

- 58.3a. Conspirators' personal talks with Greeks and their embassy (*ibid.*). Title of one of sections of "Trojan cycle" was: "On the peace talks and betrayal in Troy" ([250], p. 132). Greeks' promise to Trojan traitors that their houses "will be spared" (*ibid.*). Troy's capture not related to this conspiracy (according to certain versions)
- 58.3b. Gothic version spoke of conspiracy in more vague terms; however, Roman conspiracy during its siege was described in more detail (*ibid.*). Neapolitan Stephan also allegedly held long personal talks with Greeks with no definite result. Naples captured with no relation to this plot

5. The Greeks' Trojan horse and the Latins' aqueduct of Naples

- 58.4a. For taking Troy, non-trivial trick was employed (*ibid.*)
- 58.4b. For taking Naples, non-trivial trick was employed (*ibid.*)
- 58.5a. "A sort of grey horse" was used ([250], p. 76)
- 58.5b. Aqueduct, sort of "grey horse", was used (*ibid.*)

To 58.b: Belisarius applied the cunning lucky trick that had accidentally occurred to him; it turned out that an enormous pipe (precisely a pipe, and not a chute) penetrated into Naples, starting outside the city and leading to it through the powerful fortress walls on an old, half-destroyed aqueduct with an opening on the wall level covered with a stone having a small hole to let water out. A special detachment of Belisarius' warriors comprising several hundred men penetrated into the pipe, destroyed the cover, and succeeded to be in Naples at night. Early in the morning, the soldiers came out of the aqueduct, signalled the principal troops outside, opened the gate, and Belisarius' armies stormed into the city. Procopius (see [109]) described the aqueduct as an enormous pipe in which a man could stand undisturbed, and which was supported by heavy legs [44], [109].

To 58a (see [250]):

"And the Magi announced that it was impossible to occupy Troy in fight, and it could only be done by trickery. And then the Greeks built a wooden horse (?—A. F.) of unheard-of size (cf. aqueduct—A. F.), and hid the brave warriors in its maw ... The Trojans decided to drag the horse into the city (?—A. F.) ... having dragged the horse along, they indulged in sumptuous feasts ... and then went to sleep. The warriors hidden in the horse, however, covertly came out, and started putting the Trojans' houses on fire ... Through the gate opened by the Greeks already in Troy, ... innumerable Greek soldiers rushed. Thus fell the strong-towered Troy. And it was said in other books that a sort of grey horse (i.e., not a horse, but only its "similarity" (!) possibly, meaning a grey stone aqueduct—A. F.) was erected of glass, copper and wax (later authors' fantasy—A. F.), inside which three hundred armed knights had been hidden" ([250], p. 76).

Another version:

"And they (Greeks—A. F.) erected an enormous copper horse in whose maw up