

Mr. McIntosh quotes Pennant as saying: "The Tongusi use canoes made of birch bark distended over ribs of wood, and nicely sewed together. The Canadian and many other American nations use no other sort of boats. The paddles of the Tongusi are broad at each end; those of the people near Cook's River and of Onslascha are of the same form." We know that Pennant is right, for the Tungus have a special name for the birch bark canoe which they call *djalban-dyan*, the first word denoting the birch tree.

Mackenzie thus describes the canoes of the Dogribs: "Their canoes are small, pointed at both ends, flat-bottomed, and covered in the fore part. They are made of the bark of the birch-tree and fir-wood, but of so slight a construction that the man whom one of these light vessels bears on the water, can, in return, carry it overland without any difficulty. It is very seldom that more than one person embarks in them, nor are they capable of receiving more than two. The paddles are six feet long, one-half of which is occupied by a blade of about eight inches wide." Hearne's description is as follows: "The canoes of the Northern Indians are in form somewhat like a weaver's shuttle, having flat bottoms, straight sides and pointed end. The stern is always much larger than the bow, as generally intended to hold baggage and sometimes to be occupied by a second person, stretched at full length in the bottom of the canoe. The man and the baggage cross rivers and the narrower parts of lakes by means of these little crafts, which rarely exceed from twelve to thirteen feet in length and from twenty inches to two feet in their greatest beam. The bow of these canoes is elongated and narrow; it is covered with birch-bark which adds considerably to the weight without adding anything to its usefulness. Generally the Northern Indians make use of a single paddle, though some have a second, like the Esquimaux; but the latter is rarely employed, save to club, cariboo when crossing rivers or narrow lakes." Father Morice says of the Carriers: "They use 'dug-out' canoes made of the hollowed out trunk of a large cotton-wood tree (*Abies subalpina*). There is no artistic merit in their design, which is of rather a rough description, for we must not forget that 'dug-outs' are, among them, a recent importation from the East. In the beginning of this century they used only birch bark canoes."

rites and ceremonies of the Tungus and the Dénés.

Abernethy states that "The Tongusi believe in the existence of a supreme being, according to whose will they shall either conquer or die. They call him the *god of hosts*, because on him, they