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THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA MAGAZINE

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THE CELEBRATED LETTER OF
Columbus,

"CONCERNING THE ISLANDS LATELY DISCOVERED," ETC.; ADDRESSED TO THE TREASURER OF SPAIN, BUT INTENDED FOR THE KING, AND SENT FROM LISBON, PORTUGAL, WHICH WAS THE FIRST CONTINENTAL PORT REACHED ON THE RETURN VOYAGE, IN MARCH, 1493. WRITTEN IN SPANISH, BUT IMMEDIATELY PRINTED IN LATIN (MAY, 1493) THAT IT MIGHT PLEASE THE POPE, TO WHOM A COPY WAS DOUBTLESS THEN SENT. SEVERAL OF THE LATIN COPIES OF MAY, 1493, ARE IN AMERICAN LIBRARIES. THE FOLLOWING IS AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF ONE OF THEM:

A letter addressed to the noble lord, Raphael Sanchez, Treasurer to their Most Invincible Majesties, Ferdinand and Isabella, King and Queen of Spain, by Christopher Columbus, to whom our age is greatly indebted, treating of the islands of India, recently discovered beyond the Ganges, to explore which he had been sent eight months before under the auspices and at the expense of their said Majesties.

KNOWING that it will afford you pleasure to learn that I have brought my undertaking to a successful termination, I have decided upon writing you this letter to acquaint you with all the events which have occurred in my voyage, and the discoveries which have resulted from it.

Thirty-three days after my departure from the Canary islands I reached the Indian Sea, where I discovered many islands, thickly peopled, of which I took possession without resistance in the

name of our most illustrious Monarchs and with unfurled banners.

To the first of these islands, which is called by the Indians Guanahani, I gave the name of the blessed Saviour (*it is now claimed that Watling's Island, and not the present San Salvador, was the first land discovered*), relying upon whose protection I had reached this as well as other islands; to each of these I also gave a name, ordering that one should be called Santa Maria de la Concepcion, another Fernandina, the third Isabella (*Great Inagua*), the fourth Juana (*Cuba*), and so with all the rest respectively.

As soon as we arrived at that, which, as I have said, was named Juana (*Cuba*), I proceeded along its coast a short distance westward, and found it to be so large and apparently without termination, that I could not suppose it to be an island, but the continental province of Cathay (*China*). Seeing however, no towns or populous places on the seacoast, but only a few detached houses and cottages, with whose inhabitants I was unable to communicate, because they fled as soon as they saw us, I went further on, thinking that in my progress I should certainly find some city or village. At length, after proceeding a great way and finding that nothing new presented itself, and that the line of coast was leading us northwards (which I wished to avoid because it was winter and it was my intention to move southwards; and because, moreover, the winds were contrary), I resolved not to attempt any further progress, but rather to turn back and retrace my course to a certain bay that I had observed, and from which I afterwards dispatched two of our men to ascertain whether there were a king or any cities in that province.

These men reconnoitred the country for three days and found a most numerous population and great numbers of houses though small, and built without any regard to order; with which information they returned to

us. In the meantime I had learned from some Indians whom I had seized that the country was certainly an island, and therefore I sailed towards the east, coasting to the distance of three hundred and twenty-two miles, which brought us to the extremity of it; from this point I saw lying eastwards another island, fifty-four miles distant from Juana (*Cuba*), to which I gave the name of *Espanola* (*Hayti*). I went thither, and steered my course eastward as I had done at Juana, even to the distance of five hundred and sixty-four miles along the north coast. This said island of Juana (*Cuba*) is exceedingly fertile, as indeed are all the others; it is surrounded with many bays, spacious, very secure and surpassing any that I have ever seen; numerous large and beautiful rivers intersect it, and it also contains many very lofty mountains.

All these islands are very beautiful, and distinguished by a diversity of scenery; they are filled with a great variety of trees of an immense height, and which I believe to retain their foliage in all seasons; for when I saw them they were as verdant and luxuriant as they usually are in Spain in the month of May—some of them were blossoming, some bearing fruit, and all flourishing in the greatest perfection, according to their respective stages of growth, and the nature and quality of each; yet the islands are not so thickly wooded as to be impassable. The nightingale and various birds were singing in countless numbers, and that in November, the month in which I arrived there. There are besides in the same island of Juana seven or eight kinds of palm trees, which, like all the other trees, herbs and fruits, considerably surpass ours in height and beauty. The pines also are very handsome, and there are very extensive fields and meadows, a variety of birds, different kinds of honey and many sorts of metals, but no iron.

In that island also which I have

before said we named *Espanola*, there are mountains of very great size and beauty, vast plains, groves and very fruitful fields, admirably adapted for tillage, pasture and habitation. The convenience and excellence of the harbors in this island and the abundance of the rivers, so indispensable to the health of man, surpass anything that would be believed by one who had not seen it. The trees, herbage and fruits of *Espanola* are very different from those of Juana, and moreover it abounds in various kinds of spices, gold and other metals.

The inhabitants in this island, and in all the others which I have seen or of which I have received information, go always unclothed, excepting the women. None of them, as I have already said, are possessed of any iron, neither have they weapons, being unacquainted with and indeed incompetent to use them, not from any deformity of body (for they are well formed), but because they are timid and full of fear. They carry, however, in lieu of arms, canes dried in the sun, and on the ends of which they fix heads of dried wood sharpened to a point, and even these they dare not use habitually, for it has often occurred when I have sent two or three of my men to any of the villages to speak with the natives that they have come out in a disorderly troop and have fled in such haste at the approach of our men that the parents forsook their children and the children their parents. This timidity did not arise from any loss or injury that they had received from us, for on the contrary I gave to all I approached whatever articles I had about me, such as cloth and many other things, taking nothing of theirs in return, but they are naturally timid and fearful. As soon, however, as they see that they are safe and have laid aside all fear, they are very simple and honest and exceedingly liberal with all they have, none of them refusing anything he may possess when he is asked for it, but on the contrary inviting us to ask them.

They exhibit great love towards all others in preference to themselves; they also give objects of great value for trifles, and content themselves with very little or nothing in return. I, however, forbade that these trifles and articles of no value (such as pieces of dishes, plates and glass, keys and leather straps) should be given to them, although if they could obtain them, they imagined themselves to be possessed of the most beautiful trinkets in the world. It even happened that a sailor received for a leather strap as much gold as was worth three golden nobles, and for things of more trifling value offered by our men, especially newly coined blancas or any gold coins, the Indians would give whatever the seller required; as, for instance, an ounce and a half or two ounces of gold, or thirty or forty pounds of cotton, with which commodity they were already acquainted.

Thus they bartered, like idiots, cotton and gold for fragments of bows, glasses, bottles and jars, which I forbade as being unjust, and myself gave them many beautiful and acceptable articles which I had brought with me, taking nothing from them in return; I did this in order that I might the more easily conciliate them, that they might be led to become Christians, and be inclined to entertain a regard for the king and queen, our princes and all Spaniards, and that I might induce them to take an interest in seeking out and collecting and delivering to us such things as they possessed in abundance, but which we greatly needed.

They practice no kind of idolatry, but have a firm belief that all strength and power, and, indeed, all good things, are in heaven, and that I had descended from thence with these ships and sailors; and under this impression was I received after they had thrown aside their fears. Nor are they slow or stupid, but of very clear understanding; and those men who have crossed to the neighboring islands give an admirable de-

scription of everything they observed; but they never saw any people clothed nor any ships like ours.

On my arrival at that sea, I had taken some Indians by force from the first island that I came to, in order that they might learn our language, and communicate to us what they knew respecting the country; which plan succeeded excellently, and was a great advantage to us, for in a short time, either by gestures and signs or by words, we were enabled to understand each other. These men are still traveling with me, and although they have been with us now a long time, they continue to entertain the idea that I have descended from heaven; and on our arrival at any new place they published this, crying out immediately with a loud voice to the other Indians, "Come and look upon beings of a celestial race;" upon which, both women and men, children and adults, young men and old, when they get rid of the fear they at first entertained, would come out in throngs, crowding the roads to see us, some bringing food, others drink, with astonishing affection and kindness.

Each of these islands has a great number of canoes, built of solid wood, narrow, and not unlike our double banked boats in length and shape, but swifter in their motion; they steer them only by the oar. These canoes are of various sizes, but the greater number are constructed with eighteen banks of oars, and with these they cross to the other islands, which are of countless number, to carry on traffic with the people. I saw some of these canoes that held as many as seventy-eight rowers.

In all these islands there is do difference of physiognomy, of manners, or of language; but they all clearly understood each other, a circumstance very propitious for what I conceive to be the principal wish of our most serene king, namely, the conversion of these people to the most holy faith of Christ, to which, in-

deed, as far as I can judge, they are very favorable and well-disposed.

I said before that I went three hundred and twenty-two miles in a direct line from west to east along the coast of the island of Juana; judging by which voyage and the length of the passage, I can assert that it is larger than England and Scotland united; for independent of the said three hundred and twenty-two miles, there are in the western part of the island two provinces which I did not visit; one of these is called by the Indians Anam, and its inhabitants are born with tails. These provinces extend to a hundred and fifty-three miles in length, as I have learned from the Indians whom I have brought with me, and who are well acquainted with the country.

But the extent of Espanola is greater than all Spain from Catalonia to Fontarabia, which is easily proved, because one of its four sides which I myself coasted in a direct line, from west to east, measures five hundred and forty miles. This island is to be regarded with especial interest and not to be slighted; for although as I have said, I took possession of all these islands in the name of our invincible king, and the government of them is unreservedly committed to his said majesty, yet there was one large town in Espanola of which I especially took possession, situated in a remarkably favorable spot, and in every way convenient for the purposes of gain and commerce.

To this town I gave the name of Navidad del Senor, and ordered a fortress to be built there, which must by this time be completed, in which I left as many men as I thought necessary, with all sorts of arms and enough provisions for more than a year. I also left them one caravel, and skillful workmen, both in ship building and other arts, and engaged the favor and friendship of the king of the island in their behalf to such a degree that would not be believed,

for these people are so amiable and friendly that even the king took pride in calling me his brother.

But supposing their feelings should become changed, and they should wish to injure those who have remained in the fortress, they could not do so, for they have no arms, they go naked, and moreover, are too cowardly; so that those who hold the said fortress can easily keep the whole island in check without any pressing danger to themselves, provided they do not transgress the directions and regulations which I have given them.

As far as I have learned, every man throughout these islands is united to but one wife, with the exception of the kings and princes, who are allowed to have twenty; the women seem to work more than the men. I could not clearly understand whether the people possess any private property, for I observed that one man had the charge of distributing various things to the rest, but especially meat and provisions and the like.

I did not find, as some of us had expected, any cannibals amongst them, but on the contrary men of great deference and kindness. Neither are they black like the Ethiopians—their hair is smooth and straight—for they do not dwell where the rays of the sun strike most vividly, and the sun has intense power there, the distance from the equinoctial line being, it appears, but six and twenty degrees. On the tops of the mountains the cold is very great, but the effect of this upon the Indians is lessened by their being accustomed to the climate, and by their frequently indulging in the use of very hot meats and drinks.

Thus, as I have already said, I saw no cannibals, nor did I hear of any except in a certain island called Charis, which is the second from Espanola on the side towards India, where dwell a people who are considered by the neighboring islanders as most ferocious, and these feed

upon human flesh. The same people have many kinds of canoes, in which they cross to all the neighboring islands and rob and plunder wherever they can. They are not different from the other islanders, except that they wear their hair long like women and make use of the bows and javelins of cane, with sharpened spear points fixed on the thickest end, which I have before described, and therefore they are looked upon as ferocious, and regarded by the other Indians with unbounded fear; but I think no more of them than of the rest. These are the allies of certain women dwelling alone in the island, *Mantenin*, which lies next to *Espanola* on the side towards *India*, and employing themselves in no labour suitable to their own sex, but using bows and javelins as I have already described the men as doing, and for defensive armour having plates of brass, of which metal they possess great abundance.

They assure me that there is another island larger than *Espanola*, whose inhabitants have no hair, and which abounds in gold more than any of the rest. I bring with me individuals of this island and of the others that I have seen, who are proofs of the facts which I state.

Finally, to compress into few words the entire summary of my voyage and speedy return, and of the advantages derivable therefrom, I promise that with a little assistance afforded me by our most invincible sovereigns, I will procure them as much gold as they need, as great a quantity of spices, of cotton and of mastic (which is only found in *Chios*) and as many men for the service of the navy as their majesties may require. I promise also rhubarb and other sorts of drugs, which I am persuaded the men whom I have left in the aforesaid fortress have found already and will continue to find, for I myself have tarried nowhere longer than I was compelled to do by the winds, except in the city of *Navidad* while I provided for the build-

ing of the fortress and took the necessary precautions for the perfect security of the men I left there.

Although what I have related may appear to be wonderful and unheard of, yet the results of my voyage would have been more astonishing if I had had at my disposal such ships as I required. But these great and marvelous results are not to be attributed to any merit of mine, but to the Holy Christian Faith, and to the piety and religion of our sovereigns; for that which the unaided intellect of man could not compass, the Spirit of God has granted to human exertions, for God is wont to hear the prayers of his servants who love his precepts, even to the performance of apparent impossibilities. Thus it has happened to me in the present instance, who have accomplished a task to which the powers of mortal men had never hitherto attained; for if there have been those who have anywhere written or spoken of these islands, they have done so with doubts and conjectures, and no one has ever asserted that he has seen them, on which account their writings have been looked upon as little else than fables.

Therefore let the King and Queen, our princes, and their most happy kingdoms, and all the other provinces of Christendom, render thanks to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who has granted us so great a victory and such prosperity. Let processions be made and sacred feasts be held, and the temples be adorned with festive boughs.

Let Christ rejoice on earth, as he rejoices in heaven in the prospect of the salvation of the souls of so many nations hitherto lost. Let us also rejoice as well on account of the exaltation of our faith, as on account of the increase of our temporal prosperity, of which not only Spain, but all Christendom, will be partakers.

Such are the events which I have briefly described. Farwell.

Lisbon, the 14th of March.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS,
Admiral of the Fleet of the Ocean.

COLUMBUS'

FIRST

VOYAGE TO AMERICA.

The spirit of discovery which had long been active in Portugal had been kept under in Spain by the necessity of applying all the resources of the kingdom to the reduction of the Moors; but now the period arrived when Spain took the lead in distant enterprises and conquests, and her ships made a discovery which doubled the extent of the known world, and the consequences of which are not yet fully developed.

Among the foreigners of enterprise whom the fame of the Portuguese navigators had attracted to the court of king Joam II was Christopher Colon, or Columbus, a Genoese. He settled at Lisbon, and married the daughter of Bartholomew Perestrello, one of the early navigators employed by Prince Henry of Portugal, from whose experience he derived much knowledge, and to whose observations he listened with that attention which Columbus applied to every circumstance, however minute, which could assist him in his favorite studies of geography and navigation. The great object of Portugal at that time was to find a way to India and China by sea. But the slow progress made between doubling Cape Bogador and reaching the southern point of Africa, suggested the idea that by putting boldly out to sea and sailing westward a shorter way would inevitably be discovered, since the rotundity of the earth was now scarcely disputed. In the year 1474 Columbus having communicated his ideas on this subject to Paul Toscanelli, a Florentine physician (who encouraged him in his theory, and entreated him to persevere in endeavor-

ing to persuade some of the princes of Europe to undertake the experiment,) applied first to the Senate of Genoa, and afterwards to the king of Portugal: while he sent his brother to Henry VII, of England.

In some of the courts to which Columbus applied he was considered as a visionary; in others caution and delay prevented the adoption of his views; and ten years elapsed before he found even the shadow of encouragement; but at that time, 1484, he resolved to solicit the patronage of Ferdinand and Isabella in person; and from documents preserved in the archives of the council of the Indies it appears probable that they furnished him with money for his traveling expenses in visiting them. Ferdinand was too cold and cautious to risk the expense of a fleet for an uncertain gain; Isabella was strongly inclined to patronise the intelligent stranger, but referred the consideration of his plans to such persons as appeared best qualified to judge of them, and the opinion of these persons was so unfavorable that Isabella's patronage, if not actually withdrawn, was indefinitely deferred; and Columbus was told, that nothing could be done until the war with the Moors should be over.

But during Columbus' attendance at the Castilian Court he had acquired some valuable friends, and among them Juan Perez, guardian of the Monastery of Rabida, near Palos, for whom Isabella had a great respect, and who failed not to recommend Columbus to her in the warmest manner. He had also secured the friendship of the Duke of Medina Coeli. This nobleman laid his plans before the celebrated Roderick Ximenes, Cardinal of Spain and Archbishop of Toledo, who had succeeded Torquemado as the Queen's confessor; and *he* committed the care of the business to Alonso de Quintanilla, the Comptroller of the finances of Castile.

Twice was Columbus called to the

Court, which he found the first time in the camp before Malaga, and the next time at the cantonments of Santa Fe before Grenada, and each time to be disappointed; so that he had resolved to leave Spain, and seek in England that assistance without which he could not hope to see his ideas as to the geography of the globe realized. At length, however, at the moment when Ferdinand and Isabella were elated by the conquest of Grenada, the patrons of Columbus, seizing the happy moment of success, ventured to plead his cause anew. The arguments they used in favor of his undertaking, and the representations they made of his character and abilities, dissipated the fears that Isabella had entertained. She regretted the low state of her finances, almost exhausted by ten years' war against the Moors, and offered to pawn her jewels to raise money for the necessary equipments for the voyage; but Santangel, the receiver of the ecclesiastical revenue in Arragon, to save her from that expedient, immediately engaged to advance the requisite sum himself. Thus after eight years of constant solicitation, Columbus attained his object, and, on the 17th of April, 1492, an agreement to the following effect was entered into by the king and queen, and Christopher Columbus.

1st:—Columbus and his heirs should forever enjoy the office of High Admiral of Castile, with all its powers and prerogatives.

2nd:—The king and queen appointed Columbus their viceroy in all the lands he should discover; and if at any time it should be found necessary to establish a separate governor in any province, that officer was to be chosen by the sovereign out of three persons named by the viceroy, whose dignity was to be hereditary in his family.

3rd:—A tenth of the clear revenue arising from the new discovery was promised to Columbus and his heirs forever.

4th:—All disputes to be determined by the sole authority of Columbus.

5th:—Columbus was permitted to advance one eighth of the expense of preparation for the expedition, and was entitled to an eighth of the profit.

It is remarkable that Ferdinand did not take any part in the expedition, as king of Arragon; and consequently the exclusive right to all the benefits that might arise from it was reserved for Isabella's Castilian subjects.

Of three vessels which were now entrusted to Columbus by the queen two were furnished by the town of Palos, a small port of Andalusia, which had incurred the queen's displeasure, and was condemned as a fine to furnish two good vessels, called caravels, for her service.

The largest ship of the little fleet was the Santa Maria, and was commanded by Columbus himself; the two smaller ones, called the Pinta and the Nunia, were under the care of the two brothers, Martin Pinzon, and Vincent Yanez Pinzon, while a third Pinzon acted as pilot in Martin's ship.

About the twelfth of May 1492 the vessels were ready, and Columbus went to court to receive the final orders and instructions of the king and queen. Isabella appointed some gentlemen of her court to accompany him; and the crews of his three vessels amounted to ninety seamen, and a few adventurers; the squadron was victualled for twelve months, but the whole expense did not exceed four thousand pounds sterling.

On the second of August, the Admiral having taken leave of the queen and of his family, marched with all the persons under his command in solemn procession, to the monastery of Rabida, which overlooks Palos. After the ceremonies of confession and absolution were over, Columbus' first friend in Spain, Perez, the guardian of the monastery, administered the holy sacrament to them, and joined them in their prayers for success.

The next morning, being Friday, the third of August, the fleet got away a little before sunrise, in the presence of crowds of spectators, who poured forth blessings and prayers for its success. On the 13th of the same month, Columbus reached the Canary Islands, and there refitted his ships, which were found to be ill appointed and scarcely seaworthy; but nothing could damp the Admiral's ardour; and after giving his ships such repairs as were absolutely requisite, and laying in fresh provisions and water, he again set sail on the sixth day of September.

And now the perils of the voyage began. For thirty three days Columbus sailed across an unknown ocean, and saw stars unseen before by European eyes. On the 13th of September, he perceived that the magnetic needle, hitherto the unerring guide of the mariner, no longer pointed to the true north. On the 17th this prodigy (for such it then seemed) became known to the sailors, and there was fear and alarm, which rose almost to mutiny, in the ships; but still the Admiral calmed their disquiet. When the trade wind blew stronger and stronger, and every day in the same direction, the seamen thought that they must sail on forever before that commanding blast, and despaired of being again able to return; so they mutinied again, but were again quieted by their pious commander, whose faith and trust in God enabled him to bear up against the murmurs of his men and the strange perils of the sea, as it had kept him from despair in the long attendance he had paid at the court of Isabella.

At length, on Thursday, the 11th of October, a man named Roderigo de Triana, shouted "LAND!" from the mast head of the *Pinta*; but it was too late to be sure that he was not deceived. No one slept that night, and the ships sailed on till two hours past midnight when the shore of the island *Guanahani*, one of the Bahamas, became visible. The

hymn of *SALVE REGINA* was instantly sung, and the ships lay to until the next morning, when they ran close in to examine the land they had discovered, while the *TE DEUM* was sung by the crews of all the vessels.

And now those who had murmured against the Admiral, who had talked of putting him in chains, and forcing him to return to Spain, threw themselves at his feet, and entreated forgiveness for their distrust, promising confidence and obedience in future; and indeed they were ready now to worship him as one inspired by Heaven. As soon as the sun rose, a boat from each vessel was manned and armed. The standards of the Green Cross, which distinguished Columbus' fleet, were displayed; and the Admiral, dressed in a rich dress, having a naked sword in his hand, was the first European who set his foot in the new world. His men followed, and kneeling down they all kissed the ground they had so long desired to see. A cross, having on its arms the initials of Ferdinand and Isabella, each surmounted by a crown, was erected; solemn mass was performed before it; and formal possession was taken of the land in the name of Isabella, queen of Castile and Leon.

A number of the natives surrounded the strangers, and gazed with wonder on ceremonies whose import they could no more guess than they could foresee the cruel consequences to themselves and their countrymen. The color and dress of the Spaniards, the size of their ships, with their sails, and their firearms, all impressed the ignorant and gentle natives with an idea that their visitors were beings of a superior order; as such they were ready to worship and obey them, until their subsequent conduct gave the poor Indians room to believe that they were demons, not men. But Columbus was free of all blame. He was just to their claims, careful for their interests, and too truly pious to wish to injure those who, equally with

himself, were the children of his Almighty Father.

The island of Guanahani, and others of the same group at which Columbus touched, were all extremely poor, but the natives pointed to the south as the quarter from whence some pieces of gold, found among them, were procured. Thither the Admiral accordingly steered, and discovered first CUBA, and then HAYTI, to which he gave the name of HISPANIOLA; there, having obtained the consent of the natives, he built a small fort, which he called NAVIDAD, and left Diego de Arado, of Cordova, to act as its governor until he should return from Spain.

On the 16th of January, 1493, Columbus, having on board of his ships some of the natives of the new land, a quantity of gold, specimens of all the productions likely to become objects of commerce, and a collection of rare animals, plants and other curiosities, set sail on his return to Spain. Just as he had reached the coast of Europe a violent storm arose which forced him into the Tagus, and notwithstanding the jealousy of all discoverers entertained by Portugal, the king received him with great respect, and listened with admiration to his account of his voyage. The moment the weather permitted he left Lisbon, and proceeded to Palos, where he arrived on the 15th of March, 1493, seven months and eleven days after his departure. As soon as the ship was seen approaching, all the inhabitants of the place ran to welcome her. When they saw the strange people, the unknown animals, the singular productions brought from the new countries, their joy was unbounded. The bells were rung, the cannon fired, and all the people accompanied Columbus and his crew to the same church where they had offered up their prayers on departing, to return thanks for the prosperous issue of the voyage.

Ferdinand and Isabella were at Barcelona when they heard of his

return and success. He was respectfully invited to the court, that they might hear from his own mouth the details of his voyage. On his way thither the people from all parts of the country flocked together to see him as he passed, and his entrance to the city was conducted with pomp suitable to the great event which had added another land to their dominions. The natives of the new country marched first; then the rude ornaments of gold were borne along, together with the grains and sand of the same precious metal, found in the mountains and rivers; and after these the new and strange animals, and other curious or useful productions of the islands. Columbus himself closed the procession.

Ferdinand and Isabella received him clad in their royal robes, seated on a throne under a magnificent canopy. They stood up as the Admiral approached, and when he knelt to kiss their hands, they raised him and commanded him to take his seat on a chair provided for him, and to give them an account of the wonders and dangers of his voyage. When he had finished his narration, the king and queen fell on their knees and offered up solemn thanks to God for the discovery. Every mark of honor that gratitude could suggest was paid to Columbus. His family was ennobled, and the whole court, following the example of the sovereigns, paid him the highest respect; but that which gratified him most was the order to equip a squadron of sufficient force to take possession of the new countries, and to prosecute his discoveries.

The success of Columbus excited a wonderful degree of enterprise throughout Spain. Volunteers of every rank solicited employment in the new expedition, and even Ferdinand, cautious as he was, now caught the general enthusiasm. A fleet of seventeen sail was speedily fitted out. On board of it were fifteen hundred persons, many of whom were of noble families. They were

furnished with domestic animals, and with such seeds and plants as were likely to thrive in the climate of the Western Indies, as the new country was called. Utensils and instruments of every sort were taken on board, and there were all such artificers as might be useful to a rising colony. In order to secure themselves from the intrusion of strangers, in these new dominions, Ferdinand and Isabella now applied to Pope Alexander VI. for a grant of whatever they might explore to the westward as far as one hundred leagues beyond the Azores, while all discoveries to the eastward were confirmed to the Portuguese.

To be continued in our next.

AMERICAN DATES: FROM THE DISCOVERY TO THE REVOLUTION.

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|
| 1492 | America discovered by Columbus. | 1602 | Gosnold discovers Cape Cod. |
| 1497 | The Cabots discover Newfoundland and Labrador. | 1603 | DeMonts receives a grant of Acadia. |
| 1498 | Sebastian Cabot explores the coast of North America. | 1605 | First permanent French settlement in America at Port Royal. |
| 1500 | The Portuguese discover Brazil. | 1607 | The Plymouth Company attempt a settlement at Kennebec. |
| 1510 | First colony on the continent at the Isthmus of Darien. | 1607 | First English settlement in America, Jamestown. |
| 1511 | The Spaniards conquer Cuba. | 1608 | Quebec founded by Champlain. |
| 1512 | Juan Ponce de Leon discovers Florida. | 1609 | Hudson River discovered by Henry Hudson. |
| 1513 | Vasco Nunez de Balboa discovers the Pacific Ocean. | 1614 | Captain John Smith explores the coast from Penobscot to Cape Cod. |
| 1518 | New Spain and the Straits of Magellan discovered. | 1614 | New York settled. |
| 1520 | De Allyon visits the coast of Carolina. | 1620 | Settlement of Plymouth, Mass. |
| 1521 | Mexico built by the Spaniards. | 1621 | Treaty with Massasoit. |
| 1522 | A ship of Magellan's squadron the first to sail around the world. | 1622 | Charter granted to Gorges and Mason. |
| 1524 | Verrazani explores the coast of North America. | 1622 | Indian massacre in Virginia. |
| 1528 | Narvaez attempts to conquer Florida. | 1623 | New Hampshire settled. |
| 1534 | James Cartier discovers the river St. Lawrence. | 1624 | New Jersey settled. |
| 1539 | De Soto undertakes the conquest of Florida. | 1633 | Connecticut settled. |
| 1541 | De Soto discovers the Mississippi River. | 1634 | Maryland settled. |
| 1564 | A colony of French Protestants settle in Florida. | 1636 | Rhode Island settled. |
| 1565 | St. Augustine, Florida, founded by the Spaniards. | 1637 | Pequot war. |
| 1583 | Gilbert takes possession of Newfoundland. | 1638 | Delaware settled. |
| 1584 | Virginia reached by Sir Walter Raleigh's party. | 1639 | First printing press established in America. |
| | | 1641 | Massachusetts and New Hampshire unite. |
| | | 1643 | Union of the New England colonies. |
| | | 1644 | Indian massacre in Virginia. |
| | | 1650 | North Carolina settled. |
| | | 1655 | Dutch conquer the Swedes in Delaware. |
| | | 1664 | New York surrenders to the English. |
| | | 1670 | South Carolina settled. |
| | | 1671 | La Salle navigated Lakes Erie, Huron and Michigan. |
| | | 1673 | Mississippi River navigated by Marquette. |
| | | 1674 | Marquette on his second journey to Illinois wintered (1664-5) at or near Chicago. |
| | | 1675 | Commencement of King Philip's war. |
| | | 1680 | New Hampshire becomes a royal province. |
| | | 1681 | Pennsylvania settled. |
| | | 1684 | La Salle sails down the Mississippi |
| | | 1686 | Andros made Governor of all New England. |
| | | 1688 | New York and New Jersey included in the jurisdiction of Andros. |
| | | 1689 | King William's war commences in America. |
| | | 1689 | Andros imprisoned and sent to England. |
| | | 1690 | Phipps' unsuccessful expedition against Canada. |
| | | 1702 | Queen Anne's war commences in America. |
| | | 1704 | First newspaper in America. (published at Boston.) |
| | | 1706 | MINNESOTA settled by French Traders, near Taylor's Falls on the St. Croix. |

- 1729 North and South Carolina become distinct provinces.
 1732 GEORGE WASHINGTON born.
 1733 Georgia settled.
 1744 King George's war commences in America.
 1745 Louisburg and Cape Breton taken by British troops.
 1748 Treaty of Aix la Chapelle
 1753 Troubles commence with the Ohio Company and the French traders.
 1753 Washington sent with a letter to St. Pierre.
 1754 Washington delivers the letter to St. Pierre.
 1754 Washington capitulates at Fort Necessity.
 1755 English destroy French settlements in Nova Scotia.
 1755 Defeat of General Braddock.
 1755 The French under Dieskau defeated at Lake George.
 1756 War declared between Great Britain and France.
 1757 Massacre at Fort William Henry.
 1758 Louisberg, Cape Breton and Fort Frontenac taken by the English.
 1758 Abererombie repulsed by Montcalm at Ticonderoga.
 1759. Gen. Wolfe takes Quebec, Sept. 17.
 1760. Canada in possession of the English.
 1763 Peace between Great Britain and France.
 1765 Stamp Act passed.
 1765 First Colonial Congress met in New York.
 1766 Stamp act repealed.
 1767 Duties on tea, paper, etc.
 1770 Duties repealed except those on tea.
 1773. Tea thrown overboard at Boston.
 1774. Second Colonial Congress, (Philadelphia).

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CONTENTS :

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PART I.—The First Voyage of John Cabot, 1497—The Claims of Sebastian Cabot—The Second Voyage of John Cabot, 1498-1499 (?)—Other British Expeditions, 1501-1525—The Portuguese in the Fifteenth Century—The First Voyage of Gaspar Corte-Real, 1500—The Second Voyage of Gaspar Corte-Real, 1501—Rescuing Expedition of Miguel Corte-Real, 1502—The North-East Coast—Opinion of the Early Geographers—The Insularity of Cuba—America believed to be distinct from Asia—Proofs derived from Ancient Maps—The Belief shared by the Spanish Government—Summing-up of the Discussion—Clandestine Expeditions—First Official Knowledge of Florida—First Voyage of Ponce de Leon, 1513—Minor Expeditions to Florida, 1517-1518—Exploration of the Gulf of Mexico for Francisco de Garay; Discovery of the Mississippi, 1519—Expeditions to Newfoundland: English, Portuguese, and French—Voyage of Fagundes—Colonisation of Nova Scotia, 1521—Alaminos and the Gulf Stream, 1519—Ayllon's First Voyage to Chicora, 1521—Giovanni da Verrazano, 1523-1524—Estevani Gomez, 1524-1525—Recapitulation of Facts and Proofs.

PART II.—The Early Cartography of the New World—School of Hydrography—Construction of Maps at Seville—The *Padron-Real*, or Model Map—The Early Spanish Maps now existing—The Portuguese Charts—The St Diey Cartography—America blended with Asia for the first time, 1523—Cartographical Re-action: Mercator, 1538—The Lusitano-Germanic Cartography—The Five Types—The Lusitano-Germanic Nomenclature—Evolution of the Lusitano-Germanic Nomenclature—The Southern Regions—The Vespuccian Data—The North-East Coast again.

PART III.—*Cartographia Americana Vetustissima*. Introduction, Years 1461-1493-1536—Fifteenth Century, Years 1461-1500—Sixteenth Century, Years 1500-1536—Alleged Maps of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries.

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See next page for contents of our next number.

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A Short List of Adventures and Discoveries
made in North America by the
European Nations. etc.

- A. D.
981. BIRON, or BJARNE HERJULFSON, a Norseman, accidentally discovered a country supposed to be the American continent, but did not land. The land he saw first was NANTUCKET; then NOVA SCOTIA, or MARKLAND; then NEW-FOUNDLAND, or HELLULAND. (Anderson)
1000. LIEF ERIKSON, son of Erik the Red, landed at HELLULAND, MARKLAND, and VINLAND. (Ibid.)
1002. THORWALD ERIKSON, another son of Erik the Red, visited VINLAND. He was killed there by the natives, and his skeleton, clad in armour, was dug up near FALL RIVER, MASS., in 1831, and forms the subject of Longfellow's celebrated poem "*The Skeleton in Armour.*" (Ibid.)
1005. THORSTEIN, youngest son of Eric the Red, perished by shipwreck on the western coast of Greenland, in an attempt to reach VINLAND. (Ibid.)
1007. THORFIN KARLSEFNE'S expedition to VINLAND which is commemorated by the inscription on DIGHTON ROCK, "His son, *Snorre Thorfinson*, was born in 1008 at Vinland, being the first man of European blood of whose birth in America there is a record. He was the direct ancestor of the famous sculptor, Albert Thorwaldsen." (Ibid.)
1170. MADOC, Prince of Wales, emigrated; and, it is thought, discovered a new country in the West.
1358. An island called "ESTOTILAND" was discovered by a fisherman of Frisland; as related by Zeno.
1492. COLUMBUS, in the service of Spain, discovered GUANAHANI, CUBA, HAVTI and other islands, called *Bahamas* and *Antilles*. Returned March, 1493.
1493. COLUMBUS made a second voyage and discovered DOMINICA and other islands called CARIBBEES. Returned June, 1496.
1497. JOHN CABOT, with his son SEBASTIAN, in the service of Henry VII. of England, discovered the island of NEW-FOUNDLAND and some parts of a western Continent; as far northward as lat. 45° and as far southward as lat. 38°. Returned July, 1497.
1498. COLUMBUS made a third voyage, and discovered the western continent in lat. 10° N. Returned Nov, 1500.
1499. OJEDA, a private adventurer, and AMERIGO VESPUCCI followed the track of Columbus, and discovered the western continent; of which Amerigo, after his return to Europe, wrote and published an account, and from him the continent obtained the name of America.
1500. CABRAL, in the service of Portugal, bound to India, discovered, by accident, the continent of America in lat. 10° South; which was called BRASIL.
1502. COLUMBUS made his fourth and last voyage to the new continent, in quest of a passage through it to *India*. Returned Nov, 1504.
1512. JOHN PONCE DE LEON, in the service of Spain, discovered the new continent, in the latitude of 30° N. and called it FLORIDA.
1513. VASCO NUNEZ DE BALBOA, a Spaniard, travelled across the isthmus of Darien, and, from a mountain, discovered on the other side of the continent an ocean, which, from the direction in which he saw it, took the name of "THE SOUTH SEA."
1519. HERNANDO CORTEZ, in the service of Spain, entered the City of Mexico; and in the space of two years reduced the whole country under the dominion of the King of Spain.
1520. FERDINAND DE MAGELLANES, a Portuguese, in the service of Spain, passed through the strait which bears his name, and sailed across the South Sea, to which he gave the name of "Pacific." He discovered the Philippine Islands and was there killed in a skirmish with the natives. The ship, under the command of Sebastian del Cano, returned to Spain by way of the Cape of Good Hope, and thus performed the first circumnavigation of the Globe.
1524. JOHN DE VERRAZANI, a Florentine, in the service of Francis I. King of France, discovered the new continent in lat. 34 N., and sailed Northward to lat. 41, where he entered a harbour which, by his description must be that of New York. Thence he sailed E. and N. E. as far as Newfoundland, and called the whole country "New France."
1525. STEPHEN GOMEZ, in the service of Spain, sailed to Florida, and thence to Cape Race in lat. 46° North, in search of a Northwest passage to India.
1526. FRANCIS PIZARRO sailed from Panama to Peru, and began the conquest of that rich and populous country.

(To be continued.)

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THE NORSE DISCOVERY, "GREAT IRELAND."

HERNANDO CORTEZ, AND MEXICO.

VASCO NUNEZ DE BALBOA.

CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH. (Continued.)

ARTIC DISCOVERIES. (Commenced.)

PROGRESS OF GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERY. (Second Paper.)

And other very interesting matter.

THE TRUE DATE OF THE GREAT ANNIVERSARY.

AN AMERICAN SCHOLAR* has explained that the Papal adjustment of the calendar which civilized nations now use, to that which preceded it, involves an error of two days. The different European nations adopted and made such adjustment at different times between October 15th, 1582 and September 3d, 1752, and the result in each case is equally incorrect; but after one reads the following extracts from the writings of the distinguished chronologists, TEN BROECK and JARVIS, it will be readily understood upon what day in October, 1892, falls the 400th anniversary of October 12th, 1492.

It appears that the error in the JULIAN calendar, amounting to one day in 130 years, would, in A. D. 1492, require a correction of eleven days and a fraction, but for the fact that four days of the eleven were already allowed for by the NICENE calendar, which had, long before, been adopted by the Roman Church as an amended form of the JULIAN, and which the GREGORIAN supplanted.

Therefore if we add seven days to the date upon which Columbus says that he landed at *Guanahani*, we have October 19th, 1892, as the true 400th anniversary.

* The Rev. Dr. TEN BROECK. The Extracts will be found on page 32.

THE PROGRESS OF GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERY.

When NOAH came forth from the ark on the mountains of Ararat, the face of the earth was desolate, the world was all before him where to choose, and Geographical Science had to begin her course.

The Book of Genesis gives the names of NOAH'S descendants, but none of them, except such as refer to the Hebrews and their immediate neighbors, can be satisfactorily identified with nations and countries now known.

The geography of the Israelites in the days of MOSES comprised only *Syria*, *Palestine*, *Egypt* and parts of *Arabia*.

Hebrew Geography in the times of the Kings and Prophets was limited to *Assyria*, *Media*, *Persia* and *Ethiopia*. SOLOMON, indeed, sent Phenician navigators to *Tarshish* and *Ophir*, but this commerce was of brief duration.

But the great geographers of the early ages were these same PHENICIANS. Even before the time of HOMER they were the general carriers of the *Mediterranean*, and the Book of Kings informs us that their trade extended to regions of the east or south so remote that three years were spent in each voyage. For convenience of this trade they established factories and built cities (*Carthage* was one of them) along the Mediterranean; and even at *Cadiz* and other places beyond the straits of *Gibraltar*. They explored the west coast of *Africa*; obtained tin from the *British Islands* and were familiar with the SACRED ISLE OF THE WEST, the modern *Ireland*. THEY EVEN REACHED AMERICA, for certainly there are passages of the Greek and Roman writers that will hardly admit of any other interpretation.

It is not foreign to our subject to say that the Phenicians also traded overland, especially with *Babylon*; and that *Tadmor* or *Palmyra*, of which the splendid ruins yet remain, was one of their stations. If the records of these nations had not been destroyed the science of geography would not have been still in its infancy two thousand years after the fall of *Babylon*.

(To be Continued.)

THE SECOND VOYAGE OF COLUMBUS.

[Continued from our first number.]

THE PAPAL BULL containing this famous but imperfect line of demarcation was signed by Alexander VI., May 2d, 1493, but contained no provision for the contingency of the rival nations meeting, and their claims interfering, on the other side of the globe.

DOMINICA.

September 25th following, Columbus sailed from Cadiz upon his second voyage. On Sunday, November 3d, he discovered an island to which, in honor of the day, he gave the name of DOMINICA. Afterwards he discovered in succession other islands, which he called *Marigalaute*, *Guadaloupe*, *Montserrat*, *Redonda*, *Antigua*, *St. Martin's*, *St. Ursula* and *St. John*. November 12th he came to NAVIDAD, on the north side of Hispaniola, where he had built his fort and left his colony; but he had the mortification to find the people killed and the fort destroyed, on account of the insolence and rapacity of the garrison, by a chief named Canaubo.

THE FIRST TOWN.

Columbus prudently forbore to make any critical inquiry into the matter, but hastened to establish another colony, in a healthier and more eligible situation to the eastward. This town, the first built by Europeans in the new world, Columbus called ISABELLA, after his royal patroness. But there were many difficulties to contend with, besides those which unavoidably attend undertakings of such novelty and magnitude. Nature indeed was bountiful, the soil and climate produced vegetation with a rapidity to which the Spaniards had not been accustomed. From wheat sown at the end of January, full ears were gathered at the end of March.

DISCONTENTED SPANIARDS.

The stones of fruit, the slips of vines, and the joints of sugar-cane

sprouted in seven days, and many other seeds in half that time. This was an encouraging prospect, but the slow operations of agriculture did not meet the views of sanguine adventurers. The numerous followers of Columbus, some of whom were of the best families in Spain, had conceived hopes of suddenly enriching themselves by the precious metals of those new regions. They were not disposed to listen to recommendations of patience and industry in cultivating the earth, and they blamed Columbus as lukewarm to the interests of the king and queen because he would not revenge the destruction of Navidad by a decided attack upon the Indians, and so enable themselves to grasp at once the possession of the country.

THE NATIVES RESTLESS.

The natives were displeased with the licentiousness of their new neighbors, who endeavored to keep them in awe by a display of force. The display of fire arms, and the sight of men mounted on horses, were at first objects of terror; but familiarity had rendered them less formidable.

CARE AND TROUBLE.

Dissensions among the colonists obliged Columbus to send some of the malcontents home to Spain where they improved their opportunity to create a prejudice against him. He, overburdened with care and fatigue, fell sick. After his recovery he endeavoured to establish discipline among his own people, and to employ the natives in cutting roads through the woods. Whilst he was present, and able to attend to business things went on so prosperously that he thought he might safely proceed on his discoveries.

THE GARDEN OF THE QUEEN.

In his former voyage he had visited Cuba; but was uncertain whether it were an island or a part of some continent. He therefore passed over to its eastern extremity; and coasted its southern side till he found himself entangled among a vast number of small

islands which, for their beauty and fertility he called *THE GARDEN OF THE QUEEN*; but the dangerous rocks and shoals which surrounded them obliged him to stretch farther to the southward; by which means he discovered the island of

JAMAICA,

where he found water and other refreshments for his men who were almost dead with famine. The hazard, fatigue and distress of this voyage threw him into a lethargic disorder, from which he had just recovered when he returned to his colony at Hispaniola and found it all in confusion from the same causes which had proved destructive to the first.

HOSTILITIES AT HAYTI.

In his absence the insolence of the colonists had so provoked the natives that four chiefs had united to destroy them and had actually commenced hostilities in which twenty of the Spaniards were killed. Columbus collected his people, put them into the best order, and by a judicious combination of force and stratagem gained a decisive victory, to which horses and dogs contributed not a little.

BARTHOLOMEW COLUMBUS.

At his return to Hispaniola COLUMBUS had the pleasure of meeting his brother BARTHOLOMEW whom he had not seen for several years and whom he supposed dead. Bartholomew was a man of equal knowledge, experience, bravery and prudence with himself. His patience had endured a severe trial in their long separation. He had many obstacles to surmount before he could get to England and obtain access to the king, and he was at Paris when he heard of the success of his brother's first enterprise. Columbus had started on his second voyage before Bartholomew could reach Spain. On his arrival there, he was introduced at court, and was appointed to command three ships which were destined to convey supplies to the colony. He arrived

there while the admiral was on his voyage to Cuba and Jamaica. Columbus appointed his brother to command at Isabella, whilst he went into the interior part of the island to perfect his conquest and reduce the natives to subjection and tribute.

OPPRESSING THE NATIVES.

The tribute required was as much gold dust as would fill a hawk's bell, four times a year from every Indian above the age of fourteen, but the Indians were so unused to collect gold in such quantities that they offered to plant the immense plains of Hispaniola and pay an equivalent in corn. Columbus looked favorably upon this proposal and moderated the tribute. This did not satisfy the avarice of his fellow adventurers, who found means to complain of him to the king's ministers for neglecting to acquire the only commodity which they thought deserved the name of riches.

RESISTANCE.

The Indians then desisted from planting their usual quantity of corn and attempted to subsist chiefly on animal food. This experiment proved injurious to themselves as well as to their conquerors; and it was computed that within four years from the first discovery of the island one third of its inhabitants perished.

ENEMIES AT HOME.

The complaints against Columbus so wrought upon the jealous mind of King Ferdinand that John Aguado, who was sent in 1495 with supplies to the colony, had orders to act as a spy on his conduct. This man behaved with so little discretion as to seek matter of accusation and give out threats against the Admiral. But before long the ships which he commanded, were destroyed by a hurricane, and he had no means left of returning to Spain; till Columbus, feeling the influence of the enemies at home, and with nothing to support him but his own merit, resolved to go thither with two cara-

vels; himself in one and Aguado in the other.

RETURNS TO SPAIN.

Having appointed proper persons to command the several forts, with his brother BARTHOLOMEW to superintend the whole, and his brother JAMES to be next in authority, he sailed for home March 10, 1496, and after a perilous and tedious voyage in the tropical latitudes arrived at Cadiz on the eleventh of June.

[Selected.]

LIEF ERIKSON,

AND THE NORSE DISCOVERIES.

THE VIKINGS.

THE ancient inhabitants of Norway and Denmark, collectively taken, were distinguished by the name of NORMANS. Their situation near the coast of the sea, and the advantages which that element presented to them beyond all which they could expect from a rough soil in a cold climate, led them at an early period to the science and practice of navigation. They built their vessels with the best of oak, and constructed them in such a manner as best to encounter the storms and billows of the northern ocean. They covered them with decks and furnished them with high forecastles and sterns. They made use of sails as well as oars, and had learned to trim their sails to the wind in almost any direction. In these arts, of building ships and of navigation, they were superior to the people bordering on the Mediterranean sea, who depended chiefly on their oars, and used sails only with a fair wind.

ICELAND.

About the end of the eighth and beginning of the ninth century, the Normans made themselves famous by their predatory excursions. England, Scotland, Ireland, and the Orkney and Shetland islands, were objects of their depredations; and in one of their pi-

ritical expeditions, (A. D. 861) they discovered an island, which from its lofty mountains, covered with ice and snow, obtained the name of ICELAND.

GREENLAND.

In a few years after, they planted a colony there, which was continually augmented by migrations from the neighboring countries. Within the space of thirty years (889) a new country, situate on the west, was discovered, which from its verdure during the summer months received the name of GREENLAND.

ERIC THE RED.

This was deemed so important an acquisition, that under the conduct of Eric Raude, or Red-head, a Danish chief, it was soon peopled.

BIRON.—NANTUCKET.

The emigrants to these new regions were still inflamed with the passion for adventure and discovery. An Ice-lander of the name HERTOLF and his son BIRON (otherwise spelled BIORN, BOERN, or BIAREN) made a voyage every year to different countries for the sake of traffic. About the beginning of the eleventh century (1001) their ships were separated by a storm. When BIRON arrived in Norway he heard that his father was gone to Greenland, and he resolved to follow him; but another storm drove him to the southwest, where he discovered a flat country, free from rocks, but covered with thick woods; and an island near the coast.

LIEF ERIKSON.

He made no longer stay at either of these places than till the storm abated; when by a northeast course he hasted to Greenland. The discovery was no sooner known there, than LIEF the son of ERIC, who, like his father, had a strong desire to acquire glory by adventure, equipped a vessel carrying twenty-five men; and taking BIRON for his pilot, sailed (1002) in search of the new country.

HELLULAND.

His course was southwest. On the first land which he saw he found nothing but flat rocks and ice, without any verdure. He therefore gave it the name of Helluland, which signifies rocky. Afterwards he came to a level shore without any rocks, but overgrown with woods, and the sand was remarkably white. This he named Markland, or woody. Two days after he saw land again, and an island lying before the northern coast of it. Here he first landed, and thence sailing westward, round a point of land found a creek or river into which the ship entered.

WINLAND THE GOOD.

On the banks of this river were bushes bearing sweet berries; the air was mild, the soil fertile and the river well stored with fish, among which were very fine salmon. At the head of this river was a lake, on the shore of which they resolved to pass the winter, and erected huts for their accommodation. One of their company, a German named Tyrker, having straggled into the woods, found grapes; from which he told them that in his country they made wine. From this circumstance Lief, the commander of the party, called the place WINLAND DAT GODE, the good wine country.

THE SKRAELINGS.

An intercourse being thus opened between Greenland and Winland, several voyages were made, and the new country was further explored. Many islands were found near the coast, but not a human creature was seen till the third summer (1004) when three boats, constructed with ribs of bone, fastened with thongs or twigs and covered with skins, each boat containing three men, made their appearance. From the diminutive size of these people the Normans denominated them SKRAELINGS,* and inhumanly killed them all but one, who

* Dwarfs.

escaped and collected a larger number of his countrymen, to make an attack on their invaders. The Normans defended their ships with so much spirit that the assailants were obliged to retire.

THE FUR TRADE.

After this a colony of Normans went and settled at Winland, carrying on a barter trade with the Skraelings for furs; but a controversy arose in the colony, which induced some to return to Greenland. The others dispersed and mixed with the Skraelings.

ERIC THE BISHOP.

In the next century (1121) Eric, Bishop of Greenland, with a benevolent design to recover and convert his countrymen, who had degenerated into savages, went to Winland. This prelate never returned to Greenland, nor was anything more heard of Winland, for several centuries.

HISTORIANS.

This account of the discovery of Winland is taken from Pontoppidan's history of Norway, Crantz's history of Greenland, and a history of northern voyages by Dr. John Reinhold Forster. The facts are said to have been collected from "a great number of Icelandic manuscripts, by Thormund Thorfoeus, Adam Von Bremen, Arngrim Jonas, and many other writers, so that it is hardly possible to entertain the least doubt concerning the authenticity of this relation."

WINLAND AGAIN.

Pontoppidan says that "they could see the sun full six hours in the shortest day," but Crantz tells us that "the sun rose on the shortest day at eight of the clock," and Forster that "the sun was eight hours above the horizon," from which he concludes that Winland must be found in the 49th degree of northern latitude; and from its being in a southwesterly direction from Greenland he supposes that it is either a part of Newfoundland or some place

on the northern coast of the gulf of St. Lawrence; but whether grapes are found in either of those countries he cannot say. However, he seems so fully persuaded of the facts, that he gives it as his opinion that the Normans were, strictly speaking, the first discoverers of America, nearly five centuries before Columbus.

ITS LOCATION.

From a careful perusal of the first accounts of Newfoundland, preserved by those painful collectors, Hakluyt and Purchas, and of other memoirs respecting that island and the coast of Labrador; and from inspecting the most approved maps of those regions, particularly one in the American Atlas, delineated agreeably to the actual surveys of the late celebrated navigator Capt. James Cook, the following observations occur.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

On the northeast part of Newfoundland, which is most directly accessible from Greenland, there is a long range of coast in which are two bays, the one called Gander Bay, and the other the Bay of Exploits. Before the mouth of the former, among many smaller, there lies one large island called Fogo; and before the mouth of the latter, another called the New World. Either of these will sufficiently answer to the situation described in the account of Biron's second voyage. In each of these bays runs a river which has its head in a lake, and both these lakes lie in the 49th degree of north latitude.

THE NATIVES.

The earliest accounts of Newfoundland after its discovery and the establishment of a fishery on its coasts, have respect chiefly to the lands about Trinity and Conception bays, between the parallels of 48 and 49 degrees. These lands are represented as producing strawberries, whortleberries, raspberries, gooseberries, pears, wild cherries and hazel nuts, in very great plenty. The rivers are said to have

been well stored with salmon and trouts. The natives who inhabited a bay to the northward of Trinity, and came occasionally thither in their canoes, are described as broad breasted and upright, with black eyes and without beards; the hair on their heads was of different colors; some had *black*, some *brown*, and others *yellow*. In this variety they differed from the other savages of North America, who have uniformly black hair unless it be grown grey with age.

THE CLIMATE.

The climate is represented as more mild than that of England; but much colder in the spring, by reason of the vast islands of ice which are driven into the bays or grounded on the banks.

On the northeastern coast of Labrador, between the latitudes of 53° and 56°, are many excellent harbors and islands. The seas are full of cod, the rivers abound with salmon; and the climate is said to be more mild than in the gulf of St. Lawrence.

GRAPES

Nothing is said in any of these accounts of vines or grapes, excepting that some which were brought from England had thriven well. If any evidence can be drawn from a comparison between the countries of Newfoundland and New England it may be observed that all the above mentioned fruits and berries are found in the northern and eastern parts of New England as far as Nova Scotia, in the latitudes of 44° and 45°, and that grapes (*vitis vulpina*, *vitis labrusca*.) are known to grow wherever these fruits are found.

ISLE OF BACCHUS.

Du Monts, in his voyage to Acadia, in 1608, speaks of grapes in several places; and they were in such plenty on the isle of Orleans, in latitude 47° that it was first called the island of Bacchus. Though, there is no direct and positive testimony of grapes in the island of Newfoundland it is by no

means to be concluded that there were none. Nor is it improbable that grapes though once found there might have been so scarce as not to merit notice in such general descriptions as were given by the first English adventurers.

OVER SEA.

The distance between Greenland and Newfoundland is not greater than between Iceland and Norway; and there could be no more difficulty in navigating the western than the eastern parts of the northern ocean, with such vessels as were then in use, and by such seamen as the Normans are said to have been; though they knew nothing of the magnetic needle.

THE NORSEMEN FIRST.

Upon the whole, though we can come to no positive conclusion in a question of such remote antiquity, yet there are many circumstances to confirm, and none to disprove the relation given of the voyages of Biron. But if it be allowed that he is entitled to the honor of having discovered America before Columbus, yet this discovery cannot in the least detract from the merit of that celebrated navigator. For there is no reason to suppose that Columbus had any knowledge of the Norman discoveries, which, long before his time, were forgotten, and would, perhaps, never have been recollected if he had not, by the astonishing exertions of his genius and his persevering industry effected a discovery of this continent in a climate more friendly to the views of commercial adventurers.

"LOST" GREENLAND.

Even Greenland itself, in the fifteenth century was known to the Danes and Normans only by the name of *lost* Greenland; and they did not recover their knowledge of it till after the English had ascertained its existence by their voyages to discover a north-west passage to the Pacific ocean, and the Dutch had coasted it in the pursuit of whales.

POPULAR READING LIST

Of Books Relating to the Discovery by the NORSEMEN.

- ANDERSON, R. B.—America not discovered by Columbus.
 BALLANTYNE, R. M.—Norsemen in the West. (A story for boys.)
 DE COSTA, B. F.—Pre-Columbian Discovery of America by the Northmen.
 DU CHAILLU, P. B.—The Viking Age. (Vol. 2, p. 519-530.)
 HIGGINSON, T. W.—Book of American Explorers. (p. 1-15.)
 " Larger History of the U. S. (p. 27-51.)
 HORSFORD, E. N.—Discovery of America by the Northmen.
 " Problem of the Northmen.
 KINGSLEY, C.—Lectures Delivered in America (p. 65-197.)
 KNEELAND, S.—An American in Iceland. (p. 217-231.)
 LONGFELLOW, H. W.—The Skeleton in Armour.
 MALLET, P. H.—Northern Antiquities. (p. 244-276.)
 NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW: vol. 46, 1838, p. 161-203.
 " " " vol. 109, 1869, p. 265-272.
 " " " vol. 119, 1874, p. 166-182.
 REEVES, A. M.—The Finding of Vinland the Good.
 SHIPLEY, J. B. and M. A. B.—English Rediscovery and Colonization of America.
 SHIPLEY, Mrs. M. A. B.—Icelandic Discoverers of America.
 SNORRE STURLESON.—Heimskringla; from the Icelandic, by S. Laing. Vol. 1, p. 176-233.

[Selected.]

MADOC.

THIS PERSON IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE DISCOVERED AMERICA, AND TO HAVE BROUGHT A COLONY OF HIS COUNTRYMEN HITHER BEFORE THE DISCOVERY MADE BY COLUMBUS. THE STORY OF HIS EMIGRATION FROM WALES IS THUS RELATED BY HAKLUYT, WHOSE BOOK WAS FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1589; AND A SECOND EDITION OF IT IN 1600.

HAKLUYT'S ACCOUNT.

"The voyage of Madoc, the son of Owen Gwynneth, Prince of North Wales, to the West Indies in the year 1170; taken out of the history of Wales lately published by M. David Powel, Doctor of Divinity.

DEATH OF OWEN GWYNNETH.

"After the death of Owen Gwynneth, his sons fell at debate who should inherit after him. For the eldest son born in matrimony, Edward or Iorweth, Drwydion was counted unmeet to govern because of the maim upon his face; and Howel, that took upon him all the rule, was a base son. Therefore David gathered all the power he could and came against Howel, and, fighting with him, slew him and afterward enjoyed quietly the whole land of North Wales, until his brother Iorweth's son came to age.

MADOC A ROVER.

"Madoc, another of Owen Gwynneth's sons left the land in contention between his brethren and prepared certain ships with men and munition, and sought adventures by sea, sailing west, and leaving the coast of Ireland so far north that he came to a land unknown, where he saw many strange things."

DISCOVERS "FLORIDA"

"This land must needs be some part of that country of which the Spaniards affirm themselves to be the first finders since Hanno's time. For, by reason, and order of cosmographie, this land to which Madoc came must needs be some part of *Nova Hispania* or *Florida*. Whereupon it is manifest that that country was long before by Britons discovered, afore either Columbus or Americus Vesputius led any Spaniards thither."

PLANTS A COLONY.

"Of the voyage and return of that Madoc there be many fables feigned, as the common people do use, in distance, of place and length of time rather to augment than diminish; *but sure it is that there he was*. And after he had returned home and declared the pleasant and fruitful countries that he had seen *without inhabitants*; and upon the contrary part for what wild and barren ground his brethren and nephews did murder one another, he prepared a number of

ships and got with him such men and women as were desirous to live in quietness; and taking leave of his friends, took his journey thitherwards again.

IDENTITY LOST.

"Therefore it is to be presupposed, that he and his people inhabited part of those countries; for it appeareth by Francis Lopez de Gomara, that in Acuzamil, and other places, the people honored the cross. Whereby it may be gathered that Christians had been there before the coming of the Spaniards. But, because this people were not many, they followed the manners of the land they came to, and used the language they found there.

THE LAND OF MEXICO.

"This Madoc arriving in that western country, unto the which he came, in the year 1170, left most of his people there, and returning back for more of his own nation, acquaintance and friends, to inhabit that fair and large country, went thither again with ten sails, as I find noted by Gutyn Owen. I am of opinion that the land whereto he came was some part of Mexico: the causes which make me to think so be these three:

1. MONTEZUMA'S EVIDENCE.

"The common report of the inhabitants of that country, which affirm that their rulers descended from a strange nation, that came thither from a far country; which thing is confessed by Montezuma, King of that country, in an oration made for quieting of his people at his submission to the king of Castile.

2. WELSH NAMES.

"The British words and names of places used in that country, even to this day do argue the same; as, when they talk together they use the word *Gwrandu*, which is, *hearken*, or *listen*. Also, they have a certain bird with a *white* head, which they call *penguin*, that is *white head*. But the island of *Corroeso*, the river of *Guyndor*, and the white rock of *Penguin*, which be

all British or Welsh words, do manifestly show that it was that country which Madoc and his people inhabited.

3. THE POEM OF MEREDITH.

“CARMINA MEREDITH FILII RHESI
MENTIONEM FACIENTIA DE MADOCO
FILIO OWENI GWYNNEDD ET DE SUA
NAVIGATIONE IN TERRAS INCOGNITAS.
VIXIT HIC MEREDITHI CIRCI-
TER ANNUM DOMINI 1477.

Madoc wyf, mwyedie wedd
lawn geneu, Owen Gwynnedd
Ni fynnum dir, fy enaid oedd
Na da mawr, ond y moroedd.”

These verses I received of my learned friend, M. William Camden.

THE SAME IN ENGLISH.

Madoc I am, the son of Owen Gwynnedd,
With stature large and comely grace adorned,
No lands at home nor store of wealth me please,
My mind was whole to search the Ocean Seas.”

IMPROBABILITIES.

In this extract from Hakluyt is contained all the information which I have been able to find respecting the supposed discovery of America by the Welsh. The account itself is confused and contradictory. The country discovered by Madoc is said to be “without inhabitants,” and yet the people whom he carried thither “followed the manners of the land, and used the language they found there.” Though the Welsh emigrants lost their language, yet the author attempts to prove the truth of his story by the preservation of several Welsh words in the American tongues. Among these he is unfortunate in the choice of “*penguin*, a bird with a white head.” All the birds of that name on the American shores have black or dark brown heads, and the name *penguin* is said to have been originally *pinguedine* from the excessive fatness.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Among the proofs which some late writers have adduced in support of the discovery of America by Madoc, is this, that a language resembling the Welsh was spoken by a tribe of Indians in North Carolina, and that it is still used by a nation situate on some of the western waters of the Mississippi. If that part of the account preserved by Hakluyt be true, that the language was lost, it is vain to offer an argument of this kind in support of the truth of the story; but a question may here arise, “How could any report of the loss of their language have been transmitted to England at so early a period?”

NOVA SCOTIA.

An attempt has lately been made to ascertain the truth of this piece of history by Dr. John Williams. I have not seen the book itself, but if the Critical Reviewers may be credited, no new facts have been adduced. It is remarked by them that, “if Madoc *once* reached America it is difficult to explain how he could return home; and it would be more improbable that he should arrive in America a *second* time; of which there is not the slightest evidence.” They also observe that “if Madoc sailed westward from Wales, the currents would rather have carried him to Nova Scotia than to the southward.”

PENOBSCOT INDIANS.

The mentioning of Nova Scotia reminds me of some words in the native language of that country which begin with two syllables, resembling the name of Madoc. A sachem of the Penobscot tribe, who lived in the end of the last and in the beginning of the present century bore the name of Madokawando. A village on the Penobscot river was called Medocscenecasis. The advocates of this opinion may avail themselves as far as they can of this coincidence, but in my apprehension it is too precarious to be the basis of any just conclusion.

THE AZORES.

After all that has been said on the subject, we must observe with the Critical Reviewers, that, "if Madoc left Wales and discovered any other country it must always remain uncertain where that country is." Dr. Robertson thinks if he made any discovery at all it might be Madeira or one of the Azores.

BIRON BEFORE MADOC.

The book of Hakluyt, in which the original story is preserved, was written in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and in the time of her controversy with Spain. The design of his bringing forward the voyage of Madoc appears, from what he says of Columbus, to have been the asserting of a discovery prior to his, and consequently the right of the Crown of England to the sovereignty of America; a point at that time warmly contested between the two nations. The remarks which the same author makes on several other voyages evidently tend to the establishment of that claim. But if the story of Biron be true, which, (though Hakluyt has said nothing of it) is better authenticated than this of Madoc, the right of the Crown of Denmark is, on the principle of prior discovery, superior to either of them.

HAKLUYT'S BIAS.

Perhaps the whole mystery may be unveiled, if we advert to this one circumstance, the time when Hakluyt's book was first published. National prejudice might prevail even with so honest a writer, to convert a Welsh fable into a political argument to support against a powerful rival, the claim of his sovereign to the dominion of this continent.

[*Selected.*]

CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH,
OF VIRGINIA.

Though the early part of the life of this extraordinary man was spent in

foreign travels and adventures which have no reference to America, yet the incidents of that period so strongly mark his character and give such a tincture to his subsequent actions, and are, withal, so singular in themselves, that no reader, it is presumed, will censure the introduction of them here.

BIRTH AND BOYHOOD.

He was born at Willoughby in Lincolnshire in the year 1579. From the first dawn of reason he discovered a roving and romantic genius, and delighted in extravagant and daring actions among his school fellows. When about thirteen years of age he sold his books and satchel and his puerile trinkets, to raise money with a view to convey himself privately to sea; but the death of his father put a stop for the present to this attempt and threw him into the hands of guardians who endeavoured to check the ardour of his genius by confining him to a counting house.

A ROLLING STONE.

Being put apprentice to a merchant at Lynn at the age of fifteen, he first conceived hopes that his master would send him to sea in his service; but this hope failing, he quitted his master, and with only ten shillings in his pocket, entered into the train of a young nobleman who was traveling to France. At Orleans he was discharged from his attendance on Lord Bertie, and had money given him to return to England. With this money he visited Paris, and proceeded to the low countries where he enlisted as a soldier and learned the rudiments of war, a science peculiarly agreeable to his ardent and active genius.

A YOUNG QUIXOTE.

Meeting with a Scotch gentleman abroad he was persuaded to pass into Scotland, with the promise of being strongly recommended to King James; but, being baffled in this expectation, he returned to his native town, and finding no company there which suited

his taste he built a booth in a wood, and betook himself to the study of military history and tactics, diverting himself at intervals with his horse and lance; in which exercise he at length found a companion, an Italian gentleman, rider to the Earl of Lincoln, who drew him from his sylvan retirement to Tattersall.

SEEING THE WORLD.

Having recovered a part of the estate which his father had left him he put himself into a better condition than before, and set off again on his travels in the winter of the year 1596, being then only seventeen years of age.

"DONE" BY CONFIDENCE MEN.

His first stage was Flanders, where, he met a Frenchman who pretended to be heir to a noble family, and who prevailed upon him to accompany himself and his three attendants to France. In a dark night they arrived at St. Valery in Picardy, and by the connivance of the ship master the Frenchmen were carried ashore with the trunks of our young traveler, whilst he was left on board till the return of the boat. In the mean time they had conveyed the baggage out of his reach and were not to be found. A sailor on board, who knew the villains, generously undertook to conduct him to Mortaine where they lived, and supplied his wants till their arrival at the place. Here he found their friends from whom he could gain no recompence; but the report of his sufferings induced several persons of distinction to invite him to their houses.

SQUARES THE ACCOUNT.

Eager to pursue his travels, and not caring to receive favours which he was unable to requite, he left his new friends and went from port to port in search of a ship of war. In one of these rambles, near Dinan, it was his chance to meet one of the villains who had robbed him. Without speaking a word, they both drew; and Smith,

having wounded and disarmed his antagonist, obliged him to confess his guilt before a number of persons who had assembled on the occasion. Satisfied with his victory he retired to the seat of an acquaintance, the earl of Ployer, who had been brought up in England, and, having received supplies from him, he travelled along the French coast to Bayonne, and from thence crossed over to Marseilles; visiting and observing everything in his way which had any reference to naval or military architecture.

THROWN OVERBOARD LIKE JONAH.

At Marseilles he embarked for Italy in company with a rabble of Pilgrims. The ship was forced by a tempest into the harbour of Toulon, and afterwards was obliged by a contrary wind to anchor under the little island of St. Mary, off Nice, in Savoy. The bigotry of the pilgrims made them ascribe their ill fortune to the presence of a heretic on board. They devoutly cursed Smith and his Queen Elizabeth, and in a fit of pious rage threw him into the sea. He swam to the island, and the next day was taken on board a ship of St. Malo, which had also put in there for shelter.

A NAVAL BATTLE.

The master of the ship, who was well known to his noble friend, the earl of Ployer, entertained him kindly and carried him to Alexandria in Egypt; from thence he coasted the Levant; and on his return had the satisfaction of a naval engagement with a Venetian ship, which they took and rifled of her rich cargo.

PRIZE MONEY.

Smith was set on shore at Antibes with a box of a thousand chequins (about 2000 dollars,) by the help of which he made the tour of Italy, crossed the Adriatic, and travelled into Styria to the seat of Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria.

A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE.

Here he met with an English and an Irish Jesuit who introduced him to lord

Eberspaught, baron Kizel and other officers of distinction, and here he found full scope for his genius; for the emperor being at war with the Turks, he entered into his army as a volunteer.

(Continued in our next with the interesting account of this hero's wonderful prowess and adventures with the Turks.)

[Selected.]

LIFE OF JUAN DE FUCA, DISCOVERER OF PUGET SOUND.

When the existence of the Western Continent was known to the maritime nations of Europe, one great object of their inquiry was to find through some openings which appeared in it, a passage to India and China. For this purpose several expensive and unsuccessful voyages were made; and every hint which could throw any light on the subject was eagerly sought and attended to by those who considered its importance.

JUAN DE FUCA was a Greek, born in the island of Cephalonia in the Adriatic gulf. He had been employed in the service of Spain in the West Indies as a mariner and pilot above forty years. Having lost his fortune amounting (as he said,) to sixty thousand ducats, when the *Acapulco* ship was taken by Captain Cavendish, an Englishman; and being disappointed in the recompense which he had expected from the court of Spain; he returned in disgust to his native country, by the way of Italy, that he might spend the evening of his life in peace and poverty among his friends. At Florence he met with John Douglas, an Englishman, and went with him to Venice. There Douglas introduced him to Michael Lock, who had been Consul of the Turkey Company at Aleppo, and who was then occasionally resident at Venice. (A. D. 1596.) In conversation with Mr. Lock, DE FUCA gave the following account of his adventures.

“That he had been sent by the Viceroy of Mexico as pilot of three

small vessels to discover the straits of Anian on the western coast of America, through which it was conjectured that a passage might be found into some of the deep bays on the eastern side of the continent. This voyage was frustrated by the misconduct of the commander and the mutiny of the seamen.

“In 1592 the Viceroy sent him again with the command of a caravel and a pinnace, on the same enterprise. Between the latitudes of 47 degrees and 48 degrees north, he discovered an inlet into which he entered and sailed more than twenty days. At the entrance was a great headland with an exceeding high pinnacle, or spired rock, like a pillar. Within the strait the land stretched northwest and northeast, and also east and southeast. It was much wilder within than at the entrance, and contained many islands. The inhabitants were clad in the skins of beasts. The land appeared to be fertile like that of New Spain, and was rich in gold and silver. Supposing that he had accomplished the intention of the voyage and penetrated into the North Sea, but not being strong enough to resist the force of the numerous savages who appeared on the shores, he returned to Acapulco before the expiration of the year.”

Such was the account given by DE FUCA; and Mr. Lock was so impressed by the sincerity of the relation and by the advantages which his countrymen might derive from a knowledge of this strait that he earnestly urged him to enter the service of QUEEN ELIZABETH and perfect the discovery. He succeeded so far as to obtain a promise from the Greek, though sixty years old, that if the Queen would furnish him with one ship of forty tons and a pinnace he would undertake the voyage. He was the more easily persuaded to this by a hope that the Queen would make him some recompense for the loss of his fortune by Capt. Cavendish.

Mr. Lock wrote to the Lord Treasurer Cecil, to Sir Walter Raleigh and to Mr. Hakluyt, requesting that they would forward the scheme, and that one hundred pounds might be advanced to bring De Fuca to England. The scheme was approved but the money was not advanced. Lock was so much engaged in it that he would have sent him to England at his own expense but he was then endeavouring to recover at law his demands from the Turkey Company and could not disburse the money. The pilot therefore returned to Cephalonia, and Lock kept up a correspondence with him until 1602 when he heard of his death.

Through this account, preserved by Purchas, bears sufficient marks of authenticity, yet it has been rejected as fabulous for nearly two centuries, and is so treated even by the very candid Dr. Forster. Recent voyages, however, have established the existence of the strait, and De Fuca is no longer to be considered an imposter, though the gold and silver in his account were but conjectural.

The strait which now bears De Fuca's name is formed by land which is supposed to be the continent of America on one side and by a very extensive cluster of islands on the other. Its southern entrance lies in latitude $48^{\circ} 20'$ north and long. 120° west from Greenwich, and is about seven leagues wide. On the larboard side, which is composed of islands the land is very mountainous, rising abruptly in high and sharp peaks. On the starboard side is a point of land terminating in a remarkably tall rock, called the pillar. Within the entrance the passage grows wider, extending to the southeast, north and northwest, and is full of islands. On the east and northeast at a great distance are seen the tops of mountains, supposed to be on the continent, but the ships trading for furs have not penetrated far to the eastward, the sea otters being their principal object, and the land furs of small

consideration. For this reason the eastern boundary of the inland sea is not yet fully explored. The strait turns to the north and northwest, encompassing a large cluster of islands among which is situated Nootka Sound, and comes into the Pacific Ocean again in latitude $51^{\circ} 15'$; longitude $128^{\circ} 40'$. This extremity of the strait is called its northern entrance, and is wider than the southern.

Another strait has lately been seen which is supposed to be that of DE FONTE, a Spanish Admiral, discovered in 1640, the existence of which has also been treated as fabulous. The cluster of islands called by the British seamen Queen Charlotte's and by the Americans Washington Islands are in the very spot where De Fonte placed the Archipelago of St. Lazarus. The entrance, only, of this strait has been visited by the fur ships. It lies in latitude $54^{\circ} 35'$, and in longitude 131° west.

These recent and well established facts may induce us to treat the relations of former voyages with decent respect. The circumnavigation of Africa by the ancient Phoenicians was for several ages deemed fabulous by the learned Greeks and Romans. But its credibility was fully established by the Portugese discoveries in the fifteenth century. In like manner the discoveries of De Fuca and De Fonte, which have long been stigmatized by geographers as pretended, and marked in their maps as imaginary, are now known to have been founded in truth, though from the imperfection of instruments or the inaccuracy of historians, the degrees and minutes of latitude and longitude were not precisely marked, and though some circumstances in their accounts are but conjectural. Future discoveries may throw new light on the subject and though perhaps a northwest passage by sea, from the Atlantic into the Pacific may not exist, yet bays, rivers and lakes are so frequent in those

R. H. C.

northern regions of our continent that an inland navigation may be practicable.

It has been suggested that the company of English merchants who enjoy an exclusive trade to Hudson's Bay, have from interested motives concealed

their knowledge of its western extremities. Whether there be any just foundation for this censure, I do not pretend to determine; but a survey is said to be now making from which it is hoped that this long contested question of a northwest passage will receive a full solution.

The following are the

CHRONOLOGICAL EXTRACTS

to which the article on page 3 refers.

"The modern calendar, called the Gregorian, came into existence and use in this wise. It was the result of a most laudable desire to eliminate an error occasioned by the Julian calendar, and to remedy its defects. In the way of remedy it is absolutely perfect; in the way of elimination it has, with an inquisitorial zeal, got rid of the mistake of its predecessor, and added a blunder of its own. It found the calendar of Caesar overloaded with twelve days too many, and it has left itself with two days too few.

"Caesar's calendar had fixed the vernal equinox at March 25, but in the sixth century a calendar was drawn up for ecclesiastical use called the Nicene calendar which changed the equinox to March 21st., its correct date at that time. The Reformers of the calendar, in setting the house of time in order, concluded to keep this so called Nicene equinox, and in this way they disposed of four days of the excess. Then they procured a Papal edict making Oct. 5th A. D. 1582, to be Oct. 15th., and in this way they got rid of ten days more. In all they made a difference of 14 days between the Julian calendar and their own, whereas the Julian calendar was only twelve days in error. Thus did they drop out two days and miscall every date by just so much."

—*Ten Broeck.*

"In Spain and Portugal and a part of Italy, the retrenchment took place the same day as at Rome. In France the tenth of the

following December was counted as the 20th. In Brabant, Flanders, Artois, Hainault and Holland, the 15th of December was counted as the 25th. In Germany the provinces in communion with the pope received the new calendar in 1584. Poland in 1587. The Protestants in general continued to retain their old calendar until A. D. 1700 when they adopted a new calendar of their own: but this being found inconvenient, the diet of Ratisbon in 1774, at the instance of the king of Prussia, determined that Easter should be celebrated in 1778 according to the Gregorian calendar.

"In England the year had been reckoned as commencing on the 25th of March, (the vernal equinox of the Julian calendar,) until parliament enacted in 1751, that the year 1752 and all following years should begin on the first of January of the Julian calendar, and that the third of September, 1752, should be counted as the 14th of the same month.

"The Church of England, however, did not adopt the Gregorian calendar but continued to use that of the ancient Church. The only difference made was to adjust that calendar to the modern retrenchment. Hence the golden number XIV, which in the Nicene calendar stands opposite to the 30th of March, was shifted so as to stand opposite to the 21st of that month. This will be seen by comparing the calendar in the prayer books published before the Act of Parliament of 1751, with those published subsequently. In the latter the golden number is omitted in the other months, and one cycle only is inserted from March 21st, as being the only one necessary for the calculation of Easter."—*Jarvis.*

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