

governor, unless there were an improvement in his conduct. The governor was accused of being on too familiar terms with a widow,—on account of too frequent visits, of suspicions, and of a long-continued habit. I promised him that, for my part, I would act as I have always done, and would do my duty. This happened at the beginning of lent. During lent he held several meetings, and proclaimed twelve reserved cases. There was but one in this diocese, and it related to the french who sinned with the savage women. Monsieur the present bishop says that, on his last journey to France, the bishops in that country told him that such a thing as a diocese without reserved cases was unheard-of; for that reason he established some. I went to ask Monseigneur for authority to give absolution in a reserved case. He treated me like a little school-boy; he put many questions to me, and wished to allot the penance without knowing the evil,—asking me whether the persons lived in the opportunity for incest,—that was the matter. I saw that he was very suspicious of me and of my morality. Nevertheless I submitted to everything, once for all. He wished to tempt me and make me speak about our privileges; but I was very reserved on this point. Some days afterward, as easter was approaching, I went to consult him on the measures to be taken with respect to our governor. He acted like a man of the court, treating me to a rigmarole in order to entangle me, and, in the event of his being unsuccessful, to cast the blame on me. Nevertheless, I extricated myself as well as I could; our governor performed his duties at Québec and my conduct was approved by our superiors; our Bishop alone blamed me.