

with a strong feeling of happiness, 'The hour of my sacrifice is then at last arrived, this hour which I have so long invoked with all my desire? He then communicated to them his last wishes, and shortly after the jailer closed the prison in order to allow no person to enter any more.

"Saturday (1), towards noon, the mandarin charged with carrying the sentence into effect, came to take the two criminals, in order to conduct them to execution. Nam walked first, and the other followed him closely. Peace and joy of heart shone on their countenances; on the way they ceased not to testify their affection for their relations and friends, whom they met as they passed. 'The favour I receive comes from God alone,' said the catechist Tu. 'We must certainly thank God, my brethren,' repeated Anthony Nam. When the procession had reached the place where Dr. Borie and the two Tongkinese priests had been martyred, Tu, inquired for the exact place where his dear master had been put to death; it was pointed out to him, and he knelt down some moments to pray. Nam having had himself conducted to the spot where the two Tongkinese priests had consummated their sacrifice, stopped and made to God this prayer: 'I thank you, O my God, for granting me the same grace and the same happiness.'

"The mandarin then ordered the cages of the confessors to be removed and mats to be spread, upon which they reposed a few instants, whilst their Christian relatives, and a great number of infidels, surrounded them to take their last farewell at the same time shedding a torrent of tears. Why do you weep?" said Nam to them, with an accent of heavenly sweetness: "rather rejoice with me, for my heart is abound-

ing in consolation.' He then added, addressing himself to all the by-standers 'O my brethren, live together in peace, union, and charity; love each other; praise and glorify our Lord Jesus Christ Whilst he was speaking, the mandarin commanded the stakes necessary for the execution to be planted finally, he ordered the two martyrs to lie down upon the ground and to extend their arms. 'Formerly,' said Nam, then formerly my Saviour and my God was stretched and nailed in this manner.' In some instants after the two saints entered heaven. It was then three o'clock in the afternoon, it was at this hour, also, that the Saviour of the world finished, upon Calvary, the most glorious work of our redemption. During the whole time of the execution, Christians and pagans stood confounded in a common feeling of admiration and grief.

"In the evening, the Mandarin allowed the Christians to take away the relics of the martyrs, and to inter them wherever they might think proper. The obsequies of Nam were performed with as much pomp as the circumstances would allow; the two bodies were carried to the province of Ngha-An, and now repose in the district of our dear colleague, Dr. Masson. Nam was seventy-three years old; Peter Tu was only thirty one.

"You may have already several times remarked that the mandarins, in their very accusations, furnish numerous and striking proofs of the truth of our dogmas, which are the most violently attacked; thus, you know that Minh-Menh said, in an edict of persecution, in respect of *this enchanted bread, which renders the Christians so strong*; you know also that one of his first officers asked one of our colleagues in an examination, what was this mys-