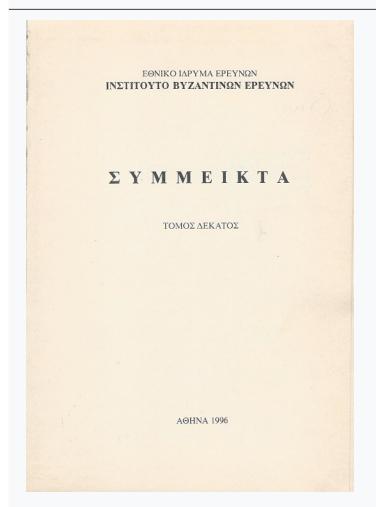




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A Passage of the 'Barbarograeca' Metaphrase of Niketas Choniates' Chronike Diegesis. Retranslated or Revised?

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## A PASSAGE OF THE 'BARBAROGRAECA' METAPHRASE OF NIKETAS CHONIATES' CHRONIKE DIEGESIS: RETRANSLATED OR REVISED?

The language of the 'Barbarograeca' version of the *Chronike Diegesis* of Niketas Choniates has been discussed on a number of occasions, chiefly in terms of its linguistic and stylistic level, and its relation to the vernacular of the late Byzantine period<sup>1</sup>. However, two short passages of the Niketas-Metaphrase (hereafter N-M) invite us to observe a reviser at work and to speculate on the likelihood that, for some reason, the original metaphrase

\*NCH = NICETAE CHONIATAE HISTORIA, ed. J.-L. VAN DIETEN, (CFHB 11/I-II), Berlin-New York 1975.

1. J.-L. VAN DIETEN, Bemerkungen zur Sprache der sog. vulgärgriechischen Niketasparaphrasen, BF 6, 1979, 37-77; IDEM, Noch einmal über Niketas Choniates, BZ 57, 1964, 302-328, esp. 323-328; I. Ševčenko, Levels of style in Byzantine literature, XVI. Internationaler Byzantinistenkongress. Akten I/1 (= JÖB 31/1, 1981), 289-312, esp. 309-310; IDEM, Additional remarks to the report on levels of style, JÖB 32/1, 1982, 220-238; H. Hunger, Schreiben und Lesen in Byzanz, Munich 1989, 81; H.-G. Beck, Das Byzantinische Jahrtausend, Munich 1978, 150; IDEM, Die griechische volkstümliche Literatur des 14. Jahrhunderts, Actes du XIVe Congrès International des Études Byzantines, Bucharest 1974, 125-138, esp. 126-128; IDEM, Geschichte der byzantinischen Volksliteratur, Munich 1971, 6; IDEM, Überlieferungsgeschichte der byzantinischen Literatur, in Geschichte der Textüberlieferung der antiken und mittelalterlichen Literatur, vol. I, Zurich 1961, 449-450; and R. Browning, A Fourteenth-Century Prose Version of the Odyssey, DOP 46, 1992, 27-36, esp. 29; IDEM, The Language of Byzantine Literature, in S. Vryonis Jr., (ed.), The 'Past' in Medieval and Modern Greek Culture, Malibu 1978, 103-133, and esp. 125.

was reworked at this point, or that, on account perhaps of damage, it invited (or presented with the opportunity) a subsequent copyist to experiment or improvise slightly with the material he found before him, thus leaving us with two closely related but nonetheless quite distinct versions. These two passages occur in the chapter on the reign of Alexios II Komnenos (1180-1183)<sup>2</sup>. The earliest of the manuscripts, Monacensis gr. 450 (second quarter of the fourteenth century), designated B since Bekker's edition (Bonn, 1835). is the witness to the one version<sup>3</sup>, while the other two manuscripts. Vindobonensis Suppl. gr. 166 (fourteenth and fifteenth centuries), designated X by van Dieten<sup>4</sup>, and Scorialensis  $\Psi$ -IV-17 (early sixteenth century), designated  $S^5$ , preserve the second. There is a further manuscript of N-M-Parisinus gr. 3142- designated Y<sup>6</sup>, but it does not preserve the part with these passages; evidence from other parts of N-M, however, indicates that Y belongs to the XS group, therefore making B the odd man out among the four manuscripts of N-M In our discussion here, we shall refer to X and S collectively as 1, implying that they descend from a common original which differed to some degree from the text witnessed by B.

In lieu of a detailed analysis of the relationship of all the N-M manuscripts to one another<sup>7</sup>, it may be useful, firstly, to sketch briefly the way in which B and i relate to (and diverge from) one another in general, thus providing the likely context within which the present passage needs to be viewed, itself being only a part of a much larger whole. Firstly, the manuscript distribution of the divergences met with in the passage here, is

- 2. The first of the two passages is on fols 74-74<sup>v</sup>, while the second, presented here, is on fols 80-81 of ms Monacensis gr. 450
- 3 For further details on this manuscript see *NCH*, I, pp. XXXIII-XXXIV. For a quick orientation through the manuscript tradition of the *Chronike Diegesis* see H. HUNGER, *Die hochsprachliche profane Literatur der Byzantiner*, I, Munich 1971, 432-433.
  - 4. NCH, I, pp. XXXIX XLI.
  - 5. NCH, I, pp. XLVI-XLVII.
  - 6. NCH, I, pp. XLI and XXXVI-XXXVIII
- 7. I am at present preparing a critical edition of the Nicetas-Metaphrase as part of my doctoral research under the supervision of Dr A. Angelou at the University of Ioannina. The introduction will contain a detailed analysis of the manuscripts and their relationship to one another.

consistent with the pattern described above for the *N-M* manuscripts. Below are enumerated the kinds of variation encountered in B and i (scribal error and orthographical idiosyncracies apart):

- 1) Variation of lexical items (N[icetae Chon. Hist.]372,47-49): πολλούς μὲν τῶν Ῥωμαίων ἐφόνευσεν Β πολλούς μὲν τῶν Ρωμαίων ἀπέχτεινεν i
- 2) Simple alterations of word order (N356.26): μέχοι ταύτης ελθεῖν τῆς μεγαλοπόλεως B μέχοι ταύτης τῆς μεγαλοπόλεως ελθεῖν i
- 3) B omits where i keeps items that correspond with N: τὸ γένος λαμπροι καὶ ἐπίσημοι (N390,93) ἐκ γένους λαμπροῦ B ἐκ γένους λαμπροῦ καὶ ἐπισήμου i
- 4) i omits or abbreviates where B keeps items that correspond with N: τὴν δουκικὴν ἀρχὴν τῶν Θρακησίων (N400,77) τὴν τῶν Θρακησίων ἀρχὴν i τὴν δουκικὴν τῶν Θρακησίων ἀρχὴν B
- 5) B adds an item that does not correspond with N or i: ό ταύτης τύραννος (N370,93) τῷ ταύτης τυράννῳ Γιλιέλμῳ B τῷ ταύτης τυράννῳ S

or ἐκύκλωσάν με ώσεὶ μέλισσαι κηρίον (N367,18)

εκυκλωσάν με ωσει μελισσαι κηριον (N307,18) ἐκύκλωσάν με οἱ ἐχθροί μου ώσεὶ μέλισσαι κηρίον Β ἐκύκλωσάν με ῶσεὶ μέλισσαι κηρίον ἰ

6) i adds (in the form of expanding on a lexical item) where B corresponds with N:

τό ἔθνος ὅλον ὰνασείσαντες (N369,58) τό ὅλον ἔθνος ὰνασείσαντες Β τό ὅλον ἔθνος ἀνασείσαντες καὶ ταράξαντες i

A count of these variations for the bulk of *N-M* reveals that nos. 4 and 6 above are the least common types of variation. In other words, i appears to be less divergent from N in terms of lexical and phrasal amplification. It needs to be borne in mind therefore that, while both traditions of *N-M* must surely derive from the same original (so much of the text being identical in both branches), the version witnessed by B shows a tendency to more radical

departure from the phraseology of N Yet in matters of accuracy and detail (placenames, grammatical features and scribal errors) the B text, in the vast majority of cases, is more reliable than the other manuscripts. It will become clear to what extent the passage here conforms to this pattern

In the case of the two versions presented here, a number of questions immediately come to mind Firstly, perhaps the one version is merely a reworking of the other Secondly, one may ask whether they both record separate attempts at translation, uninfluenced by one another, although this seems highly unlikely when one considers how the rest of *N-M* (242 folia in B) does not present other divergences of this extent, and the fact that both B and I have so many shared features, even within this particular passage. Then again, and less improbably, perhaps one of the versions represents a combination of the already existing metaphrase and a reworking from Choniates' original, an hypothesis that presupposes our scribe/reviser, at least for this part of *N-M*, having two exemplars before him, a (draft?) metaphrase and the original *Chronike Diegesis* There is a fourth possibility, that of the intrusion of interlinear or marginal corrections or alterations, which will be considered below

By selecting a number of points from the passage appended to this article it should be possible to propose some answers to the questions posed above. Although just one of the two passages concerned is presented here (neither has been previously published), it is the longer of the two, and best illustrates points which can also be found in the other.

A careful reading and comparison of N (the original *Chronike Diegesis*) and BXS indicates that N-M does deserve perhaps to be characterized as a 'translation' of sorts, rather than as a paraphrase proper<sup>8</sup> If one can take the

8 See H Hunger, Anonyme Metaphrase zu Anna Komnene, Alexias XI XIII Ein Beitrag zur Erschliessung der byzantinischen Umgangssprache, Vienna 1981, 7, n 2 'Daß man diese Schriften nicht als Paraphrasen, sondern besser als Metaphrasen bezeichnet, hat A Pignani zu Recht betont 'Parafrasi o metafrasi (a proposito della Statua Regia di Niceforo Blemmida)?' Atti Acc Pontan 24 (1976), 219-225" I use the description 'metaphrase' chiefly in order to preserve the looseness of character of the text, as well as to use the more frequently encountered Byzantine word for this kind of text. It generally hovers between paraphrase and translation proper, without apparent consistency or clear

liberty of applying the dictum of modern translation theory, namely, that the golden rule of translation is to fulfill the criteria of accuracy and economy<sup>9</sup>, to a text and linguistic undertaking of this sort (in the case of works such as Planudes' translation into Greek of Latin works as, for example, Augustine's treatise on the Trinity<sup>10</sup>, Boethius' Consolatione philosophiae<sup>11</sup> or Ovid's Metamorphoses<sup>12</sup>, as well as translations considered to have been undertaken by others<sup>13</sup>, or even Galesiotes' and Oinaiotes' metaphrase of the  $B\alpha\sigma\iota\lambda\iota\iota\iota\dot{\alpha}\varsigma$   $\dot{\alpha}\nu\delta\varrho\iota\dot{\alpha}\varsigma$  of Nikephoros Blemmydes<sup>14</sup>, this principle does indeed seem to have been applied), then clearly N-M falls lamentably short of satisfying such demands. Yet the looser designation of 'paraphrase', implying as it does a degree of explanation, although valid for many parts of the text,

method. It has been variously described by others as 'Barbarograeca', 'vulgärgriechische', a 'declassicization' of a high-style history, as well as a 'metaphrase'.

- 9. Wide-ranging and detailed accounts in the English language of modern translation theory and practice, with extensive bibliographies on this developing branch of linguistics, include P. NEWMARK, *Approaches to Translation*, Oxford 1982, M. BAKER, *In Other Words*, London 1992, and S. BASSNETT-MCGUIRE, *Translation Studies*, London 1982.
- 10. For a discussion of the recent bibliography on Latin philosophical and theological works translated into Greek, chiefly in the second half of the thirteenth and the fourteenth centuries, and some recent editions of these works, see L. G. Benakis, 'Lateinische Literatur in Byzanz. Die Übersetzungen philosophischer Texte', in  $\Phi\iota\lambda\dot{\epsilon}\lambda\lambda\eta\nu$ , Essays presented in honour of R. Browning (forthcoming, Venice 1996).
- 11. E. BÉTANT (ed.), BOECE: *De la Consolation de la Philosophie. Traduction grecque de Maxime Planude*, Geneva 1871.
- 12. For a general discussion of other translations from Latin by Planudes see N. G. Wilson, Scholars of Byzantium, London 1983, 230-232, and H. Hunger, Die hochsprachliche profane Literatur der Byzantiner, Munich 1971, II, 68.
- 13. That Maximos Holobolos also had translated some texts on logic by Boethius has been called into question by some scholars (see WILSON, op. cit., 224-5). A more recent study, however, accepts the Holobolos attribution: D. Z. NIKETAS (ed.), BOETHIUS' De topicis differentiis und die byzantinische Rezeption dieses Werkes (Boethius, De topicis differentiis καὶ οἱ βυζαντινές μεταφράσεις τῶν Μανουὴλ 'Ολοβώλου καὶ Ποοχόφου Κυδώνη. Παράρτημα/Anhang: Eine Pachymeres-Weiterarbeitung der Holobolos-Übersetzung, The Academy of Athens, Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi. Philosophi Byzantini 5, Athens 1990.
- 14. H. Hunger- I. Ševčenko, Des Nikephoros Blemmydes Βασιλικός Ανδοιάς und dessen Metaphrase von Georgios Galesiotes und Georgios Oinaiotes, Wiener Byzantinische Studien 18, Vienna 1986.

can by no means be said to explain the general process that, with little consistency and less method, brought about the conversion of N to N-M. Failler, in his discussion of another 'paraphrase', probably of the same century, described that text as 'more than a simple compendium, yet less than a true paraphrase'. In comparing these two versions of this particular passage of N-M, therefore, we are faced with the added variable factor of dealing with a text whose precise identity, or self-awareness in respect of its linguistic status and literary objectives, is far from clear. But it nevertheless does seem to be the case that –to the extent his understanding of the original allowed– our metaphrast was indeed attempting to *translate* Choniates' work into a more easily understood idiom, keeping as closely as he was able to the thread and turn of phrase of the original, though as we shall see, not always successfully.

In just the first few lines one can discern a number of features that will be seen to recur throughout the passage examined here. In the words immediately preceding the section where *N-M* splits into two versions (this split occurs in mid-sentence, as is also the case with the first of the two passages, beginning on fol. 74, ms. Monacensis gr. 450) both B and i share the same misplacement of the word Basmouloi: the result is that the Basmouloi (in other words Latino-Romans of the city)<sup>16</sup> are joined with the Rhomaioi in the first group of warships, thereby creating a racially based category of soldiers to fill the decks of the ships of the µèv clause, while Choniates places the Romans in the one part of the fleet without specifying

<sup>15.</sup> A. FAILLER, La tradition manuscrite de l'Histoire de Georges Pachymère (livres I-VI), *REB* 37, 1979, 164.

<sup>16.</sup> For the Basmouloi, or more commonly Gasmouloi, see G. Makris, Die Gasmulen, Thesaurismata 22, 1992, 44-96. On pp. 87-93 Makris discusses the two forms of the word (beginning with  $\gamma$ - and  $\beta$ -). His conclusions on the occurence of the two forms, however, do not allow us to make any secure inferences about the use of the form Basmouloi in our text (he suggests that the two forms probably existed side by side in Constantinople in late Byzantium, reflecting simply Frankish (for  $\gamma\alpha\sigma$ -) and Venetian ( $\beta\alpha\sigma$ -) dialectical differences in the pronunciation of the word. The metaphrast may have been translating the word  $\delta\iota\alpha\varphio\varrhoo\gamma\epsilon\nu\bar{\omega}\nu$ , a hapax legomenon (see NCH, II, p. 115) that is not closed, of course, to other, more likely, interpretations:  $\delta\iota\alpha\varphio\varrhoo\gamma\epsilon\nu\bar{\epsilon}\nu$   $\Delta\alpha\tau\bar{\iota}\nuo\iota$  must surely indicate an assortment of Latin westerners, such as Pisans, Genoans, Venetians, etc.

the origins of those ready to fight on deck, and the διαφορογεγεῖς Λατῖγοι in the other part. This looks as if either the metaphrast has understood  $\delta \iota \alpha q o \rho o \gamma \epsilon \nu \epsilon \bar{\iota} \zeta$  as meaning something like  $\delta \iota \gamma \epsilon \nu \dot{\eta} \zeta$  ('of dual descent'), and interpreted this as Basmouloi, or has chosen to reinforce the phrase  $\tilde{o}\sigma ov$ ανδρεῖον καὶ μάχιμον (Β) = ὅτιπερ κράτιστον μέρος καὶ μαχιμότατον Ν. (That these forces of Basmouloi were considered to be crack fighters is attested also in Gregoras I 113.) An explanation for the curious position of the word in the text may be that  $B\alpha\sigma\mu\sigma\tilde{\nu}\lambda\sigma\iota$  was written somewhere in the margin or interlinear spaces of a glossed text of N (or of the original N-M), close to the διαφορογενών Λατίνων or κράτιστον ... μαγιμότατον, but became misplaced in a later copying. The fact that the divergence between the two texts occurs in mid-sentence may hold a clue to the reasons behind the sudden break in their correspondence. One would have thought that if a scribe, out of choice, were to set about recasting the words of the text he was copying, then he would do so at a point that provided a more logical starting place than mid-sentence.

In this same section i supplies a new verb,  $\varepsilon i \sigma \tilde{\eta} \xi \alpha v$ , whose subject is presumably an impersonal 'they'. It looks as if i was not happy with leaving the verb  $\varepsilon i \sigma \eta \rho \chi \rho \nu \tau o$  to apply for the rest of the sentence, although he then failed to harmonise the new verb -and new plural subject- with the subject (Alexios the protosevastos) of the verb  $\tilde{\epsilon}\delta\omega\kappa\epsilon$ . Therefore i seems to be attempting to produce simpler syntax at this point. Next (4), i reflects N more transparently (ἐπληφοφοφεῖτο ὡς αὐτῷ βοηθήσωσιν i = τοῖς Ρωμαίοις αὐτοῖς  $\dot{\omega}\zeta$   $\dot{\alpha}\rho\dot{\eta}\xi ov\sigma vN$ ), yet at the same time B does not render the text less correctly. In fact, in the case of the phrase την ἄπασαν ελπίδα εἶχεν αὐτοῦ one could claim that ηπερ τοῖς Ψωμαίοις αὐτοῖς ὡς ἀρήξουσιν (N) was translated even more vividly by the B version. Here, however, it is evident that the exemplar (or exemplars) from which i and B were copying was such that it was open to varying interpretation or remodelling. While B seems to show more confidence than i, the latter appears to have some kind of window onto N or, more likely, a (draft?) metaphrase of N. This passage, as well as N-M as a whole, gives the impression that a text of some kind, with a number of minor corrections or improvements marked on it, at this point was heavily annotated, thus leading to a degree of confusion for future copyists

-hence the mixed quality of both B and i, and the uneven degree to which one can detect N now in B and now in i. This remark finds further support in B/i 5-8, where B looks to be interested chiefly in the content of the passage, i in the form, and, particularly, in B/i 8, although i keeps 'Kontostephanos' (as in N) it does not look as finished as B. The gap, shared by both B and i at the end of 9 would suggest that indeed B and i are both copying from a text containing the Metaphrase rather than the original *Chronike Diegesis*.

A feature observed in the fourteenth-century 'paraphrase' of Pachymeres' History<sup>17</sup>, and which is also the case in much of N-M, was the rendering into direct speech of parts of the text that could -however remotely- be understood as reported speech. B and i use the opening clause  $\varepsilon i\pi \acute{o}v\tau o\zeta$   $\acute{\omega}\zeta$  to introduce the words of Kontostephanos. The difference between the two versions of Kontostephanos' words is marked. I is more overtly first person, inserting  $\hat{\epsilon}\mu\dot{\phi}\nu$  to give his words greater vividness:  $O\dot{v}$ δυνατόν ἐστιν ἔτερος τὸ ἐμὸν κεφαλαττίκιον δέξασθαι. On the other hand, B's οὐδενὶ ἄλλφ ἀρμόζει ἡ τοῦ στόλου ἀρχή clearly follows N more closely  $(\sigma \tau o \lambda \alpha o \chi i \alpha \varsigma N = \hat{\eta} \tau o \tilde{v} \sigma \tau o \lambda o v \dot{\alpha} o \chi \dot{\eta} B$ ; use of dative personal pronoun;  $\pi \rho \sigma \sigma \eta \varkappa \sigma \psi \sigma \eta \varsigma N = \dot{\alpha} \rho \mu \dot{\sigma} \zeta \varepsilon \iota B$ ), while i has completely rephrased the statement, picking up on the word he had used earlier  $\varkappa \varepsilon \varphi \alpha \lambda \dot{\alpha} \delta \alpha \zeta$  (5) with κεφαλαττίκιον. I thus begins to assume the profile of a lively though less faithful (or, to put it another way, freer) translation; yet in the next phrase, 8, the pendulum swings away from i: i is suddenly much closer to N  $(\tau \dot{\eta} v)$ βούλησιν  $N = \delta v$  είχεν σχοπόν i; μετατίθησι  $N = \mu \epsilon \tau \epsilon \theta \eta \kappa \epsilon$  i), while B has almost wholly recast the entire phrase. This alternation of greater lexical faithfulness of now B and now i towards N can be seen throughout the entire passage.

5 presents a puzzling mixture of choices on the part of B and i: B omits to use a dative construction with  $\pi a \rho a \delta o \bar{v} v a t \dot{o} v$  or  $\delta \lambda o v$ , threreby failing to

<sup>17.</sup> FAILLER, op. cit., 171. Many of FAILLER's conclusions about the language of the paraphrase of Pachymeres' *History* can equally well be applied to *N-M*: transformation of long sentences, occurring frequently in the original, into shorter and simpler units; replacement of indirect speech by direct speech; omission of rare or archaising particles and pronouns; translation of rare or arcane words into more commonly understood terms.

give grammatical shape to the sentence; i, on the other hand, supplies an indirect object with the  $\varepsilon i \zeta$  construction, but prefers to keep  $\kappa \varepsilon \varphi \alpha \lambda \dot{\alpha} \delta \alpha \zeta \dot{\varepsilon} \mu \beta \alpha \lambda \varepsilon i v$  ( $= \dot{\varepsilon} \pi \iota \sigma \tau \eta \sigma \alpha \iota \tau \varrho \iota \eta \varrho \dot{\alpha} \varrho \chi \alpha \zeta$ ? N) while omitting  $\pi \alpha \varrho \alpha \delta \sigma \vartheta v \alpha \iota \tau \dot{\sigma} v \sigma \tau \dot{\sigma} \lambda \sigma v$ . It is possible, however, that i is merely reworking a text similar to B, recasting the phrase  $\pi \alpha \varrho \alpha \delta \sigma \vartheta v \alpha \iota \tau \dot{\sigma} v \sigma \tau \dot{\sigma} \lambda \sigma v \alpha s \kappa \varepsilon \varphi \alpha \lambda \dot{\alpha} \delta \alpha \zeta \dot{\varepsilon} \mu \beta \alpha \lambda \varepsilon i v \varepsilon i \zeta \tau \dot{\alpha} \kappa \dot{\alpha} \tau \varepsilon \varrho \gamma \alpha$  in order to improve the syntax of the sentence. This may be seen therefore as evidence that i was perhaps revising a text similar to B. The confusion in B at this point would seem to indicate, however, that B cannot have been working from i.

In 10 both B and i misinterpret N:  $\sigma vv\tilde{\eta}v...\tau\iota$  is rendered as a single person rather than as a collective pronoun, therefore suddenly introducing an unspecified character who is supposedly related to another unspecified character; one can only guess which of the names in the previous sentences the metaphrast had in mind.

Syntactical weakness is evident in B in other places. 12-14 are grammatically incomplete, since we wait in vain for a main verb (with  $\partial \zeta$  as its subject) that is expected after the string of participles ( $i\delta\omega v$ ,  $\delta o\dot{v}\zeta$ ,  $\dot{\alpha}\nu\alpha\gamma\nu o\dot{\nu}\varsigma$ ). This confusion on the part of B is all the more mystifying since N does not seem obscure here. If one wishes to seek the logic behind this omission (the metaphrast is, after all, working on the basis of the original text and endeavouring -at times with more and at times with less success- to recreate meaning), and if one does not wish to attribute the absence of a main verb simply to scribal error (this possibility cannot be discounted, of course), then it may be because B was expecting the main verb to appear further down in the sentence; however, no such verb that could have  $\hat{o}\zeta$  as its subject materialises, and the entire sentence remains hanging in the air. The conclusion to be drawn on the method of the B text here is that he either did not take the trouble to revise his work, or that the passage in question gives evidence again of having been copied from a draft or annotated metaphrase, that did not indicate clearly which part of the text should be copied<sup>18</sup>. I does

18. Nevertheless, the metaphrast seems at this point to have understood Choniates better than his modern translator into English. H. J. MAGOULIAS, O City of Byzantium, Annals of Niketas Choniates, Detroit 1984, 139, fails to recognise the genitive absolute in

not share this error  $(\delta o \dot{v} \zeta B = \tilde{\epsilon} \delta \omega \kappa \epsilon i, \dot{\alpha} v \alpha \gamma v o \dot{v} \zeta B = \hat{\epsilon} \xi \epsilon \tilde{\iota} \pi \epsilon v i)$ , and even shows resourcefulness by rendering  $\gamma \varrho \dot{\alpha} \mu \mu \alpha \tau a$  as  $\chi \varrho v \sigma \delta \beta o v \lambda \lambda o v$  (since the grammata confer privileges on Andronikos).

In the next section, 15-17, there are no major differences of interpretation, but i is far more free in its rendering, while B keeps closer to N and its literal formulation:  $\mu\epsilon\gamma\alpha\lambda o\varphi\dot{\omega}\nu\omega\varsigma$   $\delta$   $A\nu\delta\varrho\dot{\omega}\nu\iota\kappa o\varsigma$   $\epsilon\xi\epsilon\beta\dot{\omega}\eta\sigma\epsilon\nu$  (B) is considerably closer to  $\dot{\upsilon}\pi\dot{\epsilon}\varrho\sigma\gamma\kappa o\nu$   $\varphi\dot{\alpha}\sigma\kappa\omega\nu$   $\pi\varrho\dot{\alpha}\varsigma$   $\dot{\delta}\varrho\gamma\dot{\eta}\nu$  (N) than is the  $\pi\alpha\varrho\varrho\eta\sigma\dot{\alpha}$   $\epsilon\bar{\iota}\pi\epsilon$   $\tau\alpha\bar{\upsilon}\tau\alpha$  (i). The same applies throughout Andronikos' speech to the mission from Alexios; both versions differ radically, B generally keeping closer to the lexical items of N, though, in the last phrase, 22, only i has retained the simile with  $\sigma\tau\dot{\alpha}\chi\nu\varsigma$ .

B and i 29-32 show striking differences that may very likely be due to the difficulty of N at this point. Characteristically both branches of N-M avoid the elaborate literary and biblical allusions of Choniates (31), but nonetheless struggle to incorporate some of their sense, albeit in drastically

the sentence, thus distorting the sense of the original by making Andronikos, rather than Xiphilinos, responsible for undermining the mission: It is said that Andronikos undermined the negotiations undertaken by the envoy Xiphilinos and refused to yield etc.

abridged form, into the main narrative. The phrase  $z\alpha i$   $\dot{v}\pi o \sigma \tau \rho \epsilon q \dot{\rho} \mu \epsilon v o t$ ,  $\epsilon \dot{v}\eta \rho \gamma \epsilon \tau o \dot{v}\tau o i$ , looks suspiciously like a marginal or interlinear note that has crept into the main body of the i text<sup>19</sup>. In fact, our surviving versions testify to a degree of differentiation that becomes more easily explained if we take a supposition of this kind into account.

32 provides evidence for a subject that will not be developed here, but can be mentioned in passing: it is still unclear from which version precisely of the original *Chronike Diegesis* the metaphrast was working<sup>20</sup>. Van Dieten proposes a hybrid text of the history as the exemplar used by the metaphrast, most probably a manuscript closely related to W (Vindobonensis Hist. gr. 105). W is a manuscript of the late fourteenth and mid-fifteenth century, and since it post-dates the oldest manuscripts of N-M cannot itself have constituted a source for the Metaphrase, although it may well of course be a copy of such a source. The participle  $\delta \rho \dot{\alpha} \sigma o v \tau \alpha$  in the phrase  $\nu \alpha \nu \dot{\alpha} \dot{\beta} \tau c \dot{\nu} \dot{\gamma} \dot{\alpha} \dot{\alpha} \dot{\alpha} \dot{\alpha} \nu v \gamma \dot{\alpha} \dot{\alpha} c v \gamma \dot{\alpha} \dot{\alpha} c \dot{\alpha} c$ 

In 32, i expands by adding  $\varkappa \alpha i \tau \delta \nu \lambda \delta \gamma \omega \nu \alpha \dot{\nu} \tau \delta \dot{\nu}$  (not in N or B). Again this looks as if it may have crept in from the margin, where it properly belonged to 30. I, paraphrasing, also preserves the second half of N32, which was entirely omitted by B, thus indicating again the greater accuracy and completeness of i during the first part of the passage discussed here. (This is

<sup>19.</sup> For an interesting discussion of medieval Greek school books, and the method of glossing ancient Greek texts in the interlinear spaces (termed ψυχαγωγίαι), see A. Skarveli-Nikolopoulou, Τὰ μαθηματάρια τῶν ἐλληνικῶν σχολείων τῆς Τουρκοκρατίας, Athens 1993, (published by the Σύλλογος πρὸς διάδοσιν Ὠφελίμων Βιβλίων), 293f.

<sup>20.</sup> NCH, I, pp. LXXXVI-LXXXVIII.

<sup>21.</sup> NCH, I, critical apparatus, p. 248, line 75. Most readings of the manuscripts containing N-M are not included in the critical apparatus of the Chronike Diegesis for reasons outlined by van Dieten himself (see pp. CIII-CIV). Thus van Dieten draws almost exclusively on B for readings from the Paraphrase, only using the other manuscripts (XYS) at those points where there are lacunae in B.

visually evident if one simply compares the amount of text in B and i from sections 1 to 40, after which the proportions are reversed).

33 again shows i expanding and clarifying, though not necessarily supplying information that cannot be gathered from elsewhere in the text itself: 'The two sons of Andronikos, John and Manuel, were released from prison by the citizens'. There is probably no need to seek the introduction of a new piece of information elsewhere. The latter agent noun could quite easily have been implied simply as a matter of inference from the context; in other words the explanation for the appearance of  $\pi\alpha\rho\dot{\alpha}$   $\tau\tilde{\omega}\nu$   $\pi\rho\lambda\iota\tau\tilde{\omega}\nu$  most probably lies in the grammatically driven desire to supply an agent for the passive verb ἐκβάλλονται. I then omits part of 33, while in 34 B and i show a pair of words for εγκλείονται (i.e. δεσμοῦνται, φυλακίζονται) and προσέβλεπεν ημερον (i.e. εὐηργέτει καὶ ανεδέχετο Β, ανεδέχετο καὶ ηγάπα i), again suggesting that we may be dealing here with interlinear or marginal notes that were later worked into a full text. 35 shows differences that reveal the uneven quality of both versions. B makes no alteration whatsoever to the meaning of the text at this point, but i seems to have taken the first part of the previous period as belonging to the next, thus creating confusion in the syntax, with two objects ( $\sigma v \gamma \epsilon v \epsilon i \zeta$  and  $\pi \rho \omega \tau \sigma \sigma \epsilon \beta \alpha \sigma \tau \delta v$ ), untidily subsumed under the singular relative pronoun  $\alpha \hat{v} \tau \dot{o} v$  at the end of the sentence. Whereas i during the first sections of this extract read somewhat more cohesively than B, from this point onwards it appears that B starts to regain the generally better wrought character it displays throughout N-M as a whole.

Again, 36 indicates that i is attempting to improve on the original metaphrase, perhaps using Choniates as a basis for this improvement, but also using imagination: the phrase  $\mu\epsilon\tau\dot{\alpha}$   $\sigma\iota\delta\dot{\eta}\rho\omega\nu$  ...  $\varkappa\alpha\dot{\iota}$   $\pi\rho\sigma\sigma\rho\chi\tilde{\eta}\varsigma$  is invention on the part of i, revealing that this is not a retranslation as such of N, but an attempt to make the text easier to understand, sometimes with the help of N, but also simply on the basis of the original N-M as this is in general preserved for us in B.

37-41 presents a broad range of lexical variations, again suggestive of the existence of alternatives noted in the interlinear spaces or margin of the scribes' exemplar ( $\pi\alpha\lambda\nu\sigma\tau\rho\phi\phi\sigma\nu$   $\phi\rho\phi\delta$  N,  $\mu\epsilon\tau\alpha\sigma\tau\rho\phi\phi\dot{\eta}$  B,  $\kappa\alpha\tau\alpha\sigma\tau\rho\phi\phi\dot{\eta}$  i:

αὐθάδης καὶ λίαν ὑπέραυχος N, ἐπηρμένος καὶ μεγάλα καυχώμενος B, ὰλαξών i; περιβομβούμενος N, περιτριγυριζόμενος B, προσκυνούμενος καὶ τιμώμενος i; ἀνέστιος N, ἄοικος Bi; ἐδυσχέραινε N, ἐλυπεῖτο B, ἐθλίβετο i; ἐῷτο N, ὴνεμπόδιζον αὐτόν B, ἐνεμπόδιζον αὐτῷ i). I, interestingly, translates ἐπιπιπτόντων (N) as κουντοῦντες, a word not used elsewhere in  $N^{-1}$  B adds a (banal) comment of his own in 41 (τοιαῦτα γάρ εἰσὶ τὰ ἀνθρώπινα), although yet again this looks like a marginal note, written at some stage by a reader or copyist of  $N^{-1}$  that perhaps became confused with the main text.

A legitimate question with regard to the two versions we have before us might be to what extent the one or the other version shows signs of being  $\delta\eta\mu\omega\delta\epsilon\sigma\tau\epsilon\rho\rho\nu$ , that is, of using vocabulary or grammatical forms that are more obviously closer to the spoken language of the time. The answer is aptly illustrated in 42-51: neither can claim to be a more thoroughly vernacular reworking of the original. While B less adventurously translates ἴππω βοαχυτάτω ἐπικαθήμενος N as ἐπὶ ἴππω λίαν σμικοῷ τοῦτον καθίσαντες, i renders it as εν αλόγω απόρω καθίσαντες αὐτόν, using εν as a preposition of movement, preferring  $\hat{\alpha}\hat{\lambda}\hat{\alpha}\gamma\omega$  to  $\tilde{\iota}\pi\pi\omega$  and interpreting βραχντάτω as απόρω. (It may well be, however, that i in fact reworked B at this point: ἀπόρω can also be seen as a free rendering of σμικοῦ rather than βραχυτάτω. Moreover, the apparent scribal error in 49 –πιείν Β for ποιείν N- may explain the use of the word αβύσσους by i to describe the imperial treasury.) Yet further down it is B that uses z a λ άμιν (z a λ άμιον i), and  $\beta \dot{\alpha} \lambda z \alpha v$  (i  $\sigma \alpha v \delta \dot{\alpha} \lambda \iota o v$ ), forms which to a greater or lesser extent are more 'vernacular' in B than in i. Both B and i seem to be aiming at the same level with their rendering of the long conditional sentence in 46-48. The

<sup>22.</sup> The entry for κουντώ in E. Kriaras, Λεξικό της μεσαιωνικής ελληνικής δημώδους γραμματείας, Thessalonica 1968—, makes no reference to an occurrence of the word in N-M since its source for N-M is the critical apparatus of Bekker's edition (Bonn, 1835) of the Chronike Diegesis. Bekker's edition did not use any of the other manuscripts containing the Niketas-Metaphrase. Kriaras therefore continues a tradition established by Ducange, who, in the seventeenth century, had included among his sources ms Monacensis gr. 450 (then in the Augsburg library) for his Glossarium ad scriptores mediae et infimae graecitatis, Lyon 1688 (reprinted Graz,1958).

distribution therefore of distinctly vernacular language appears not to be guided by consistent linguistic preference, but more by chance, thus depriving us of the opportunity of characterising the one or the other text as a more radically popular recasting of the original *Chronike Diegesis*.

In 50-51 B is certainly more complete than i, but syntactically unsatisfactory. Perhaps with N's neut. acc.  $\delta\pi\lambda\iota\tau\iota\varkappa\delta\nu$  in mind, B proceeds to use the neutor acc. participle  $\hat{\upsilon}\pi\hat{\alpha}\varrho\chi\varrho\nu$  and adj.  $\pi\lambda\hat{\epsilon}\varrho\nu$  for the masc. acc.  $\sigma\tau\varrho\alpha\tau\delta\nu$  of B's previous clause. I (perhaps for reasons of national pride?) altogether omits Choniates' comment on the braver Latin forces.

The picture that emerges of the two versions is decidedly mixed and uneven. I on a number of occasions appears to begin sentences with every intention of improving the material he finds before him, but frequently loses momentum, or declines into extemporisation that does not correspond precisely with either B or N. At other moments, however, i corresponds more closely to N than B. The nature of the divergences between the two traditions suggests, as already mentioned, that they in fact both derive from a single original metaphrase that may have been annotated with interlinear or marginal changes or corrections for which there was no clear indication for subsequent copyists as to which of these changes should be included or left out. An alternative interpretation is that the original metaphrase was written in the interlinear spacing of a Niketastext, thus explaining why B and i on separate occasions seem independently to bear witness to the Niketastext. The mere logistics, however, of such a source for the surviving witnesses to N-M would seem to rule out this hypothesis, implying as it does that here there is a third set of notes or text. One may surmise that the B and the i versions represent two separate copyings (or descendents of those copyings) from an original metaphrase that was itself altered or corrected in some parts, specifically in the passages discussed here. Our subsequent surviving texts of N-M are, partly, two attempts at imposing order and coherence on an assortment of text and interlinear or marginal glosses. Both versions share the same stylistic level, with a number of interesting though mutually balancing variations, but it is tempting to see them as the work of two separate individuals (alterations such as  $\kappa \alpha \lambda \dot{\alpha} \mu \nu \nu / \kappa \alpha \lambda \dot{\alpha} \mu \nu \nu \nu$ , and -from elsewhere in N-M- a consistent preference for  $\varepsilon i \zeta$  in B and  $\pi \rho \delta \zeta$  in i, while perhaps the result of a copyist's preference, may rather indicate a differing idiolect). This stylistic level is not only dictated by the target idiom (I hesitate to use the word 'language') of the translated text, but also conceals (and frequently betrays) much about the literary and linguistic ability of the metaphrast, which, in the case of passages where Choniates uses highly rhetorical or florid language and complex allusions or similes (drawn invariably from Biblical or classical sources) is not sufficient to capture the spirit or tone of Choniates, if indeed the reference is understood at all. At those points where the narrative describes actions and events, such as the imperial delegation sent to the rebel Andronikos, and exchanges of dialogue, then the metaphrast comes into his own, and is able to produce a text that often succeeds in holding the reader's attention and even entertain for its immediacy and refreshingly simple style.

To answer the question posed in the title of this article, it would seem that both versions may well have been born of the same original metaphrase, but that one (i or its predecessor) revised, and, to a limited extent, retranslated N, guided, however, by a text similar to B. It remains a matter for conjecture (and will probably still remain so after an exhaustive collation of all the N-M manuscripts) what kind of exemplar the two branches of the N-M tradition descend from: it may well have been a single metaphrase that existed in an ante and post correctionem form, each of which resulted in the two subsequent branches of the N-M text. Perhaps the one version represents an experiment, carried out at random on these few folios of the Niketas-Metaphrase.

To close, we may once again draw attention to the famous marginal note found on fol.  $2^{V}$  of ms. Vindobonensis Hist. gr.  $53^{23}$ : οὖκ οἶδα τί φῆς ενθάδε, Χωνειάτα, σοφὸν τὸ σαφὲς συγγράφων εἶναι λέγεις, εἶτα γρυφώδη (sic) καὶ βαραθρώδη γράφεις. The motives behind the production of a translation of the *Chronike Diegesis* constitute the subject of an investigation that goes beyond the scope of this study. It cannot be denied, however, that the metaphrase as a whole, as well as this particular passage, represents an attempt to make the text σαφές, thereby removing it from the almost metaphysical realm of γρῖφος or ασάφεια ('obscurity'), and placing it fairly and squarely within the reach of all moderately educated readers,

διὰ τὴν τῶν ἀχροατῶν ἀσθένειαν<sup>24</sup>.

- 23. The manuscript is of the early fourteenth century, but the note discussed here is written in a later hand. See *NCH*, I, p. XXXII.
- 24. NICETAS CHONIATES, Orationes et Epistulae, ed. J.-L. VAN DIETEN, Berlin 1972, 170. It is worth comparing H.-G. BECK's introductory remarks in Geschichte der byzantinischen Volksliteratur, Munich 1971, 6, where he states that the translation of various historical works in the later Byzantine period into a simpler idiom was indicative of the desire of Byzantines 'not to allow any linguistic barrier to come between them and their own historical self-awareness', with a discussion of the rhetorical phenomenon of  $\alpha \sigma \alpha \varphi \epsilon \iota \alpha$  and the Byzantine theoretical justification for obscurity in G. L. Kustas, Studies in Byzantine Rhetoric, Analekta Vlatadon 17, Thessalonica 1973, chapter 3, 63-100, and chapter 6, esp. 193-194, where he discusses the device of 'emphasis' (as well as Pollux' and Siceliotes' use of the term  $\gamma \varrho \bar{\iota} \varphi o \varsigma$ ). These two opposing phenomena appear to have coexisted, if not even nurtured one another, throughout the last centuries of Byzantium.

N = Nicetae Choniatae Historia ed van Dieten CFHB 11/1 (Berlin 1975) 247 31 250 26 (=Bekker [Bonn] 321 325)

**B** = Mon gr 450 (first half of 14th c) fols 80 81

= Vindobonensis Suppl gr 166 (14th/15th
 c) fols 54<sup>v</sup> 57 (14th c) and Scorialensis Ψ IV 17 (early 16th c) fols 121<sup>v</sup> 123<sup>v</sup>

The first paragraph (corresponding to N 246 20 247 30) is given simply to indicate the closer agreement between B and XS outside the above passages.

seeks to present the text in easily manageable units for analysis and discussion Gaps in the passages are inserted merely in order to keep them roughly parallel to one another While they do not imply lacunae in the manuscripts they do suggest that the metaphrast is defiberately abbreviating. Occasionally double square brackets are used to mark off sections that have no equivalent in the other versions.

The paragraph division in the Metaphrase passages is that of the manuscripts

αρχετης και πολλης πεξης φαλαγγος αποσοβησαι τον επιοντα οι επ οικου μονον καθησθαι και μηδενι προστιθεσθαι των μερων ουτω γαρ φρονειν αει και προχυσεω, αιματος τους πλειους των exenson totilah metasaang tol, de araeton e, την προς τον κρατουντα τιστιν λελογιστο το τε και λεγειν τοι ς πολλους εξεταιδευσε το της γνωμης νερδαλεοφρον και το δια φονων Αλεξιος δε ο τρωτοσεβαστος μη εχων δια οποσοις ουκ ην ολως ακινδυνος η προς πολεμιον (ηδη γαρ οι μεν μετεβαινον ται, γνωμαίς γρυφιώδως προς Ανδρονιγόν βασιλεων της Ρωμαικης επιβαινειν αρχης) δια ναυμαχιας επειρατο τον προσερποντα κινδυνον αποκρουσασθαι

Τριηρεις τοινυν την Προποντιδα καλυπτον αι μεν Ρωμαιους εχουσαι τους ερεσσοντας και τους εν των καταστρωματων διαμαχευθαι μελλοντας

διαφυρογενων Λατινων 2 δτιπερ κρατιστον και μαχιμον μερος 3 οίς και τα χρηματα τοταμήδον επέχεοντο 4 επει και τουτοις πρωτοσεβαστος ηπερ τοις Ρωμαιοις αυτοις κατα /ενος ε//ιζουσι 6 του δε μεγαλου 7 ω, αυτω και ουχ ετερφ δη τινι ως αρηξουσιν 5 ωρμησε μει ουν τους πιστοτατους αυτφ επιστησαι τριηραρχας και παραδουναι τον στολοι τοις εκεινω δουχός του Κοντοστεφανου αντιπνεισαντός και της στολαρχιας ταντι τροπω εξεγομενου Ιαι δε των κατα τολιν Sovaluogx τροσηκουσης 8 αναγγαστως την βουλησιν μετατιθησι 9 και δη ο μεν Κοντοστεφανος Ανδρονικός κυριός καθειστημεί του στολου ταντος [[και καταπλους απας τοις απο της εω περαιουμενου, αποτετειχιστο ]] επεποιθει μαλλον ο

Ανδρονικον (οι πλειονε, /αρ τρο, αι τον δε οιτινες πιστιν ελεγον φυλαιτειν τω ιηδενι των δυο μερων τροστιθεντες) εγνο τολεμησαι τον Ανδρονικον φικονομηθησαν τοινιν τα κατεργα και εις τα μεν εισηργοντο Ο δε πρωτοσεβαστος μη δυναμινος δια πεξινου στρατου αποδιωζαι τοι κρυφιως εφευγον και απηργοντο οι ετεροι βασιλει επι τους οιχους αυτων εγαθηντο ουν δια των καιεργων αποδιωζαι και Βασμουλοι ται Ρωμαιοι μετα *ο*ογα<sub>ς</sub> αυχετης και τολλης πεζικου στρατου απιδιωξαι τον δε οιτινες πιστιν ελεγον φυλαττειν τω βασιλει επι τους οιχους, αι των εκαθηντο Ο δε πρωτοστβαστος μη δυναμενος δια Ανδρονικον (οι τλειονες /αρ προς αυτον μηδενι των δυο μερων προστιθεντες) εγνω μουφιως εφευγον και απησχοντο οι ετεροι γουν δια των κατεργων πολεμησαι και τοινυν τα κατεργα και εις τα μεν εισηρχοντο Βασμουλοι και Ρωμαιοι μετα ρογας διωξαι τον Ανδρονικον οικονομηθησαν

1 εις τα ετερα δε απο διαφοροιον Λατινων γενων 2 οσον ην ανδρειον και μαχημων 3 εις ους και τα χυηματα ως ποταμος εγευντο 4 εκεινοις γαο και πλευν εθαρχει και την απασαν ελτιδα ιιχεν αυτου Σ ηθελησεν ούν ινα ους ηγειτο και υπελαμβανε πατους και φιλους είναι αυτου και συγγενεις παραδουναι τον στολον 6 αλλ ενεμποδιοθη υπο του με (αλου δουκος του Κοντοστεφανου ειποντος 7 ως ουδενι άλλω αρμόζει η του στολου αυχη 8 οδεν και υπο της αναγκης ελκομενος και μη θελων 9 κυριον παντος του στολου αυτον καθωστά

και ανδρειους 3 οίς και πεοισσοτευαν εδωκε δωρεαν 4 τουτοις γαρ μαλλον επληροφορείτο ως αυτφ βοηθησωσιν 5 ωρμησεν ούν κεφαλαδας εμβαλειν εις τα κατεργα ους αυτος πιστους ηγειτο και ελογίζετο εκ των συγγενων αυτου 6 του δε μεγαλου δουκος του Κοντοστεφανου αντισταντος αυτφ και ειποντος 7 ως-Ου δυνατον εστιν ετερος το εμον κεφαλαττικιον 1 εις τα ετεύα δε Φραγγους εισηξαν αποδιαφορων γενων 2 ονομαστους δεξασθαι — 8 εξ αναγκης μετιθηκε και Κοντοστεφανον χυριον παντος του στολου ποιήσε και πασαν του στολου την εξουσιαν πρωτοσεβαστος αυτος ον είχε σκοπον 0 αυτω δεδωκε εθαρρει

<sup>4</sup> β ηθησωσι 5 7 κεφαλατικευον 5 9 λεδωκεν 5

10 συνην δε τῷ Κοντοστεφανώ και τι τοῦ πρωτοσεβαστοῦ συγγενικον και οικιδιον

11 Μετα βραχυ δε και πρεσβις απο του βασιλεως ες Ανδρονικον στελλεται τις των εντροφων τοῦ βηματος 12 ο Ξιφιλίνος ἢν ούτος Γεωργιος, δς και είς όψιν τῷ τυραννω εληλυθως τα τε γραμματα ενεχειρισε και τα διαμηνυθεντα απηγγειλέν 13 ήσαν δε ταῦτα δωρεών επαγγελιαι μειζονων και αξιωματων άναβαθμοι 14 και χαρις απο τοῦ πουτανευοντος ειρηνην θεού αποσταντι μεν τοῦ προκειμένου σκεμματός, εξ οὖπέρ εμφυλιοι συμβησονται πολεμοι, προς δε ήθη τα προτερον ἐπανηχοντι 15 ο δε, τοῦ πρεσβευτού, ως φασι, Ξιφιλινου την πρεσβειαν υπονοθευσαντος 16 και μη ενδούναι ολως ή βραχυ τι γούν καθυφείναι παρακελευσαμενού, την τε αίτησιν άποπεμπεται και την προσλαλιαν ποιείται τοίς διαπρεσβευσαμενοις 17 υπερογκον φασκων προς οργην 18 ώς ην Ανδρονικον βουλοιντο παλινορσον αναζευξαι όθεν εληλυθεν, 19 αποσκορακισθητω μεν έκ τοῦ μεσου δ πρωτοσεβαστος 20 και δοτω λογους ών πεπαρωνηκέν. 21 η δε τοῦ βασιλέως μητηρ καθ' έαυτην βιστευετώ την τριχά κειραμένη καθαπαξ την κοσμικήν, 22 ὁ δε βασιλευς κατα την πατρωαν διαθηκην άρχετω μη ώς σταχυς αίφαις τοίς παραδυναστευουσι συμπνιγομένος

23 `Αλλ` ούπω ήμεραι συχναι παρηλθοσαν, 24 και μεταχωρεί ές `Ανδρονικον και ό μεγας δουξ `Ανδρονικος τας μακρας νήας παρειληφως, όποσας ό 'Ρωμαιων επληρου καταλογος

10 ήν δε και μετα του Κοντοστεφανου, φιλος τις και οικείος συγγίνης του πρωτοσεβαστού

11 Μετ' ολίγον δε και αποκρισιαρίος παρα του βασιλεως προς τον 'Ανδρονίκον πειιπεται, απο των αρχοντων της εκκλησιας 12 ο Ξιφιλίνος ούτος Γεωργίος ήν, δς και τον 'Ανδρονικον ιδων, και τα γεγραμμενα δους και αναγνους, 13 ἔγραφον γαρ αὐτῶ, άξιωματων μεγαλων τιμαι και δωρεών ευεργετιαι πολλαι, 14 όπως μη είς το μεσον αυτών, εμφυλιοι γενησονται πολεμοι, ει μονον θελησει είρηνεῦσαι, και επανα στρεψει όθεν έξηλθε 15 του Ξιφιλινου δε ως ελεγετο την πρεσβειαν υποκλεψαντος, 16 και μηδολως συγκατατεθήναι εν τινι πραγματι τοῦτο θελησαντος, 17 μεγαλοφωνως ό 'Ανδρονικος εξεβοησεν, 18 ως 'Εαν θελωσιν ΐνα εξοπισθεν υποστρεψη ο 'Ανδρονικός, 19 ας έξελθη ο πρωτοσεβαστός εκ τοῦ μεσου, 20 και ας δωσει λογον ύπες ών κακῶς ἔπραξεν 21 ας κουρευθή δε και ή δεσποινα, και άς άπελθη είς μοναστηριον, 22 και ας εξουσιάζει μονος ο βασιλευς τα πραγματα, και μηδεν συμπνιγεται και έξουσιαζεται παρ' αὐτῶν

23 Ου πολλαι ήμεραι παρηλθοσαν, 24 και ό μεγας δουξ τα κατεργα παραλαβων άπερ χεται προς τον 'Ανδρονικον 10 είχε γας και συγγενειαν προς αὐτον ολιγην 11 μετολιγον δε και άποκρισιαρίος παρα του βασιλέως από των κληρικών της μεγαλης έκκλησιας, προς Άνδρονικον πεμπεται 12 ο Ξιφιλίνος Γεωργιος ήν, δς προς Ανδρονικον έλθων, χρυσοβουλλον αὐτῶ έδωκε και τα μηνυματα έξεῖπεν

13 Ήσαν δε έπαγγελιαι μεγαλων δωρεων, και αξιωματων μεγαλης τιμής, 14 και άπο θεού εύρησει βοηθειαν, εί εξοπισθεν στραφεί και παύσει τον πολεμον, ώς αν μη χυθώσιν άνθρωπων χριστιανών αιματο 15 λεγεται δε τον Ξιφιλινον, κουφιως τουτον είπειν, 16 μη ύποχυψαι όλως τοις του βασιλέως γραμμασιν, άλλα κρατείν στερρώς και μενειν καθως εύρισκεται στας ούν εν μεσω ο 'Ανδρόνικος, 17 παρρησια είπε ταύτα, 18 -Ει θελει ὁ βασιλευς υποστρεψαι με δπισθεν, 19 ας εκβληθή ό πρωτοσεβαστος άπο μεσον τοῦ παλατιου 20 και ὰς κριθή εις δσα άτοπα έπραξε, 21 και ή δεσποινα και μητης του βασιλεως, ας υπαγη εις μοναστηριον και άς γενηται καλογραία, 22 και ας άρχη μονος ο βασιλευς, και μη ύπο τῶν πολλῶν ζιζανιων ώς εἶς σταχυς μεσον τουτών συμπνινέται.

23 Ήμεραι δε διαβιβασθείσαι ολιγαι, 24 απέρχεται και ο μεγας δουξ ο Κοντο στεφανος, μετα των κατεργων προς τον Άνδρονικον και προστιθεται και αὐτος αὐτώ

<sup>16</sup> en mes epimeson S 21 to ante monasthquon add S I gental gent S

25 καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἔργον ἐπῆρε μέν ύπερ απαν άλλο τὸν αποστάτην, 26 τὸν δε πρωτοσεβαστόν ήφάντωσε τέλεον, πάσας τὰς έλπίδας ἀπεγνωκότα καὶ κατακλασθέντα τὸ πρόθυμον. 27 οθκέτι γάρ λαθραΐαι σύνοδοι τῶν Ανδρονίκω προσκειμένων ἐγίνοντο, 28 άλλ' ἀνέδην τὸν πρωτοσεβαστὸν ἐρεσχελούντες οί ταϊς των πραγμάτων μεταβολαϊς γαίροντες ές Χαλκηδόνα διεπλωΐζοντο καί τῷ `Ανδρονίκω κατὰ φατρίας συγγινόμενοι 29 φυήν εκείνου καὶ είδος άγητὸν καὶ γῆρας σεμνόν απεθαύμαζον 30 και το της εκείνου γλώττης τουγώντες μελίκησον 31 καί, ώς άγρωστις δμβρον ή δρόσον 'Αερμωνίτην τὰ όρη Σιών, ὰ ην ύψηγορῶν προσιέμενοι μετὰ πλείστης επανέστρεφον χαρμονής, [[ ώς είπερ τας άδομένας χρυσάς έννας καὶ τὴν αληλεσμένην τοῦ μύθου δίαιταν η την ηλίου λεγομένην τράπεζαν παρακειμένην εύραντο καὶ κατακορεῖς αὐτῆς ἐγεγόνεισαν. ]] 32 ήσαν δ' οι κάκ πρώτης δψεως εύθύς τον έν δέρματι προβάτου κεκρυμμένον λύκον έγνώρισαν καὶ τὸν ὅσον οὖπω μετὰ θάλψιν ἐπιθησόμενον ὄφιν καί κακῶς τούς ὑπὸ κόλπον φέροντας δράσοντα.

33 Έπὶ τούτοις ἀνίενται μὲν τῆς είρχτῆς αὐτοῦ τε τοῦ 'Ανδρονίκου οί παίδες ὁ Ἰωάννης καὶ ὁ Μανουήλ καὶ οί λοιποί, οῦς καθεῖρξεν ὁ πρωτοσεβαστός, 34 ἐγκλείονται δ' ἔτεροι, οἰς οὐτος προσέβλεπεν ῆμερον καὶ ὅσοι τῆς αὐτοῦ μερίδος καὶ συγγενείας.

25 καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἔργον, ὑπερύψωσε μέν τὸν ἀποστάτην, 26 τὸν δε πρωτοσεβαστὸν τελέως ἡφάνισεν, ἀπέγνω γὰρ παντελῶς, καὶ ἡ ἄπασα αὐτοῦ προθυμία ἐνεκρώθη. 27 οὐκέτι γὰρ ἔκτοτε κρυσίως συνήγοντο, 28 ἄλλα φανερῶς τον πρωτοσεβαστὸν ὑβρίζοντες καὶ ἐξουδενῶντες, διεπεραιοῦντο εἰς τὴν Χαλκηδόνα, καὶ ἀπήρχοντο πρὸς ᾿Ανδρόνικον, 29 ἐπαινοῦντες καὶ μεγαλύνοντες τό τε γένος καὶ τὴν ἡλικίαν αὐτοῦ καὶ τὸ γῆρας, 30 καὶ τὸ τῆς γλώττης αὐτοῦ γλυκερόν 31 καὶ δροσιζόμενοι ὑπὸ τῶν ἐκείνου λόγων ὡς ἀπὸ δρόσου ἀερμών, ὑπεστρέφοντο.

25 καὶ τοῦτο μέν τὸ έργον ὑπερύψωσε, καὶ ἐμεγαλινε τὸν ἀποστάτην ᾿Ανδρόνικον 26 τον δὲ πρωτοσεβαστον κατέβαλε καὶ ἡι ἀνισε τέλεον, ἀπογνόντα τὴν αὐτοῦ σωτηρίαν 27 ἔκτοτε δέ, οὐκέτι κρυφίως οἱ ἄνθρωποι πρὸς τὸν ᾿Ανδρόνικον προσέκειντο καὶ ἐπορεύοντο, 28 ἀλλὰ φανερῶς τὸν πρωτοσεβαστὸν καὶ ἀδιαντρόπως ὑβρίζοντες, πρὸς Χαλκηδόνα ἐπεραιοῦντο συστήματα, 29 οἵτινες καὶ προσεκύνουν αὐτῷ. [[καὶ ὑποστρεφόμενοι, εὐηργετοῦντο:]] καὶ ἐδόξαζον καὶ ἐπαίνουν καὶ ἐθαύμαζον τό τε γῆρας αὐτοῦ καὶ τὴν ὁρθὴν ἡλικίαν, 30 καὶ τὸ τῆς γλώττης μελίτατον.

32 ήσαν δὲ καί τινες, οἱ ἀπὸ μόνης θεωρίας τὸν ὃν εἰχεν ἐντὸς κεκρυμμένον λύκον καταστοχάζοντες. 33 ἐπὶ τούτοις, ἐλευθεροῦνται μέν ἀπὸ τῆς φυλακῆς οἱ τοῦ ᾿Ανδρονίκου υίοἱ ὅ τε Ἰωάννης καὶ Μανουήλ, καὶ οἱ ἔτεροι οῦς ὁ πρωτοσεβαστὸς ἐφυλάκισε, 34 δεσμοῦνται δὲ πάλιν καὶ φυλακίζονται οῦς ὁ πρωτοσεβαστὸς εὐηργέτει καὶ ἀνεδέχετο.

32 ήσαν δέ καὶ τινές οἱ ὰπό μόνης τῆς δψεως καὶ τῶν λόγων αὐτοῦ, καταλαμβάνοντες τὸν ἐντὸς αὐτοῦ δράκοντα, κατανοοῦντες καὶ οἶον θηρίον εἰς μέσην αὐτοῦ ἐμβαλεῖν σπεύδουσι. 33 μετὰ ταῦτα ἐκβάλλονται μὲν ἀπό τῆς φυλακῆς παρὰ τῶν πολιτῶν οἱ δύο τοῦ ᾿Ανδρονίκου υἰοί, 34 καὶ φυλακίζονται ἔτεροι οῦς ἀνεδέχετο καὶ ἡγάπα ὁ πρωτοσεβαστός, τοὺς δὲ συγγενεῖς αὐτοῦ

29 εθεργετούντο \$ 32 τινές τινάς \$ ΙΙ σπευδουσιν \$



35 και αυτός δε ο πρωτοσεβαστος κατα τα ανακτορα συλλης θεις και φρουρα διαληφθεις Γερμανών οι κατώμαδον τους ετεροστομούς πελέκεις ανέχουσιν απροίτος εμένεν 36 αύθις δε των μεν βασιλείων λαθραίως και περι μέσας νύκτας εξαγεται τοις δε κατα το ιερον ανακτορον οικημασι διδοται ών δομητώρ ο πατριαρχης γεγονέ Μιχαήλ μέτα της αυτής και παλιν και πλειονώς ασφαλεστέρας φρουρας

37 'Ω πραγματων παλινστροφού φορας και θαττον η λογος μετακλινομένης ενίστε 38 ο κατα της εκκλησιας χθες εισενεγκων ακηρυκτον πολεμον και θρασυς και αυθαδης και λιαν υπεραυχος και τους φυγαδας εκείθεν αποσπων ως ουκ εδει και μυριασιν δχλων περιβομβουμενος 39 σημερον δεσμιος και ανεστιος μηδενα έχων οπαδον και συλληπτορα η τον σωζοντα και λυτρουμένον 40 ο δε εδυσχέραινε μεν καπι τουτοις επαθαίνετο δε πλέον στι μη έωτο υπνωττειν υπο των φυλακων αει επιπιπτοντων αυτφ προς υπνον τρεπομενφ και βιαζοντων ισταν τους οφθαλμους ωστερ κερας η σιδηρον 41 ο δε πατριαρχης μη μνησικακων αλλ οικτειρων της μεταβολης τον ανθρωπον θεραπειας τε ικανης μετεδιδού και συγγινομένος το αχθος εκουφίζε και μετρίως εκείνω προσφερέσθαι παρηνει τοις φυλαξι μηδε γινεσθαι βαρυτερους τυχης της ενεστωσης

42 Ου μην αλλ ημερων τινων διαλειπουσων εωος απαγεται του νεω ιππω βραχυτατω επικαθημενος και προοδευουσαν εχων σημαιαν επι καλαμω ηνεμωμενην και παροινουμενος ουτω κατηει προς θαλασσαν

35 και αυτος δε ο πρωτοσεβαστος κρατηθείς και δεσμευθείς εντος των παλατίων περιορίζεται και υπο των Βαραγγων φυλαττεται 36 είτα εξαγεται δια μέσης της νυκτος και φέρεται εις το πατριαρχείοι εις τα παλατία ατίνα έκτισεν ο πατριαρχης Μίχαηλ και ήν παλίν μέτα τοιώυτης ασφαλείας ως και το προτέρον

37 Δ πραγματών μεταστροφή και συντομωτέρα του λογου μεταβολη 38 οτι ο χθες κατα της εκκλησιας εχθοος και θρασυς και επηρμένος και μεγάλα καυχωμένος γαι τους εν αυτη καταφευγοντας αποσπων και επαιρων και υπο μυριων ανθρωπων περιτριγυριζομένος 39 σημέρον δεσμιος και αοικος μηδενα έχων τον ακολουθουντα η τον ελευθερουντα και σωζοντα 40 ο πρωτοσεβαστος δε επι πλεον ελυπειτο και επασγέν οτι ηνεμποδίζον αυτον κοιμασθαί οι τουτον φυλασσοντες αλλ ηναγκαζον αυτον ανεωγμενους εχειν αει ποτε τους οφθαλμους 41 ο πατριαρχης δε μη μνησικακων αλλ ελέων τον ανθρωπον την τοσαυτην μεταβολην εθεραπευε τουτον και παρηγορεί και έλεγε τους φυλασσοντας αυτον και παρηνει μη κατ αυτου βαρεως φερεσθαι [[τοιαυτα γαρ εισι τα ανθρωπινα ]]

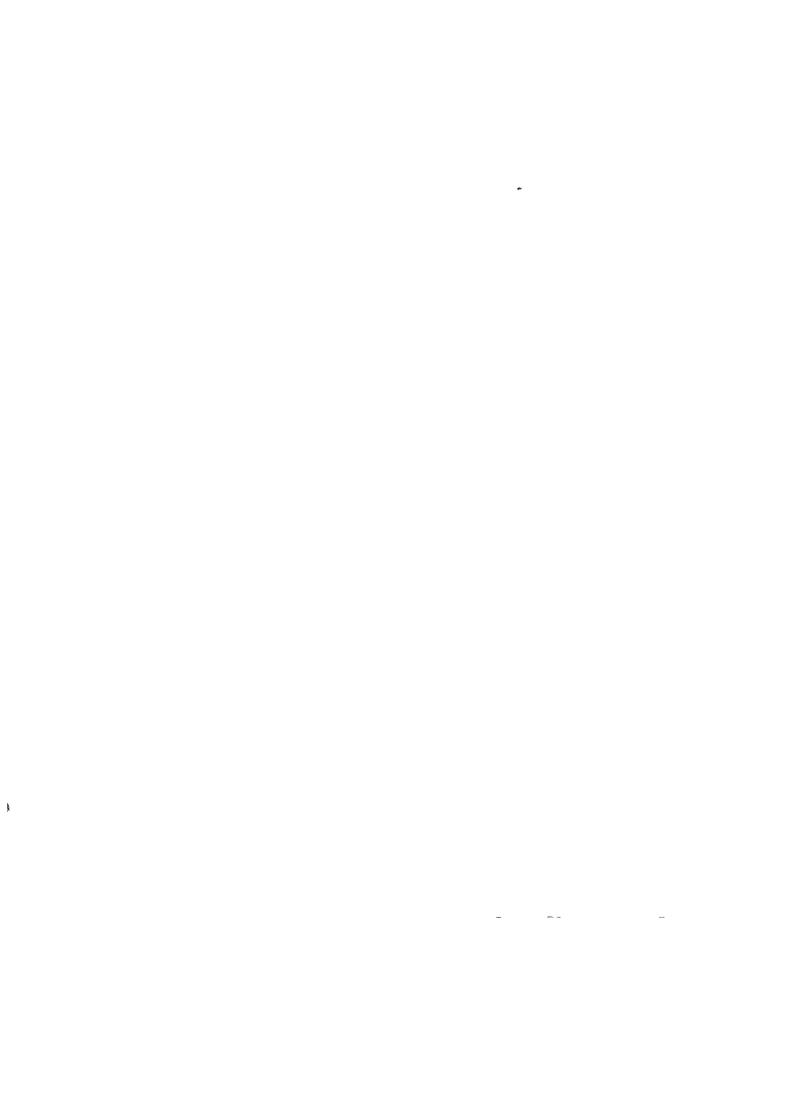
42 Ημερων δε ολίγων διελθουσων εκβαλλουσι τουτον απο των εκείσε ταλατίων και επί ιπτω λίαν σμικρω τουτον καθισαντές και εμπροσθέν αυτου είς καλαμιν φλαμουλον εμβαλοντές ενέπαιζον αυτω προπορευομένοι εμπροσθέν μέχρι ούν της θαλασσης αυτον καταγαγοντές

36 Κατα δε το μεσονύπτιον εξαγεται απο της του παλατίου q υλαπης παι φερεται εις τον ναον της αγιας Σοφίας εν τω πατριαρχικώ οίπω ὁ ο πατριάργης Μιγαηλ έπτισε μετα σίδηρων παι πλειότερας ασφαλείας παι προσοχής

37 ώ συντομοτατης καταστροφης των πραγματων 38 ο γαρ χθες θρασυς και αλαζων και τους προσφυγούς από της εκκλησιας αποσπων και εκβαλλων και υπο μυριων ανθρωπων προσχυνουμένος και τιμωμενός 39 σημέρον φυλακισμένος και ἄοικος μηδενα έχων τον υπηρετούντα αυτον ή τον βοηθουντα και σωζοντα 40 ο δε πρωτοσεβαστος εθλιβετο μεν επι τουτοις έπασχε δε τλεον οτι ενεμποδίζον αυτώ οι φυλασσοντες κοιμασθαι αει κουντουντες αυτον και βιαζοντες ως αν τους οφθαλμους αυτου ανοικτους εχη και ισταμένους ορθους ώστερ σιδηρον 41 ο δε πατριαρχης μη μνησικακησας αυτον αλλα ελεησας την αθροαν αυτου μεταβολην θεραπειας ηξιωσε και παρηγορεί και τοις φυλαξι παρηνεί δουλαγωγείν αυτω

42 ημερων δε ολιγων διελθουσων εξαγεται του ναου και εν αλογω απορω καθισαντες αυτον και ξμπροσθεν αυτου καλαμιον μι ταφλαιιουλου ποιησαντες ενεπαιζον αυτον και προς τον αιγιαλον κατεβιβασαν

35 tol — per subsective of S 36 meV at v S 37 S we CS 39 mem that the S 41 g labels S 42 yales alcy 2- and source that v in X 11 ale empty 10 en actin of S



43 κάκειθεν παραρριφείς άλιάδι ες το πέραν ἀνάγεται πρός 'Ανδρόνικον, 44 ἔπειτα καὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἐξορύττεται, κοινῶς άπάντων τῶν ἐν ὑπεροχῆ συνελθόντων καὶ μετ' 'Ανδρονίκου τὴν τοιαύτην πρᾶξιν κυρωσαμένων.

45 Καὶ τοιοῦτο μέν τὰ τῆς αὐτοῦ παραδυναστείας η μαλλον ούπω παγείσης άκριβώς τυραννίδος πέρας ειλήφεσαν. 46 είχε δ' ἄν, εὶ τὰς χεῖρας πρὸς παράταξιν ῶπλιστο καὶ τούς δακτύλους πρός πόλεμον εδεδίδακτο και μη ήν μαλθακός αίγμητής καὶ βάτταλος 47 καὶ τῆς ἡμέρας ξέγκων τὸ ύπερήμισυ, 48 τῷ τε Ανδρονίκω τὴν είς τὴν πόλιν πάροδον αποκλείσας και έαυτόν άπείρατον διαφυλάξας τοῦ τότε κακοῦ 49 ποιείν γὰρ ἐπί τοῖς βασιλείοις ἡδύνατο θησαυροίς όπόσα ηβούλετο 50 και ταίς τριήρεσιν ένην χρήσασθαι πρός την τοῦ άνθισταμένου καταπολέμησιν, αι το έκ Λατίνων είχον όπλιτικόν, 51 οῦτω μὲν ἐπικρατέστερον ον τοῦ Ῥωμαϊκοῦ ναυτικοῦ, ούτω δὲ πάγχαλκον καὶ ὅλον αίμοχαρές. 52 άλλά του μορσίμου, ώς ξοικεν, άντιπρούσαντος, 53 ό μεν τὸ πρόθυμον ύπεχάλασεν, 54 `Ανδρόνικος δ' επιτείνας ύπεσκέλισε τουτονί αντιτρέχοντα και την νίκην λαμποάν άπηνέγκατο.

55 °Ος καί κατά την περαίαν ἔτι διατρίβων στείλας τριήρεις, ὅσαι ὁπίσω τοῦ μεγάλου δουκός ἡκολούθησαν, 56 καὶ τῶν συνακολουθησάντων αὐτῷ ἐκ τῶν κατὰ πάροδον χωρῶν στρατιωτικῶν καταλόγων ἄπαν ἐπίλεκτον 57 πόλεμον συγκροτεὶ κατὰ τῶν ἐν τῆ πόλει Λατίνων. 58 καὶ δὴ καὶ τοῦ δήμου τῆς πόλεως ἀναθαρρήσαντος κατ' αὐτῶν καὶ ἀλλήλους ἐς συνασπισμὸν παραθήξαντος, 59 ἐπιθαλάττιος όμοῦ καὶ ἐπίγειος ἔρις φύεται.

43 είς βάλκαν έμβάλλουσι, καί διαπερώσι καὶ ἀπάγουσι τοῦτον πρός τον 'Ανδρόνικον: 44 καὶ κοινῆ γνώμη καὶ ψήσω πάντων μετ' 'Ανδρονίκου, εκτυφλούσιν αὐτόν. 45 καὶ τοιαῦτα μέν τὰ τῆς ἐξουσίας, ἢ μάλλον είπεῖν τὰ τῆς τυραννίδος τοῦ πρωτοσεβαστοῦ ἀπέβησαν. 46 πλήν εὶ ηγωνίζετο, καὶ ην πρός πόλεμον πρόθυμος καί ετοιμος, καὶ οὐδὲν ην μαλακός καί φάθυμος 47 και το πλειον της ήμέρας έκοιμάτο, 48 είχεν αν καὶ αυτόν 'Ανδρόνικον ἀποκρούσασθαι, καὶ ξαυτόν διαφυλάξαι ἄτρωτον καὶ άβλαβῆ ὰπὸ τοῦ κακοῦ οὖ ἔπαθεν. 49 ἐπεί καὶ τοσούτους είχε βασιλικούς θησαυρούς, έχων έξουσίαν ποιείν όσον ήθελε. 50 και ούδε τα κάτευνα έδιδεν ἄτινα είχον τὸν ἐκ τῶν Φράγγων φογευθέντα στρατόν, 51 ανδρειότερον ύπάρχον καὶ πλέον τοῦ Ρωμαϊκοῦ στρατοῦ εύρισκόμενον: 52 αλλ' ως ξοικε το μέλλον, ούδεις έχωυνείν δύναται: 53 όπεο και τότε ώπονόμησε τὸν πρωτοσεβαστὸν εὶς χαυνότητα έμπεσείν, 54 τον δέ 'Ανδρόνικον είς ανδρείαν διήγειρε και έγρηγορσιν.

55 Έστειλε δὲ τότε ὁ ᾿Ανδφόνικος καὶ τὰ κάτεργα ᾶτινα ἀπῆγεν ὁ μέγας δούξ πρό τοῦ ταῦτα γενέσθαι, 56 εἰσάξας ἐντὸς καὶ πλῆθος ἐκλελεγμένου στρατοῦ ἀπὸ πασῶν τῶν χωρῶν. 57 καὶ συγκροτοῦσι πόλεμον μετὰ τῶν εὐρισκομένων καὶ ἐντὸς κατοικούντων τῆς πόλεως Φράγγων. 58 συνήχθη δὲ καὶ ὁ δῆμος τῆς πόλεως κατὰ τῶν τοιούτων Φράγγων ὅθεν καὶ ὁμογνωμονοήσαντες μετὰ τῶν κατέργων ὁμοῦ, 59 πόλεμος θαλάττιος ὁμοῦ καὶ ἔπίγειος ἀνεγείριται.

48 είχε φυλάξαι έαυτόν και τήν πόλιν, και ούδὲ τὸν 'Ανδρόνικον εἰσελθεῖν ἐντὸς παρεχώρει, 49 ἐπεί χρημάτων είχεν ἀβύσσους,

51 καὶ ξενικόν ἐνταῦθα λαὸν Φραγγικόν. 52 ἐπεὶ δὲ τὸ μέλλον ἐκφυγεῖν οῦκ ἢν δυνατόν, 53 τὴν προθυμίαν αὐτοῦ ἐχάλασε, 54 καὶ τὸν 'Ανδρόνικον νικητὴν ἀπέδειξε κατ' αὐτοῦ.

55 έτι δὲ τοῦ

'Ανδυονίχου εὶς τὸ ἀντίπεραν εύρισκομένου, πέμψας τὰ κάτεργα ὅσα μετὰ τοῦ μεγάλου δουκὸς προσῆλθον αὐτῷ· 56 καὶ εἰσάξας ἐντὸς καὶ οῦς εἰχεν ἐπιλέκτους στρατιώτας ἀπό τῶν χωρῷν, 57 πόλεμον ἐγείρει κατὰ τῶν ἐν τῆ πόλει ἐνοικούντων Φράγγων. 58 θαρρήσαντες δὲ καὶ οἱ ὅχλοι τῆς πόλεως, ιρμησαν καὶ αὐτοὶ κατὰ τῶν Φράγγων· 59 καὶ γίνεται ὁ πόλεμος θαλάττιος ὁμοῦ καὶ ἔπίγειος.

<sup>43</sup> είτα είς σανδάλιον ξιιγείς, είς το πέραν πέμπεται πρός 'Ανδρόνικον. 44 ο δέ, μετά τῶν ὑπ' αὐτοῦ παντων συμβουλευσάμενος, τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ ἔξορύττει. 45 καὶ τοιοῦτον μὶν τῆς παραδυναστείας τοῦ πρωτοσεβαστοῦ τέλος είληφε. 46 καὶ εὶ μὴ ἦν μαλθακός καὶ γυναικώδης, ἀλλ' ἦν ἀνδρεῖος και τολμηρός,

**<sup>49</sup>** ловыч . лиїч cod.

<sup>43</sup> τον ante 'Ανδρόνικον add. S 51 ένταῦτα S

