

feast where they were all assembled. I know not whether it was a good fortune or a bad fortune for us, that these barbarians set forth a little too late, and could not overtake them; perhaps our blood would do more for the conversion of these peoples than all our sweat.

The next day, the captain of this wretched village came to find our Missionaries in the village whither they had retreated, in order to make his excuses; but he had much difficulty in clearing himself. Then it was that our Joseph Chiouatenhoua most revealed his courage, and finely criticized this captain, who was astonished that we called the things of the Faith matters of importance. This Christian, then taking up the matter, said to him: "It is really you captains, who know not what are matters of importance; you are the ones who have overturned our country by separating us from the maxims and good regulations of our ancestors; it is these black gowns here, [181] whom you despise, who know what matters of importance are, and who come to teach us the same. I would have thee know that I am the one who am everywhere, in derision, called 'The believer:' they think to curse me, and that is my greatest glory. I am that man; I have such and such kinsmen in thy village; I make profession of following the good instructions which these my teachers give me. We have no sense, as many as we are; our thoughts extend no further than this life. Those who believe found their hopes upon an eternity of good things which assuredly await them; as for you who are always infidels, you do not expect miseries after your death, and yet they will be inevitable for you unless you open your eyes to your wretchedness. You