

we had gone out of the town to pray more becomingly and undisturbed by noise, two young men came after us and told us to return home. I had some presentiment of what was to happen, and told him : " My dear brother, let us recommend ourselves to our Lord and to our good mother the Blessed Virgin, these men have some evil design, as I think." We had a little before offered ourselves to our Lord with much devotion, beseeching him to accept our lives and blood, and unite them to his life and blood for the salvation of these poor tribes. We were returning then towards the town reciting our beads, of which we had already said four decades. Having stopped near the gate of the town to see what they would say, one of these two Iroquois drew an axe which he had hidden under his blanket, and dealt René a blow on the head as he stood before him ; he fell stiff on his face on the ground, uttering the holy name of Jesus, for we had often reminded each other to close our voice and life with that holy name. I turned at the blow and seeing the reeking hatchet, fell on my knees, to receive the blow that was to unite me to my loved companion, but as they delayed I rose, ran to him, as he lay expiring near me. They gave him two more blows on the head and extinguished life but not before I had given him absolution, which since our captivity, I had given him regularly after his confession every other day.

It was the — day of September, the feast of St. Michael, that this angel in innocence, and martyr of Christ, gave his life for him, who had given him His. They commanded me to return to my cabin, where I awaited during the rest of the day and the next the same treatment. It was the belief of all that I would not wait long, as they had begun it, and in fact for several days they came to kill me, but our Lord prevented it by ways, which would take long to explain. Early the next morning, I did not fail to start out to inquire where they had thrown that blessed body, for I wished to inter it, cost what it might. Some Iroquois who had a wish to save me, said, " Thou hast no sense ; thou seest that they seek thee every where to kill thee, and thou goest out still, thou wilt go to seek a body already half putrefied, which has been dragged far from here. Seest thou not, those young men going out, who will kill thee, when thou art past the palisade." This did not stop me, and our Lord gave me courage enough to be willing to