

do not yet speak of embracing the Faith in earnest. We shall see, in time, what constancy will produce in these people, unless God, solicited by some devout souls, be pleased to open a quicker way.

We begin to question if the scourges and punishments, which happen to those who despise the calls and sweet invitations of Heaven, may not be one of the expedients of his goodness, to cause the eyes of these poor blind ones to be opened. At all events, it is certain that to the village of Ehwae, surnamed St. Pierre and St. Paul,—the principal village of this Mission, whence Father Garnier was driven last year,—all imaginable misfortunes happened before the end of the year. The greater part of the cabins were burned by the enemy about three months afterward. [43] Many died of hunger, of cold, or of smallpox; others perished in the water, and many were taken by the enemy. In fact, the matter appeared so extraordinary that the Captain of a neighboring village might well notice it,—attributing the desolation of this village to no other cause than to the refusal they made to the Preachers of the Gospel, last year.

I would greatly lengthen this Chapter if I undertook to set forth here in detail all that the Fathers were compelled to suffer from these Barbarians, in the space of the 4 or 5 months that the principal term of their Mission continued,—to say nothing of that which is common to all the Missionaries of these regions, of which something could be seen in the last Relation, and which has been so much the more considerable this year, as the snow has been here extraordinarily deep. One day, as they were going from one village to another, laden with