

nation of freebooters who live by robbery and plunder, and who justify themselves on the ground that their father Ishmael was turned out of doors by the patriarch Abraham, and God gave him the open plains and deserts for his patrimony, together with any thing which he could find in them.

6. *His hostility was to be reciprocated*—"every man's hand" was to be "against him." The Assyrians, the Medes and the Persians, the Macedonians, and the Egyptians, all raised their hands against them, and endeavored, but in vain, to subjugate them. Some of the greatest military chieftains ever on this globe, raised their hands against them, among whom were Alexander the Great, his renowned successor Antigonus, who made two attempts to subdue them, one by his general Athenæsus, and the other by Demetrius his own son, and afterwards Lucullus commander of the Roman legions, Pompey, to whom the command of all the Roman army in Asia was given, Ælius Gallus, the Emperors Trajan and Severus. Since the empire of the Saracens was dissolved, the hands of the Tartars, Mamelukes, and Turks have been against them. Indeed, reciprocal hostility seems to have constantly existed between them and others of mankind.

7. But what is most of all remarkable is, they were to "*dwelt in the midst of all their brethren.*" And although all the mighty monarchies and republics of antiquity have mouldered and fallen into indistinguishable ruins, this very race still exists in the midst of surrounding nations, and exists too, the dread of all that know them—committing their robberies by land and their piracies by sea !

We have taken a very hasty view of these predictions, and have, by a bare glance at the history of the people with reference to whom they were uttered, seen the striking analogy, nay, the perfect agreement between the things predicted and the things which have been taking place, during the revolutions of 3750 years, and we have still this very race of men living on earth ! They are a standing monument of the truth of prophecy. They have in all ages and in all countries kept up their prophetic character. Whether you find them in Araby the Barren, or the Blessed Araby, on the banks of the Tigris, in the valleys of Spain or in the land of Shiner, they are always, and in all countries, Ishmaelites. Whether they live in the presence of the Moabites, Ammonites, Israelites, and Edomites ; or in the presence of the Egyptians and Assyrians, or any more modern people, they are the same people, possessed of the same distinguishing characteristics, their hands are still against every man, and every man's hand against them.

Let the predictions concerning this people be applied to any other people on earth, and it will very readily be perceived that they are not the people of whom the Revealer was speaking.