

God him whom you honor, and ordained all the ceremonies that you observe; as for us, we have learned others from our own Fathers."

The Father rejoined that he was altogether mistaken in his opinion,—that it was not through a mere choice that we had taken God [117] for our God, that nature herself taught us to acknowledge as God him who has given us being and life: that, as for what concerns our ceremonies, they are not a human invention, but divine; that God himself had prescribed them to us, and that they were strictly observed all over the earth.

As for our ways of doing things, he said that it was quite true they were altogether different from theirs,—that we had this in common with all nations; that, in fact, there were as many different customs as there were different peoples upon the earth; that the manner of living, of dressing, and of building houses was entirely different in France from what it was here, and in other countries of the world, and that this was not what we found wrong. But, as to what concerned God, all nations ought to have the same sentiments; that the reality of a God was one, and so clear that it was only necessary to open the eyes to see it written in large characters upon the faces of all creatures. The Father made them a fine and rather long speech upon this subject, from which he drew this conclusion, that to please God it was not enough to build a Chapel in his honor, as they claimed, but that the chief thing was to [118] keep his commandments and give up their superstitions. *Onaconchiaronk* admitted that the father was right, and did his utmost in exhorting the whole company to overcome all these difficulties. But, as each one