

contents himself with a little bread and water, or peas, in order to observe such obedience, although he is given to understand that necessity dispenses him from it.

[18] A Christian Captain, speaking to a Pagan who had come to see him and who was about to go on a long journey, said to him: "Tell me clearly, I beg thee, what thou thinkest of prayer. It is a long time since I told thee that I prayed from the bottom of my heart; formerly I urged thee to adopt our Belief, and thou didst not answer me. If thou wert to give me a quantity of food and of robes, I would not rejoice at it; but if thou saidst to me, 'I believe in God,' my heart would be delighted. For my part, I am not able to give thee advice. Go, however, with this thought of me, that I would rather lose everything, even life itself, than the Faith."

An impious man was arguing against a Father respecting the truth of our Doctrine; and, after much talk, he cried out that our prayers caused the Savages to die. A Christian who was present could no longer keep silent, and, raising his voice in anger, he said to that infidel man: "Speak no longer in such terms. It is your impiety that spoils all; it is your incredulity that kills us. You retain the Demons with you. My Father," he added, "I have always had this thought that the malice and infidelity [19] of those people would be our ruin. I have often told them so, and there are still some of them who venture to cast that reproach at us."

This same Christian, who is of the Attikameg tribe, was present at a meeting of his Countrymen, most of whom were not yet baptized; and, when he saw that a Father wished to preach to them, he