

woman; but the latter, unless she wishes to be thought unmannerly, litigious, and avaricious, should give back the pouch, and content herself with some civility or gratuity, which the other owes her."

But the policy which they observe for preventing murders, which are very rare, is worthy to be reported here, and it will be seen in a case which occurred on the 28th of April in the year 1648. A Frenchman, who from devotion served us there for nothing, was killed by the Hurons. He was a young man of 22 years, called Jacques Douart. He was met by two assassins, who were seeking some one of us or of ours, with the intention of killing the first whom they should find alone. The order for this had been given by six Captains, from three several Villages, who were very hostile to the faith, and who intended, by that means, to hinder the good understanding between us and our Christians, to terrify us all, and to constrain us to abandon the country, and thus to prevent the preaching of the Gospel, which they deemed a thing prejudicial to their interests. They killed him with a hatchet-blow, toward [15 i.e., 17] Sunset; and on the following morning, our Christians, having received the report of it, came from the neighboring districts to tell us that this crime was a sure sign of certain plots against us: "But here we are," they added, "all ready to die for the defense of our Fathers and of the faith." The whole country became aroused: wherefore the leaders of the nation assembled in a general council, at which the authors of the murder, showing themselves to be enemies of the faith, did not fail to say, not only that it was necessary to make no account of what had happened, but further, that the gates of their villages