

a steadfast countenance; he saw them armed with iron, fire, flame, knives, and red-hot hatchets. But he laughed at them and [111] their tortures; he continued in prayer, which so enraged the barbarians that they determined to torture him in some new way, if he did not cease to invoke his God. They put him to martyrdom for three days and three nights, and were never able to make him cease from singing the praises of his Lord and master. They uttered to him, in mockery, the reproach of the Jews against the Son of God: "Ask help from him whom thou invokest; tell him to come and deliver thee." But this Young man, despising their fury, thanked God for the grace he had given him to suffer as a Christian, and not as a common Savage. In short, he paid him honor to the last breath; and those who looked on at these great sufferings, said that they did not know which of the two appeared to them the more astonishing,—the violence and intensity of the torments, or the constancy and magnanimity of the Sufferer. While this last Chapter was on the press a letter was brought, by the latest vessel that had come from those countries, to a Father who had lately returned thence, couched in these terms:

"Here is news concerning your poor Joseph. A Young Huron, his great friend, [112] having been made a prisoner with him,—but whose life was spared by the Iroquois, who had given him full liberty within their Villages,—made his escape, and reported to us what follows. 'Unsuspected by the Iroquois, who had granted me life, I found means to mount the scaffold on which they were torturing Joseph Onaharé, and talked with him a little while. He said these words to me: "If ever, my dear friend,