother Nealis, of the Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which is regarded as an ideal picture of Tekakwitha, and with the lithograph of which her lovers are so familiar.

It is too soon to publish a picture of the new statue, or to quote prices of it in various materials, but that will be done in a subsequent issue. Readers will be pleased to have this present announcement.

#### REPORTS OF FAVORS

A reader expresses delight with the variety of the answers to prayer which we publish monthly as they are reported by those who are favored through Kateri's intercession. The variety appears not only in the many separate letters received, but frequently in one letter, as in this issue, under the title: "Duluth Never Fails."

#### HOW DULUTH GOT ITS NAME

Never should devotees of Venerable Tekakwitha forget that Duluth got its name from a famous Canadian captain who soon after her death received an extraordinary cure through her intercession, so extraordinary that it has become an historical record. The blessing he received seems to be repeated in the town named after him.

#### REPORTING FAVORS

So numerous are the favors reported as obtained through the intercession of Venerable Tekakwitha that we could not find space for printing all of them and evidently not all those who report them expect to see them published. To all who report them we are grateful. It is a mark of their gratitude to the saintly Indian Maiden and a proof of their belief in her favor with God. It is not necessary that an offering should accompany the report of a favor. The great thing is to have it become widely known that those who invoke her aid are favored by God.

#### A GENEROUS ENCLOSURE IT WAS

"I am sending the enclosed in thanksgiving for a favor I received through Kateri's intercession — the recovery of a person from a dreadful accident. To me it was nothing short of a miracle." —Darby, Pa.

#### MASSES OFFERED IN ROME

"Enclosed please find check for Masses of thanksgiving for a favor received from Kateri Tekakwitha. The woman who sent the offering promised it if her brother became well. He had undergone a serious operation and is now able to resume his work."

—Newark, N. J.

#### AN HONORABLE PRIDE

"Enclosed is a small offering for the canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha and erection of Cabin, because she has helped me so much in the past and, too, because I am still trusting to her intercession and help in a present need. Of course I am very happy to have a share in this wonderful Cause. It is an especial honor and privilege of which I am proud." —Scarsdale, N. Y.

#### DESPITE HIS OWN NEED

"With donation for Cabin I wish to report one definite *spiritual* favor which one of my families received during our novena which ended April 17. A lady gave me a dollar in thanksgiving for a successful operation. I,