

BORRI. which wants nothing to make it a part of heaven, but that God should send thither a great many of his angels, so *S. John Chrysostom* calls apostolical men, and preachers of the gospel. How easily would the faith be spread abroad in this kingdom of *Cochin-China*, where there are not those difficulties which we fathers of the society dispers'd about the *East*, do meet with in other countries; for there is no need here of being disguis'd or conceal'd, these people admitting of all strangers in their kingdom, and being well pleas'd that every one should live in his own religion. Nor is it necessary before preaching to spend many years in studying their letters and hieroglyphicks, as the fathers in *Cbina* do, for here it is enough to learn the language, which as has been said is so easie, that a man may preach in a year. The people are not shy, nor do they shun strangers, as is practis'd in other eastern nations, but make much of them, affect their persons, prize their commodities, and commend their doctrine.

They do not lie under that great impediment for the receiving the grace of the gospel, that is, the sin of sodomy, and others contrary to nature, which is frequent in all the other eastern countries, the very name whereof the *Cochin-Chinese* naturally abhor. In short, these people may very easily be taught the principal mysteries of our holy faith, they, as we have shewn, in a manner adoring but one only God, accounting the idols as inferior saints, allowing the immortality of the soul, eternal punishments for the wicked, and bliss for the

just, using temples, sacrifices, processions; so that changing the objects, it would be easie to introduce the worship. That there will be no difficulty in making out the mystery of the holy eucharist may appear by the distinction they make between the accidents and substance of the meat they provide for the dead, as has been said above in this second book. All these things inflame the minds of the children of the society, who tho' reclus and shut up in the colleges and provinces of *Europe*, have an ardent desire to convert the world. And tho' many of them put it in practice with the assistance of the holy see apostolick, which with a fatherly care relieves the mission of *Japan*; as also by his catholick majesty king *Philip*, and his council of the *Indies*, who so frequently with incredible bounty supply the *East* and *West-Indies* with ministers of the gospel, yet it is impossible that these two great pillars which support other mighty weights, and bear almost all the world on their shoulders, can sufficiently supply all that daily occurs and is discover'd. I therefore trust in God, that his Divine Providence will rouse up some generous soul, inflam'd with the zeal of God's honour, to send and maintain some evangelical ministers, who satisfy'd with a religious and poor sustenance, may convey the food of the gospel not only throughout *Cochin-China*, but unto the great kingdom of *Tunchim*, founding a church and christian flock that may compare with the most renowned in the world.

F I N I S.