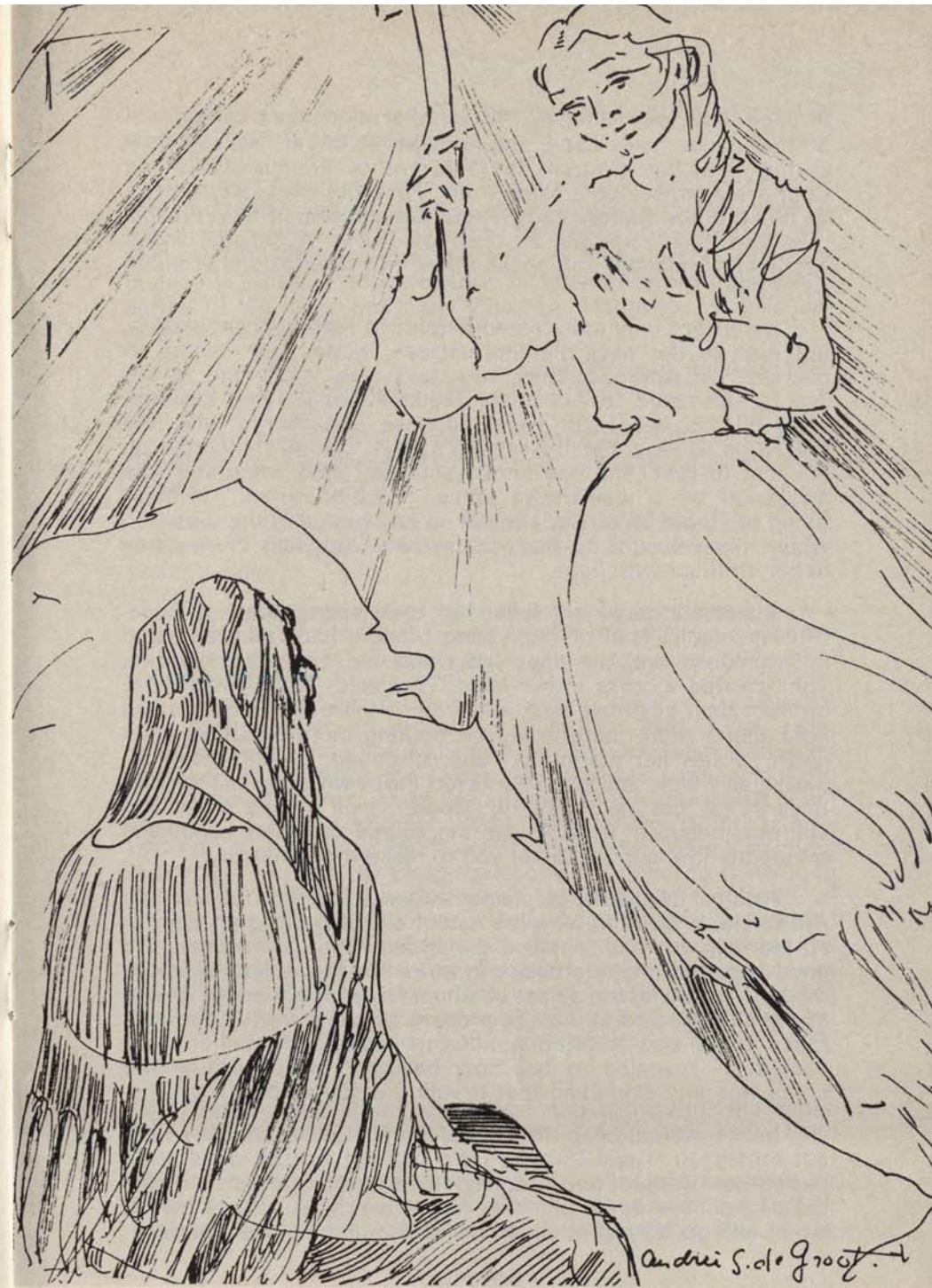


When Steven felt his strength diminishing, he asked for a respite of a few minutes so as to commend his soul to God. Then, in a final prayer, he begged the Lord to have pity on him and to pardon his torturers. Shortly afterwards his great heart ceased to beat and his soul went to Him who had created it for His glory.

Steven Tegananokoa was not the only martyr from the Mission of St. Francis Xavier. "Kateri," wrote Father Choleneq, "had foreboded the glorious death of several Christians of this Mission long before it arrived, and it is probable that from heaven where she now is, she sustained the courage of these great-hearted faithful, who manifested their constance and their faith in the most awful torments..." In 1692, an Onondaga woman, Frances Gonannahatenha perished in the most atrocious torments. Her martyrdom took place in her native village, and was followed in the next year by that of one of her compatriots, Marguerite Garongoüas with her son, who was still at the breast, and last of all about 1693, by a young Mohawk with a very long name, Stephen Haonhouentsiontaouet. With Kateri, these martyrs are the purest glory not only of the Iroquois but also of all Amerindians.

This vision was not the only one granted to Father Claude Chauchetière. During the following year, on September 1, 1681, and on April 21, 1682, Kateri favored him again with her presence. In these last two apparitions, she appeared to him as glorious as the noonday sun, and he heard the following words: **Inspice et fac secundum exemplar:** See that you make it according to the pattern." (Exod., XXV, 40). Father Claude had the reputation of being something of an artist and he understood by these words that the Lord wanted him to paint pictures of Kateri. This he did not hesitate to do despite the opposition he had met with until then with respect to them. The happy effects of these portraits of the Iroquois Maiden exceeded the missionary's fondest expectations. She rapidly became popular throughout New France. Why? A picture of her was placed on the heads of the sick and many extraordinary cures were thus obtained, even miracles. In the **Lettres édifiantes et curieuses**, Book XIII, published in Paris in 1718, Father Choleneq wrote of "...the young Iroquois Maiden who died here in the odor of sanctity, and whom we consider the protectress of this colony..." About the same time, Mother Juchereau of St. Ignatius declared in the **Annales de l'Hôtel-Dieu** of Quebec: "The Frenchmen who saw her dead honor her as a saint... From that time on, people have recourse to her from every quarter of Canada, and God has performed many miraculous cures



Kateri Appears to Anastasia.