

the Red Sea (*ibid.*, Bk. 4, No. 39). Sounding true, this contradicts the historians' assertions that Herodotus' Red Sea is, actually, the Persian Gulf (*ibid.*) Therefore, the commentator "corrects" Herodotus: "Here, the Red Sea is the Persian Gulf" (see the Russian edition of the *Histories*, [67\*], App. Bk. 4, Comm. 34). Further, the Red Sea, as we understand it today, may extend above the Persian-occupied land according to Herodotus, Bk. 40, under No. 40, under only one condition, viz., if the map is turned upside down with respect to the modern one.

Saving the traditional localizations, the historians are, therefore, forced to identify here the Red Sea with the Persian Gulf ([67\*], App., Bk. 4, Comm. 36). However, this is not a way out, because the Persian Gulf is situated lower (or east) than the area inhabited by the Persians, but not at all above it. Herodotus made much trouble for the historians with his "Red Sea". It had to be identified with the whole of the Indian Ocean when it was mentioned in Bk. 2, No. 102. (*ibid.*, App. Bk. 2, Comm. 110). And East and West were interchanged again. Herodotus identified the Red Sea with the Southern Sea in Bk. 4. No. 37, which embarrasses the historians still more when they attempt to adjust Herodotus to the framework of traditional localizations. They are now forced to identify the Red (i.e., Southern) Sea with the Black Sea! ([67\*], App., Bk. 1, Comm. 12). And again the East and West are interchanged with respect to the "Persians". After the relocalizations of the type, Red Sea = Southern Sea = Black Sea = Northern Sea = Mediterranean Sea = Persian Gulf = Our Sea = Indian Ocean, any talk about Herodotus' data confirming the traditional localizations is taken as inaccurate. The study of other examples, which we omit here, demonstrates the possibility of the following overlappings, viz., Assyria = Germany, Babylonia = Rome, Persia = Gaul (France?), Media = Hungary. The repeated mentions by Herodotus of the *Crestonaei* are taken as extremely strange. According to Herodotus, there exists an entire region called *Crestonia* and a city *Creston*. The *Crestonaei* originated from the other countries in Greece ([67\*], pp. 27, 239, 240, 524). Herodotus also uses the term *Crossaea* ([67\*], pp. 345, 408, 344). These numerous indications are unwillingly associated with the "Crusaders" ("cross" is also a "Crusade" term) flooding Greece in the 12-13th cc. A.D. Comparison of the *Crestonaei* with the Crusaders is also natural because certain ancient authors called the Christians "Chrestians". Even Tacitus wrote *Chrestianos* instead of *Christianos* in the original of his manuscript of the *Annals* (15, 44; irrespective of the fact whether or not they were forged; see the study of Anderson). Note that the modern commentators do not discuss Herodotus' numerous "Crusade" terms, though the other tribes, peoples and cities were given extensive commentary. Moreover, the most detailed map of the world according to Herodotus was included in the edition [67\*]. It was made by historians in 1964 (see the Russian edition of Herodotus and "Das Geschichtswerk des Herodotos von Halikarnassos". Berlin, 1964.). Even small towns and villages mentioned in the *Histories* were marked. Neither the *Crestonaei* nor *Creston* nor *Crossaea* are mapped (?!).

#### 4.4. Medieval geography

In general, geographical knowledge in 16th-c. Europe was very far from modern, e.g., T. Occupario's map of 1522 (Moscow History Museum) represented Europe