

brought up under other conditions. In participating in our civilization, they believe they have a right to its advantages according to their position, and they would consider themselves a little neglected if they were not at first placed in a certain degree of comfort. There is also a fear that in returning to their first condition, they would, at the same time, be forced to return to the habits and feelings of indifference which are only too prevalent among other Malagese. It was therefore, necessary to give them a small but good cottage, a small wardrobe, some furniture, which we have taken care they should make for themselves, and a small portion which will be given to them according to their wants. Thus a complete home is provided, and then without too much anxiety they will set to work to earn their daily bread, and to preserve by their labor the position which has been made for them.

These nuptials, since we must call them by that name, have drawn many people, as you may understand. Here Christians and pagans, relations and friends of the newly married, dressed out in their best, mixed with and formed the cortege, all desirous to do honor to those who on this day entered their ranks, and who were now to take a part in their life. The ceremony was made as solemn as possible. The organ or rather the harmonium, did not cease to play during the whole mass; but what was more edifying was to see all those approach the holy table who were the objects of this ceremony, and also many of their relatives and friends. When the ceremony in the church was ended, the cortege proceeded to the "Catholic Camp" where they were expected in the hall, adorned with the leaves of the cocoa-nut. After the usual congratulations and a short rest, came the dinner, which was very appropriate to the circumstances. A rich Malagese would, on such an occasion, kill one or several oxen, but we were more moderate, and yet all were satisfied. All were assembled when suddenly an expression of joy arose throughout the assembly, —the 'betsabetsa' made its appearance. The 'betsabetsa' is the usual drink at all Malagese festivals. The parents would not believe that they had treated their friends properly, if each one had not moistened his lips with this liquor, a true nectar to them, but to us rather insipid. All participated with joy and moderation. Soon after another source of pleasure. The Malagese musicians had arrived, armed with their violins and tambourines. They came to amuse the assembly