

others a thinner and more delicate one; the latter, which are not so well provided with defensive armor, are bolder. A Frenchman caught one of considerable size, which he thought he had killed with a club; he tied a string to its tail, and threw it over his shoulder. When the animal, which is rather tenacious of life, recovered from the stupor caused by the blows discharged on its head, it seized its foe by the back with its small jaws, and bit him so hard that he yelled with pain. He dropped the cord, to allow the tortoise to fall; but it would not loosen its hold, and remained suspended by its teeth, biting harder and harder, without letting go; finally its head had to be cut off, in order to appease its anger.

[154] Let us conclude this Chapter with an incident that is all the more remarkable that it is quite new in these countries. The ships brought out so much and such strong liquor, to sell secretly to the Savages, that the disorder to which it gave rise was exceedingly deplorable. Monsieur d'Ailleboust, our new Governor, wishing to remedy the evil, sent for the Captains of the Savages, and asked them what they thought on the subject. It is a prudent act to govern these peoples by the very persons who belong to their nation. The good Neophytes replied that they had long desired that the drunkenness that crosses the sea on board our ships should not land in their cabins, but that they could not induce their people to point out those who sold them these liquors in secret. "They must, then," replied Monsieur the Governor, "submit to the laws that will be enacted against their excesses." They agreed to this, and the drum was beaten, at the close of high Mass, at the Residence of Saint Joseph. All the Savages