

also told me to have workmen brought out from France, to help them to build small dwellings, and that they would pay for their work in furs." "But who could live with you?" said he to them. "Why not?" they replied, "especially if they no longer sell us wine or brandy. Write to France, and tell the Captains to send ships here, and not to send us any more of those poisons that destroy us, that take away our senses, and cause us untimely death. Let the same be done here as at Kebec, where it is not permitted to sell this fire water to the Savages." They had begged that the Bark that goes to trade with them should not bring any such liquors. But our French cannot refrain from selling, nor the Savages from buying it, whenever an opportunity presents itself,—especially the young men, who are guilty of a thousand acts of insolence when [152] drunk. The elders had asserted that they would put in irons all who became intoxicated.

A young man, strong and robust, bereft of his senses through drink, entered, entirely naked, the cabin where the Assembly was being held, defied the Captain, and challenged him to bind or to have him bound with an iron chain that he himself carried on his shoulders, threatening to kill the first one who approached him. "Alas," the Father writes me, "can you not find some remedy for such disorders? I have no doubt that these poor people would follow the example of your Montagnais if these Gentlemen, who control the trade, would prevent any more of these death-dealing waters from being sold to them. I have not the honor of knowing them. Perhaps they have not been informed of these disorders."