

[46] CHAPTER IV.

GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE NATIONS OF THE OUTA-
OUAC COUNTRY.

UPON the Father's arrival in the country of the Outaouacs, he found their minds filled with alarm at a fresh war in which they were about to engage with the Nadouessi—a warlike nation, using no other arms in its wars than the bow and the club.

A detachment of young warriors was already forming under the lead of a chief who, having suffered an injury, did not consider whether the vengeance which he was bent on exacting would cause the ruin of all the villages of his country.

[47] To forestall such a disaster, the elders called a general council of ten or twelve circumjacent nations, all interested in this war,—in order to stay the hatchets of these rash ones by the presents which they should give them in so important an assembly.

To promote this end, the Father was invited to attend, and did so, that he might at the same time address all these people in the name of Monsieur de Tracy,—from whom he bore a speech in three clauses, with three presents to serve as their interpreters.

All this great Assembly having given him audience, “My brothers,” said he to them, “the motive that brings me to your country is very important, and makes it fitting that you should listen to my