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# Gilford Man is Credited

WASHINGTON—The recent sale of the Thomas Eakins portrait of Cardinal Martinelli by the Catholic University of America which caused much excitement in art circles throughout the country, is credited substantially to a university alumnus, Hector Bolduc of Gilford, N.H.

The painting was rediscovered by Mr. Bolduc two years ago on the wall of a university building where it had hung neglected and unknown for many years. Mr. Bolduc brought the painting to the attention of university officials who, after learning he was both knowledgeable and interested in art, promptly appointed him to a committee to investigate the disposition of art objects owned by the university.

Undaunted by lack of funds, Mr. Bolduc arranged to have the painting restored free of charge by the National Gallery in return for allowing it to be hung there for one year. Conducting further research, Mr. Bolduc established that the painting had been a gift of an undisclosed sum (in excess of \$130,000) it was reported that the letter found by Mr. Bolduc was responsible for the high bid which was the highest sum ever received for the work of a 19th-century American artist.

Residence of Bolduc has been located in the university archives, the original letter sent by Mr. Eakins of such a nature that it was referred to the painting as "my greatest work." When the painting was sold by Park-Bernet Galleries of New York for an undisclosed sum (in excess of \$130,000) it was reported that the letter found by Mr. Bolduc was responsible for the high bid which was the highest sum ever received for the work of a 19th-century American artist.

Mr. Bolduc is a graduate of the Catholic University of America and is now a member of the faculty of the university.

*Father is 34 years old*

LACONIA, N. H., EVENING CITIZEN, TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1970

## ed with Washington Art Find

Besides the Eakins portrait, Mr. pensation for his time and talents up committee of students who almost entirely because of the bolduc has succeeded in authen- except for the satisfaction of see- worked voluntarily for several interest and efforts of Hector L. locating several unsigned works ing great works of art brought days until all buildings had been Bolduc, an alumnus of the School if such noted artists as Murillo, to light and displayed where the cleaned. In recognition for his of Philosophy who is now making Murbaran, Ribera and Massy. One public may enjoy them. His efforts have been an inspiration to all. letter of recognition from the Hector has single-handedly cata- if his best finds is a portrait by answered the challenge by doing are disrupting campuses, he has Walton. In an article written by Msgr. Charles Bird King who is noted At a time when college students university president, Clarence C. certain works transferred other for his portraits of American In- something constructive and posi- John K. Ryan for the Catholic cords of still others that can no lians. The mate to this long lost tive. When militant students came to the university campus this Philosophy NEWSLETTER Vol. longer be located. He has also for his portraits of American In- answered the challenge by doing are disrupting campuses, he has Walton. In an article written by Msgr. University of America School of pointed out steps that must be taken to safeguard various sta- tutes and other works from thieves.

Portrait Gallery. University officials are grateful for the contributions rendered by spraying paint on walls, etc., it was Hector who organized a clean- Bolding who receives no com- was Hector who organized a clean-

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and vandals and to arrest natural deterioration. The CUA community owes a large debt of gratitude to Hector for what he has accomplished."

Mr. Bolduc is a man of many interests. Besides his work in the field of art, he has taught for two years at a Washington home for delinquents and has helped in the rehabilitation of young drug addicts. He is a member of the CUA Chorus and recently accompanied that group on their very successful trip to New York City where they performed at Carnegie Hall. He also sings with the choir of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. He sang with that group during the presentation of the New Solemn Mass in English composed by Jean Langlais, the famed blind composer and recitalist from Paris who came to Washington to personally conduct the number. The new Mass was praised and a recording taken at the performance has now been released. Mr. Bolduc sang in the baritone section of that recording.

Hector is one of the founders and Editor of the ISUNAMI (great wave) NEWSLETTER a monthly publication formed on campus two years ago. His article in that newsletter concerning the Melville missionaries and their difficulties with the Guatemalan Government received nationwide attention having been reprinted in several newspapers and magazines. The article was acclaimed by officials of the U.S. and Guate-

malan Governments as well as by Catholic Church leaders in both countries.

Mr. Bolduc is a member of the French and German Clubs. He frequently lectures in the Washington area on a variety of subjects including: the history of glass, books and manuscripts, antique jewelry, and famous gems. His interesting and extensive collections of these subjects have been on display on numerous occasions at the university. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Bolduc of Gilford, N.H. As a project for the summer, Hector will be making a catalogue of the university art works.