

1648.

Death of
Father
Anthony
Daniel.

There was not a moment to lose. The apostolic man exhorted both classes, in a few words, to implore God's pardon for their sins; then he dipped a handkerchief in water, and baptized by aspersion those who pressed forward to receive the sacrament. At that moment the palisades were carried on every side; and the blood which streamed from all the cabins and in the square, rekindling the fury of the victors, nothing scarcely was to be seen but the dead and dying.¹

Those whose age and strength enabled them to seek safety in flight then earnestly implored the missionary to escape with them; but he constantly refused, and recollecting some sick persons whose baptism he had deferred, he ran to their cabins and baptized them. He then returned to the chapel, to get the altar vessels and vestments and put them in a secure spot. There he gave a general absolution to some who had come for the purpose. Then his only thought was to offer to God the sacrifice of his life.²

The Iroquois, on their side, no longer finding any one to oppose them, set fire to the cabins, and approached the chapel, uttering fearful yells. The servant of God, when he saw them coming, exhorted all who remained with him to take to the woods; and to gain time for them, went forward himself to meet the enemy. Astonished at such resolution, the savages recoiled some paces. But recovering from their panic, they surrounded the holy man; and not yet daring to approach him, alone and unarmed as he was, they pierced him with arrows. Bristling as he was with the shafts, he still spoke with surprising energy, — now to God, to whom he offered his blood, shed for the flock which He had confided to his care; now to his murderers, whom he reproached with their perfidy and men-

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1649, p. 4; Lettre du P. Charles Garnier, 25 Avril, 1649; Ragueneau,

² Relation de la Nouvelle France, Vie de la Mère Catherine, p. 53.