

the chief means that I employ to retain our Savages — when I see that any of them are thinking of returning among the English in Acadia — is to say to them these very words: “ My child, thou wishest to return to Acadia. Every one there will try to make thee intoxicated. No one will restrain thee; thou wilt die suddenly, without being able to return hither; thou wilt cast thyself into the underground fire. My child, thou art more miserable here than in Acadia, I know; but here thou prayest. Thy father who directs prayer prevents thee from getting intoxicated; and when the devil takes thee unawares, without thy Father knowing it, and causes thee to get drunk, thy Father makes thee acknowledge thy fault as soon as possible, and Jesus, thy captain, absolves thee.” To this they reply: “ My Father, thou art right; I obey thee, and remain.” Only two days ago, I made one remain by speaking to him as I have just described. Over a year ago, some who wished to return said to me: “ It is true, thou teachest us well; but the french are as wicked as the English. They get drunk here, as we do in Acadia.” And thereupon two of them went away. I think you have heard that nine or ten Cabins left the Sault mission last year, because they said that they had withdrawn there solely to live in peace, far from the disorders caused by intemperance; but that they found themselves as greatly annoyed by drunkards as they were in their own country. I have also said that this prohibition respecting drunkenness was the means of making our Savages happy among the french; and it is one of the arguments that have most impressed their minds, in making