

watomies not converted, and the other of Indians of the mission. These latter have put me on their list, in order that I may accompany them to Washington to advance the interests of the mission, and aid them in attaining with more certainty the object of their proceedings with the government. It will belong to the superior to decide on what I shall do. Whatsoever be his decision, I shall be content."

The earliest news of the death of the zealous missionary, although still not very precise, was accompanied by circumstances which hardly left any doubt concerning his fate. Two or three days after, we learned certain details of his loss. He went from the mission of St. Mary's to Leavenworth, on horseback, a distance of about eighty miles. Thence he went, in a stage-coach, fifty miles further, to the town of Kansas. He afterwards set out from Kansas, in a boat, with four other travellers, intending to descend the Missouri river as far as a place where steamboats would be met, which, on account of the lowness of the waters in this season of the year, cannot go up the river as high as Fort Leavenworth. Descending the river is a very perilous enterprise, considering the rapidity of the current, and the numerous forest-trees, detached from the shores and buried in the bed of the river. To strike against one of these "sawyers" is enough to capsize the boat, and every year a number of boats are lost in this manner. The danger was certainly not unknown to Father Duerinck: but, a son of obedience, and a man of zeal, he thought, without doubt, that he ought not to recoil before a danger which so many travellers encounter every day. This devotedness cost him his life. Twenty-five miles below Kansas city, the point of their departure, between the towns of Wayne and Liberty, the boat, striking against a snag, capsized. All the passengers were thrown into the