

this list of names, & they were necessarily and dissimulated.

They have no religion, or, at least, worship no Supreme Being, and know nothing of prayers, or sacrifices, or other sacred rites. Yet, they believe in the existence of certain supernatural beings, whom they figure to themselves, however, as not altogether incorporeal. The chief and mightiest of these is Torngarsuk, who is said to dwell under the earth, and is described sometimes as a bear, sometimes as a man with one arm, sometimes as a diminutive person not larger than one's finger. To him their angekkoks are obliged to make many a journey to obtain advice in cases of sickness, &c., &c. Besides this good spirit who is invisible to all but the angekkoks, they speak of many others, less powerful, spirits of fire, and of water, and of a spirit of the air, who, through the medium of the angekkoks, instructs them what they ought to do, or leave undone, in order to be happy. Each angekkok has, moreover, his own guardian spirit, or familiar, whom he conjures, and consults as his oracle. I have frequently been present on such occasions of conjuration, and will relate briefly what took place on one of them.