

of his room open all the day long, from which his hands (as may well be imagined) were covered with chops and sores, and during the excessive heat of summer he walked about reading, with his head bare, under a burning sun.— Ordained Priest on the 16th of June, 1821, he entered some days after into the seminary of Foreign Missions. He left Paris on the 14th of November of the same year, to take shipping at Havre for Pondicherry, whence he went to Macao, and thence to Tong-King, the place of his destination."

We now resume the narration of the Missionaries :

"It was not enough," said they, "that our persecutors forced us to fly from all society, and drag out in the middle of the forests a miserable and suffering existence, to which we had seen the bishop of Castoria fall a victim. Minh-Menh exacted punishments of such a nature as would terrify the multitude, and draw the Christians into apostacy, so that the prisons almost daily received new confessors. How consoling would it be to us, if we could announce that all showed a courage worthy of the cause ! But alas ! amongst so many Christian heroes, there were many cowardly deserters of the faith, and it is with shame we say it, one of the most notorious renegades was an Annamite Priest, named John Duyet, who had been already interdicted by his superiors, from all ecclesiastical functions. This wretched man, who, a long time before his apostacy, had led a life of scandal, renounced his faith, and trampled upon the cross as often as he was required to do so. In vain did the Christians express aloud their horror of him. 'See,' said the Priest, Dominic Hanh, even in the presence of the mandarins, 'see your head ; it is already

hald, or scarcely covered with a few grey hairs ; how long can you hope to live ? and you abandon your God for a few days of a life which must soon slip from you ! and you bring dishonour on a sacred profession, in order to please a cruel king ! You afflict the Church, who has hitherto fed you with such tender care, and you give yourself up to Satan, who seeks your perdition !"

" ' O father,' added a soldier who was in prison with him, ' if we, men of the word, and soldiers of the king, were to act as you do, it would be no doubt an enormous crime, but which would not be very surprising in men ignorant and guilty of other sins as we are ; but you, who are learned, and who have instructed others during so many years, you who told them so often that they ought rather to die than commit a mortal sin, you who have renounced the world from your infancy ; oh ! how can you trample under foot the cross of Jesus Christ !— All this, however, made no impression upon him. And whence, may we be permitted to ask, has arisen such weakness in the hour of trial, such obstinacy against remonstrances so urgent and so affecting ? Alas ! from the same cause that has already brought perdition upon so many souls ; from pride, from immorality, from the love of the things of this world. These were the vices which brought upon him the censures of the Church, and for which God permitted him to fall into this ignominious apostacy.

" Let us now turn to a more consoling spectacle. The mandarins permitted the two Spanish Bishops and Father Fernandez, pro-Vicar-General, to be let out of their cages, in which they were confined, and allowed them to converse together for about two hours,