

Memorial by Father Lafitau: On the sale of liquor to the Savages.

THE trade in brandy and other similar liquors is entirely opposed to the well-being of the Colony and of the State, chiefly for four reasons,—the first of which is, that it concerns the tranquillity and the interests of the savages.

When these people are intoxicated, they become so furious that they break and smash everything in their houses; they utter horrible yells and shouts, and, like madmen, seek their enemies to stab them. At such times, even their relatives and friends are not safe from their fury, and they bite off one another's noses and ears.

Father Bruyas, a former Missionary, has several times asserted that over one hundred persons had come to settle at Sault St. Louis in the hope of escaping the annoyances of this evil of drunkenness; but that many had returned thence when they saw liquor and drunkenness as common and as frequent as in their own country.

Although the savages like to drink, they are nevertheless sorry for having done so, because in their drunken fits they lose all they have, and they keenly regret this when they come to their senses.

Disunion and the dissolution of their marriages invariably result from their drunkenness, owing to the sorrow and despair of their wives when they see themselves despoiled by their drunken husbands—