

1431. THE SABEANS OF ISAIAH THE SAME AS THE MACROBIANS OF HERODOTUS.

See Heeren's African Nations, Oxford, 1838, vol. i. pp. 317-333). The Macrobians were a celebrated Ethiopian nation, against whom Cambyses directed an expedition (p. 317) and are copiously described by Herodotus. They displayed to the ambassadors of Cambyses great abundance of gold, and Bruce thinks (p. 320) that they are a tribe of the Shangallas in the lower part of the gold countries Cuba and Nuba. But Heeren is of opinion (p. 320) that their seat was further south, that is, at Cape Gardafui (p. 322). He says (p. 333) "When Isaiah (xlv. 14) promises his people the trade of Egypt and Ethiopia, he adds, 'and of the *Sabeans, men of stature.*' I cannot hold these latter to be any other than the Macrobians of Herodotus, the nation who enjoyed the trade in frankincense." His reasons for this opinion are:—
 1st. Herodotus mentions the high stature of the Macrobians.
 2nd. Saba lies on the African coast at the entrance of the Arabian Gulf (it is the Azab of Bruce), "in the very spot that we consider to have been the seat of the Macrobians."
 3rd. Isaiah expressly mentions trading nations. At p. 461 Heeren says "Azab, which is the same as Saba."

Calmet enumerates five different opinions respecting the Sabeans. (See his *Dictionary of the Bible*, edit. Taylor, Lond. 1841, 4to, vol. ii. p. 492). He says, "Sabeans are also placed in Africa in the isle of Meroë. Josephus (*Antiq. lib. ii. cap. 5*) brings the Queen of Sheba from hence, and pretends that it had the name of Shebah or Saba before that of Meroë. Mr. Bruce is of this opinion." Ezekiel (xxiii. 42) mentions "Sabeans from the wilderness," but it is possible that Sabean may merely mean a drunkard. (See the note on this passage in *Patrick and Lowth's Bible*, Lond. 1844, vol. iii. p. 569). Bruce (*Travels*, Edinburgh, 1790, vol. i. p. 471) says, "Saba (the same as Sheba), Azab or Azaba, all signifying south" (and see p. 476 and in particular vol. iii. p. 259).

1432. NOTES ON THE ANTIQUITY OF BAPTISM.

"In the monuments at Kalabshe in Meroë," south of Egypt, is a representation where "two priests sprinkle the candidate for consecration with water" (*Heeren's African Nations*, Oxford, 1838, vol. i. p. 349). It has been said that the Abyssinians annually baptize or rather rebaptize, but this is denied by Bruce (*Travels*, Edinburgh, 1790, 4to, vol. iii. pp. 324-334; see also Salt's Voyage to Abyssinia, 1844, 4to, pp. 387-391). Stukeley

See also
ART. 1951.