

the last time in this current year, [191 i.e., 193] by the hand of Joseph Chihouatenhoua, our good Christian; and now the same paper of which he should have been the bearer is used to carry to Your Reverence the news of his death.

Yesterday, toward evening, the second of this month, while he was working in his field to cut down some trees, two Hiroquois, enemies of the Hurons, issued from the neighboring wood, where they lay in ambush, and having rushed upon him, pierced him with a long javelin. Then, having felled him with two blows of a hatchet, they promptly retreated in flight, after having removed his scalp according to their custom, in order to carry it away in triumph to their country. When it was seen, in his house, that he was late in coming back, they suspected what had happened; and in fact, having gone to look for him they found at the very place his body outstretched, stone-dead, and covered with his blood. There are indications that they did not take him without resistance; and the elders of the village, after visiting the place, have inferred by the marks of feet round about, and from the trampling of the corn, that he had shown fight, and [192 i.e., 194] that the enemies would not have succeeded if they had not had a long javelin with which they reached him. No doubt this death, although sudden for this good and excellent Christian, did not take him unprepared: for, besides the fact that he was continually in the grace of God,—as those affirm who had charge of his soul and heard his confessions, who on the one hand were astonished at the enlightenment which God gave him concerning his least failings; and on the other hand admired the tenderness of his conscience and his fidelity in