

resulted in dimming the memory of Kateri Tekakwitha among the French and Indians had not writers been inspired to leave us the precious record of her life and virtues. Besides what appeared in the Jesuit *Relations*, there was the rather complete sketch of her career

Her memory written by Father Cholenec who knew
is revered her well and who was a good judge
of her credit with God. This sketch

was published in the *Lettres Édifiantes* whose wide circulation spread her name and fame throughout the Catholic world in the eighteenth century. There was a longer biography of her written by Father Chau-chetière who informs us that he was moved to write by an impulse received from herself. The historian Charlevoix devoted a whole chapter to her in the second volume of his *Histoire de la Nouvelle-France*, published in 1744. Chateaubriand, in *Les Natchez*, written in 1794, paid a magnificent tribute to this angel of the forest, and implored her protection for his nation in America. "It is no powerful spirit", he wrote, "no famous conqueror who protects the double empire of the French. It is a shepherdess in Europe, an Indian maid in America: Geneviève of the hamlet of Nanterre and Kateri of the Canadian forests." Chateaubriand's eloquent pages, published only in 1826, but penned shortly after his visit to America, merely echoed the impressions he took back with him to France. They prove at least that during the hundred and fifty years which followed her saintly death, the fame of the Lily of the Mohawks had not diminished. A lofty cross always stood over the spot where she had been