

may have extended to the Gambia. Only a Greek abridgement concerning it exists and we may suspect the number of people given to be erroneous. Himileo in command of the other fleet sailed north, and on his return published an account of his discoveries. This narrative was extant in the fifth century as extracts were made from it by Avienus who states that in less than four months sailing Himileo arrived at the Ostrymides which were two days sail from the large Sacred Island of the Hibernians (Ireland) where they found a high spirited and commercial people who used boats covered with leather.

We can scarcely conceive how long the Mediterranean was the theatre of commerce and of war for the world. We sing of the flag that braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze; and we sing as if that period embraced nearly all time or as if the duration of Britain's sea history eclipses that of every race the world has seen.

The two great Phœnician cities, Tyre and Sidon, are as dim lights shining out of antiquity. Tyre was an ancient and mighty city when Alexander besieged her; her founding was lost in the ages when Herodotus visited her; she was old when in 717 B. C. her fleet smashed the maritime aspirations of Salmanasar, King of Assyria, in the first sea fight of history, yet the Phœnicians sailed out of Sidon and carried on the commerce of the world for a thousand years before Tyre was founded.

Good boys and girls who read their bibles know of Solomon's ventures on the sea and how he prospered. What a wonderful field is opened to the imagination by his maritime affairs. In dealing with the Phœnician and Carthaginian we are limited to the Mediterranean and the Atlantic as far north and west as Ireland and as far south as 10° N. latitude, unless we divert ourselves with fantasies of the Lost Atlantis. In the case of Solomon's ships only the bounds of the earth can limit us. His port was on the Red