

Here is a trait of faith which has pleased me. We had notified certain persons here of an eclipse of the Moon, which occurred the thirtieth of January, and the beginning of which appeared to us at ten o'clock and forty-six minutes. I was then in the Village of la Conception. They did not fail to leave the cabins, to see if the eclipse would really be such as we had predicted it. A good Christian set himself to pray to God during all that time. The next day, the others asking him why he had not gone out to see so remarkable an eclipse, he answered: "Because it then came to my thought that [73] God had not invited us to go to see eclipses, but that indeed he had promised us that he would have more love for us, the more time we should give to prayer. To which another Christian replied, that, for his part, he had gone to see it on purpose to confirm himself in the belief which he had, that what we taught them of the future resurrection will one day prove just as true as what we had predicted to them of this eclipse before it appeared. "And as for myself," answered the first, "I believe so firmly all that God has revealed, and what is taught us of the things of the faith, that I have no need to go begging in the Moon any motive for my belief. If we believe all that they tell us of the cities and of the riches of France, without ever having seen aught of them, why shall I not believe what God has revealed of Paradise, and that one day we shall rise again? It must be that those who come to teach us are more certain of this than of the things which they have seen in France; since it is only with a view to Paradise that they have abandoned their relatives, [74] their native land, and whatever there can be most agreeable in