

freely of their juice, and not knowing its effect, became drunk unconsciously, and fell asleep. Cham seeing him in that state, ran to call his brothers, laughing and making merry over the old man's condition.

Q. What did Sem and Japhet?

A. Instead of laughing at their father's situation as their brother had done, they took a cloak and covered him respectfully.

Q. What did Noah, on awaking and being told what had passed?

A. He cursed Cham, in his descendants, and blessed Sem and Japhet in themselves and their posterity.

Q. How were these words of his fulfilled?

A. In the course of some ages, the posterity of Cham, through Canaan his son, were almost entirely cut off, and the remainder reduced to a state of bondage, by the descendants of Sem and Japhet.

Q. What race of men at the present day represent the descendants of Cham and his son Canaan?

A. The African, or negro race, are the lineal descendants of Cham and Canaan.

Q. What great enterprise did the race of Noah undertake before they scattered abroad over the earth from the plains of Mesopotamia, where they had first settled?

A. They undertook to build a mighty tower, high enough to reach to heaven. This was partly to render their name famous in after times, and partly to secure for themselves a safe retreat from any future deluge that might submerge the world. They had already