

and Asia in proportions sharply different from the modern ones. Greenland turns out to be a European peninsula, Scandinavia is drawn into a thin strip, the Bosphorus and Dardanelles are much extended and enlarged, the Black Sea is turned askew, and the Caspian Sea elongated horizontally and made literally unrecognizable. The only region reflected more or less faithfully is the Mediterranean (where seafaring was developed most), but then Greece was represented as a triangle without the Peloponnese. Ethnographic evidence was still farther from that fixed by traditional history of the time. For example, Dacia is placed in Scandinavia, Albania on the Caspian Sea, *Gottia* (the Goths' land?) again in Scandinavia, China is completely absent, *Judei clausi* can be seen in north of Siberia, etc. By the way, France is called *Gallia*, the Don by its ancient name *Tanais*, and *Russia* and *Moscovia* are separated, the latter being placed far north, near the Arctic Ocean. Cornelius Niccolai's map of 1598 is also rich in similar distortions, but now to a lesser degree. During this century, geographical knowledge accumulated very rapidly. For example, the terrestrial globe of the 17th c. in the Moscow History Museum already reflects reality quite well. We now point to the possibility, in principle, of substantially different, in the geographic and ethnic sense, introduction of vowels into ancient texts. Having studied the biblical (vowel-free) mentions of ASR, N. A. Morozov supplies them with the translation "leader" or "Führer", and relates the term to Germany, whose geographic position is well consistent with that of Assyria (the canonical translation of Ashur), given in the Bible with respect to the other geographic locations if we make Jerusalem coincident with Rome or Pompeii. The data permitting us to understand Rome in Italy by the term "guardian city" (Samaria) are given in [13], V. 2. We then cannot help stressing the passage:

"... and Remaliah's son (in N. A. Morozov's translation, Romulus the Thunderer—A. F.) the chief of Samaria (probably, the city's founder—A. F.)" (Is 7:9).

It is written just in this way "RML-IEU", i.e., Romulus the Thunderer, but it was Romulus who had founded Rome! A still stranger impression is made by the study of biblical vowel-free names of countries and peoples.

For example, according to N. A. Morozov,

"Tu-HERM implies a German not only due to the consonance with the primary name of his country *Die Germa*, but also because the sound *T* is often affixed to Jewish words when they become nominatives" ([13], V. 2, pp. 613-614).

N. A. Morozov extensively analyzed the ancient text, and asserted that almost all of the largest peoples of medieval Europe and the Mediterranean had been mentioned in the Bible, and almost always just where they are located today. The traditional localizations of the biblical lands of Asia Minor are then questioned, the example being old Phoenicia and its cities Tyre and Sidon. Due to the above possibility of the European locations of many a biblical event and term, it should be noted that the word *Venetia* could have been read by the ancients both as Venice in its Roman version and *Phoinikē* (or Phoenicia) in the German version, reading *v* as "fau" and the assimilation "C" = "K", as might be seen in the words "caesar" = "kaesar" (note by T. N. Fomenko). This simple observation does not contradict the other biblical data regarding Phoenicia and, moreover, is confirmed by them. It is traditionally believed that Phoenicia was a powerful sea state reigning over the whole of the Mediterranean,