

his harangue in these words: "It is not long since we had no eyes; we stretched out our hands like the blind, and found nothing except what led us toward precipices. Not only were our eyelids closed, but our ears were also shut, and we heard nothing of what is said in Heaven. Finally, the word pierced our ears and opened our eyes. Would to God that you could see what we see, and hear what we hear and admire! These things are as wonderful as they are true. I shall not tell you of them; but the Father will, who has come here to instruct you. And in order that your ears may not refuse to hear his words, he gives you by my hands some awls, with which to pierce them." Thereupon he drew out the first present, and threw it down before those whom he invited to embrace the Faith. Then [149] he continued his harangue: "It is not enough to have your ears pierced, and to listen to what will be said to you. You must abandon your old customs and superstitions; for you cannot mix good things with bad. I do not ask you to do anything that we have not ourselves done. We have burned all our songs, all our dances, all our superstitions and everything that the Devil had taught our forefathers. In order that you may also burn yours as easily, here is some tobacco which the Father gives you, and to which you will set fire. When you burn it, you will burn your old customs, to adopt better ones." And, as he said this, he drew out some cakes of tobacco, which constituted the second present.

The Captain replied with great modesty: "You treat me like a person of consideration, although I am but a little grain of dust. 'It is a Captain to