

of accomplishing this than that of presents, they carried some with them; and, after arriving in the country, they made known their purpose.

I do not know that ever any matter was argued there as this was,—some agreeing to the proposition, others not wishing to hear [41] mentioned either the meeting, or presents coming from our hands, saying boldly and clearly, that this was a charm which we intended to use in order to ruin their country, as we had hitherto ruined those in which we had been. However, the meeting was held, but the presents were refused; what we gained was that, in this assembly of the most Notable men of the Country, our commission in the name of God was declared to them, and the obligation of recognizing and honoring his divine Majesty and Our Lord Jesus Christ as the master of their lives and their salvation, was enjoined upon them. Perhaps there was present some Predestined soul, which in its own time will profit by so blessed a discourse.

Since that time, however, the Fathers have gone through all the villages and hamlets of this district, and have discharged their duties therein with all freedom, as having a power independent of all these ceremonies; and they have found in these people a totally different manner and reception from that which had been intimated to them by a Captain,—who, in open Council, gave them a command to vacate [42] the country as soon as possible, if they were wise. Indeed, there has been no village in which they have since been better received than in the one where this Captain dwells,—the inhabitants endeavoring, it would seem, to repair the fault of their chief; but they stop there for the present, and