

subject, respecting the variety of complexions, see, toward the close of this volume, the remarks of Professor Mitchell, late of New-York.

RESPECTING A DIVISION OF THE EARTH BY NOAH AMONG
HIS SONS.

It cannot be denied but the whole earth, at the time the ark rested on mount Ararat, belonged to Noah, he being the prince, patriarch, or head and ruler of his own family ; consequently of all the inhabitants of the earth, as there were *none* but his own house. This is more than can be said of any other man since the world began, except of the man Adam. Accordingly, in the true character of a Patriarchal Prince, as related by Eusebius, an ecclesiastical writer of the fourth century, and by others, that Noah, being commanded of God, proceeded to make his *will*, dividing the *whole* earth between his three sons, and their respective heirs or descendants.

To Shem he gave all the East ; to Ham, all *Africa* ; to Japheth, the continent of *Europe*, with its *Isles*, and the northern parts of *Asia*, as before pointed out. And may we not add *America*, which, in the course of Divine Providence, is *now* in the possession of the posterity of Japheth, and it is not impossible but this quarter of the earth may have been known even to Noah, as we are led to suspect from the statement of Eusebius.

This idea, or information, is brought forward by Adam Clarke, from whose commentary on the Scriptures, we have derived it.—That a knowledge of not only *Africa*, *Asia*, and *Europe*, was in the possession of Noah, but even the *islands* of *Europe*, is probable, or how could he have given them to the posterity of his son *Japheth*, as written by Eusebius.

It may be questioned, possibly, whether these countries, at so early a period, had yet been explored, so as to furnish Noah with *any* degree of knowledge respecting them. To this it may be replied, that he lived *three hundred and fifty years* after the flood, and more than a hundred and fifty after the building of the tower of