

soul redeemed by the blood of Christ! May all Christians, when about to engage in useless expenses, feel compassion at the remembrance of these unfortunate creatures, and thank divine Providence, who seems to place in their hands the price of their eternal salvation.

To form a new Christian society in a city or village where religion is not yet known, one or two Christian families are led to settle there.— These families make it known at first by their conversations, which prepare their new fellow-citizens to receive subsequently the instructions of the missionaries; but this method is expensive, because it is necessary to indemnify the families which are thus removed, for whatever inconvenience they may sustain.

At Tong-king the scarcity was so great in 1817, that the students in the college could only have, at each repast, as much rice as would equal the size of an egg. This college contained 200 young men, all at the expense of the mission. At the present day, since, in consequence of the persecution, it was necessary that these young men should be dispersed through a multitude of places, the additional expense required may be easily conceived. It was estimated one year, that each bottle of wine for consecration, conveyed to Tong-king, had cost more than £4, in consequence of the expense of transport and the losses cause by different accidents.

The Right Rev. Dr. Florent Bishop of Sozopolis, and vicar apostolic of Siam, who was in great favor with the king of that country, had for his palace a miserable thatched cabin, raised in the air by means of four rafters. A naked board served him for his bed, and some wooden seats for furniture. He went barefoot. His wardrobe was composed of an old violet cassock, and a hood of waxed cloth, which he called his hat. A short time before his death, this holy prelate wrote to all the Associates of the Institution for the Propagation of the Faith, saying, "£2 would have been often sufficient to enable me to establish a catechist in some place, who might have baptised many hundred children of infidels, and done a vast deal of good; but I had not this sum;" so the children died without baptism, and the infidels remained in their horrible blindness.

In the Islands of New Holland the missionaries are obliged to have with them even clothes to meet the eager demands of the naked inhabitants. "If we clothe them," says a missionary in one of his letters, "we shall gain them to Jesus Christ: if not, we are in danger of failing in our enterprise. It is not only clothes, but instruments for agriculture—seeds, grain, utensils of all kinds: the sciences and all useful arts, which they must take with them, together with the light of the faith."

The voyages are also a source of considerable expense. To reach