

to be cruelly flogged. His sufferings extorted from him a confession that there was a European concealed in the village; it is even said, that he pointed out the place of his concealment. Another Christian was however accused of having shown the spot where he was hid. However this may be, it is certain that Mr. Cornay was discovered: he himself gives the following account of his capture.

"They set about examining every bush in the village. The danger becoming more imminent, I recited the Rosary, and you cannot be at a great loss to know what were the Mysteries which employed my thoughts during the time: you may well suppose, too, what was the sacrifice I offered in the morning, instead of the Holy Mass, and what was the subject of meditation which supplied that of the day. When I saw their long lances penetrating the bushes, I thought it better not to allow myself to be pierced through on the spot, though I foresaw such a determination would have freed me from all the miseries I have since endured; I came forth therefore from my hiding place before the points of the lances reached me, and delivered myself up. Whilst the guards were tying my hands behind my back, I made an offering of myself to Jesus bound. Conducted before the Mandarins, I cast myself on my knees, and offered my homage to Jesus crucified and the Blessed Virgin, whose images, seized with some other articles before my arrest, were hung behind the Mandarins. Observing that my eyes were fixed upon those sacred objects, they presented them to me, and asked what they meant. I immediately made my profession of faith by forming the sign of the Cross in a very precise manner, and distinctly pronounc-

ing the words. . . . But," continues Mr. Cornay, "the prey was too important to be allowed any possibility of escape. The cangue was therefore put round his neck—that cangue which, as the Committee of the Propagation of the Faith expressed it in his letter, is one day to be exchanged for us into a halo of glory. However, the cangue of Tong-King is not like that of China, a large square table which intercepts all communication between the hands and the head; it consists merely of two long pieces of wood joined together by four other cross pieces, two of which enclose the neck, and two the feet; hence he who carries it is pretty free in his movements. Forty persons were bound in this manner, to be ready to set out with the troops. I witnessed all these preparations and pitied this poor people, who, too weak to receive their misfortunes with gratitude from the hand of God, would throw all the blame upon me, and my fellow-labourer, Mr. Marette, by whom I was placed in their village."

After a long prayer on his knees, and exposed to the burning rays of the sun, Mr. Cornay sat down in the shade, and answered the usual interrogatories. At noon breakfast was brought to the prisoners by their wives and children; but our holy brother was obliged to fast until five o'clock in the evening: at his request the Mandarin gave him three spoonfuls of rice; this constituted the whole meal. "Before I eat," said he, "as well as after, I offer my thanksgiving to God, and frequently made the sign of the Cross, as well as the cangue would permit me: those who were around understood what I meant.

Mr. Cornay, although a prisoner, preserved a cheerful countenance; he even sang some religious airs, which,