

ascending to my heavenly country: but because I love you, I am constrained to listen to such a proposition. If, then, you can collect a hundred bars, all will be forgotten. However I am aware that after the many losses you have suffered, you can never furnish so exorbitant a sum were you even to sell your lands, your clothes and rice, and to borrow on every side: try then whether you can procure only twenty or thirty bars, and the Mandarin will pardon the village and my companions. As for me not having enough to procure my ransom, as soon as I know that you are safe, I shall rejoice and shall be but little troubled with what I may have to endure, for I place my trust in God: he will provide for me, and grant me an eternal reward.

"I have only to beseech you to obtain for me from the Lord remission to his will.

Signed, "Father Tan."

"In this country such language is never heard, and caused therefore not a little astonishment to those poor people: all who surrounded me cried out, 'Oh! he is not afraid like us.' This letter did not produce any result.

* The examination of Sunday, 25th, consisted of questions relative to my voyage to France, and my family; my interrogators wanted to have the names of my parents, though they could not pronounce, and much less write them; for their words are invariable and indivisible, representing the figure of things, rather than the sounds of words. Thus, to write Cornay, they were obliged to take the syllables, Cao-Lang-Nc."

Mr. Cornay concludes his narrative in these words:—"When you shall receive this letter, my dear father and mother be not afflicted at my death: by consenting to my departure you have already made the chief sacrifice; and had you not to renew it, when your anxiety on my fate was awakened by the accounts of the evils which desolate this unfortunate country? You shall soon have to complete the sacrifice, when you receive the last adieu of your son; but, I confidently trust to be delivered ere that from

the miseries of this life and admitted to the glory of Heaven. Oh! how I shall think of you! How I shall supplicate the Lord to render you partakers of the recompense, whereas you have had so large a share in the sacrifice which procured it! You have too much the spirit of true Christians, not to understand this language; I shall not therefore indulge in any reflections. Adieu, dearest father and dearest mother, adieu: already in chains do I offer up my sufferings for you. Nor do I forget you either, my sisters! and all those who take an interest in my welfare: if, whilst on earth, I have not failed to recommend you to the intercession of Mary, what shall I not be able to do, if I should be so happy as to secure the palm of Martyrdom!

"I am, with all respect and filial affection possible, my dear father and mother, your obedient son,

"J. C. CORNAY, Miss. Apost."

It seems that five or six days after the arrest of Mr. Cornay, the King was informed of it by the Mandarins. A copy of the report which I was able to procure by bribing the keeper of the rolls, gives a detailed account of all the aggravating circumstances of the denunciation and the pillage by which it was followed. In it Mr. Cornay is clearly ranked with the leaders of the insurrection. Mention is also made in it of the seizure of various articles appertaining to religious worship, as well as of the arrest of several individuals, all imputed partizans of the revolt. Nor was it forgotten to cite the name of the Intendant of justice who concerted the whole affair, of the chief informer, and of the Colonel who executed it: all flattered themselves with wonders from the royal munificence. At the end of fourteen days, an answer was received from the Minister; it was laconic in the extreme, containing nothing more than the King had left the affair in the hands of the Mandarins of the province, to be judged by them: this is what the latter had solicited. We were not therefore without some hopes of a favourable issue; for I am disposed to think that the Mandarins were anxious to