

whole system of government is mild and agreeable. Everywhere there are libertine spirits who consider the mildest laws as chains; but their discontent is a disease of the mind, and does not arise from the severity of the laws, which are in no wise characterized by bitterness. Furthermore, those laws enacted here are also observed. Here are some proofs of this. On the twenty-ninth of December of the year one thousand six hundred and thirty-five, there were placed upon a pillar in front of the Church certain notices and prohibitions, with certain penalties, against blasphemy, drunkenness, failing to attend the Mass and divine services on Holydays. In pursuance of which an iron collar was fastened to the same pillar, and a chevalet³⁰ near by for the delinquents; and here in fact, on the sixth of January, a drunkard and blasphemer was placed; and on the twenty-second, one of our residents was condemned to fifty livres fine for having made some Savages drunk.³¹ The best laws in the world [154] are of no value, if they are not observed. As to Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, it is only exercised as yet in the hearts and consciences. Truly, we have reason to bless God, seeing that the increase of our Parishioners is the augmentation of his praises. The first sacrifices of the Mass that we presented in this country were offered in a wretched little hut that we would be ashamed of now; afterwards we used a room, then they had a Chapel built. They have tried to change it into a Church, enlarging it by half or thereabout; and with all that, on Fête-days the first two Masses which are said at Kébec are so frequented that this large Chapel, or this little Church, is full *usque ad cornu altaris*, from one end to the