

As to the Tatars, Thomas Morton, who wrote as early as 1637, was just as sure that they could not have been the parents of the aboriginal Americans, though a John Josselyn, whose book was published the following year, unhesitatingly declared that the speech of the Mohawks is "a dialect of the Tartars".¹

Nor have the Carthaginians been overlooked. They found doughty champions in the persons of a number of monks and ecclesiastics remarkable more for their erudition than for their judgment, no less than in writers of a more popular character.

Most of the authors who have upheld such an origin for the American Indians have found it necessary to use as a prop for their rather fragile theory the famous Atlantis thesis, which predicates the existence in ages long past of a huge island or continent lying between Europe and America. Such superior minds as Sir Daniel Wilson and the celebrated Brasseur de Bourbourg partially or wholly believed in that more or less mythical land.

On the ground of their languages the American aborigines were compared by Barton and Vater with the Mantchous, the Tungus, the Mongols and the Samoyeds, while other elements in their speech would lead the same authors to refer them to the Celts and—save the mark!—the natives of the Congo.²

According to Malte-Brun the original inhabitants of Greenland and Chile must belong with the Finnish, Ostiack, Permian and Caucasian families, while some of those of Mexico are allied to the Japanese, the Chinese and the Kourilians; which does not prevent others from being related to the Tungus, the Mantchous, and the Mongols.³ Another writer of less renown, Siebold, attempted to connect through their vocabularies the Japanese and the Moscas, or Muyscas, a large aboriginal nation in Latin America.⁴

On the other hand, the late Dr. Brinton believed that "the ancestors of the American race could have come from no other quarter than Western Europe, or that portion of Eurafria which he . . . described as the most probable location of the birth-place of the species".⁵

A. H. Keane formally admits of two routes as having been followed by the immigrants to America, namely some kind of a continent, not

¹ Voyages, p. 124.

² *Untersuchung über Amerikas Bevölkerung aus dem alten Continente*. Leipzig, 1810; Mithrid, p. 340.

³ Vide Wiseman, "Twelve Lectures", pp. 80-81.

⁴ *Mémoire relatif à l'Origine des Japonais*; in *Nouveau Journal Asiatique*, juin, 1829, p. 400.

⁵ "The American Race", p. 32; Philadelphia, 1901.