

menced.¹ It is not even certain whether he remained near Father de Brebeuf till the latter breathed his last sigh. He had been brought there only to weaken his companion and bend, if possible, that hero's courage. It is, at least, authenticated by the testimony of several Iroquois, who were actors in that tragic scene, that Father de Brebeuf died on the 16th, and was only three hours at the stake; while the torture of Father Lallemant lasted seventeen hours, so that he died only on the 17th.

1649.

Death of
Father
Gabriel
Lallemant.

Be that as it may, as soon as he re-entered his cabin, he received a hatchet-stroke under the left ear, which clove open his skull and dashed out his brains. An eye was then plucked out, and a burning coal put in its stead.

This is all that is known of what he underwent till he expired—all who witnessed his death contenting themselves with saying that his executioners outdid each other in cruelty. They added, that from time to time he uttered shrieks capable of piercing the hardest hearts, and that he sometimes seemed beside himself; but that he was instantly seen to rise above pain, and offer his sufferings to God with admirable fervor. Thus the flesh was often weak, and ready to yield; but the spirit was ever ready to raise it up, and sustained it to the end.²

Father Lallemant was a native of Paris, where both his father and grandfather had held the office of lieutenant-criminel. He was extremely thin, and had only been six months in New France. He died in his thirty-ninth year.³

¹ The Relation has nothing of this.

² Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1649 (p. 15), and Gobat (Relatio Historica, pp. 106-12) say both eyes. They describe the bodies as found, which gave the best testimony of the cruelties practised.

³ Father Gabriel Lallemant was born Oct. 31, 1610. He entered the Society of Jesus, March 24, 1630,

and followed his uncles to Canada. He arrived at Quebec, Sept. 20, 1646, but was on the Huron mission only from Aug. 6, 1648: Journal of Superior of Jesuits, July and August, 1648. His Indian name was Atironta. He signed his name both Lallemant and Lalement, although the other members of the family used the first form. That of Charlevoix (Lallemant) has no authority.