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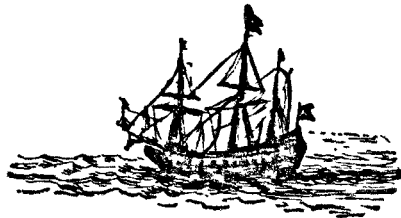
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Heroes of the Nations

EDITED BY
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FACTA EUCIS VIVENT OPEROBAQUE
GLORIA RERUM.—OVID, IN LIVIAM, 265.
THE HERO'S DEEDS AND HARD-WON
FAME SHALL LIVE.

COLUMBUS





Frontispiece.

(See page iv.)

THE AUTHENTIC PORTRAIT OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

COLUMBUS

HIS LIFE AND VOYAGES

BY

WASHINGTON IRVING

(CONDENSED BY THE AUTHOR FROM HIS LARGER WORK)



G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

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INTRODUCTION.

WHETHER, in old times, beyond the reach of history or tradition, and at some remote period when, as some imagine, the arts may have flourished to a degree unknown to those whom we term the ancients, there existed an intercourse between the opposite shores of the Atlantic; whether the Egyptian legend narrated by Plato, respecting the island of Atlantis, was indeed no fable, but the tradition of some country, engulfed by one of those mighty convulsions of our globe which have left the traces of the ocean on the summits of lofty mountains, must ever remain matters of vague and visionary speculation. As far as authenticated history extends, nothing was known of terra-firma, and the islands of the western hemisphere, until their discovery towards the close of the fifteenth century. A wandering bark may occasionally have lost sight of the landmarks of the old continents, and been driven by tempests across the wilderness of waters, long before the invention of the compass, but none ever returned to reveal the secrets of the ocean; and though, from time to time, some document has floated to the old world, giving to its wondering inhabitants indications of land far beyond their watery horizon, yet no one ventured to spread a sail, and seek that land, enveloped in mystery and peril. Or, if the legends of the Scandinavian voyagers be correct, and their mysterious Vinland were the coast of Labrador

or the shore of Newfoundland, they had but transient glimpses of the New World, leading to no permanent knowledge, and in a little time lost again to mankind. Certain it is, that at the beginning of the fifteenth century, when the most intelligent minds were seeking in every direction for the scattered lights of geographical knowledge, a profound ignorance prevailed among the learned as to the western regions of the Atlantic; its vast waters were regarded with awe and wonder, seeming to bound the world as with a chaos, into which conjecture could not penetrate, and enterprise feared to adventure. We need no greater proof of this than the description given of the Atlantic by Xerif al Edrisi, surnamed the Nubian, an eminent Arabian writer, whose countrymen possessed all that was known of geography in the middle ages.

“The ocean,” he observes, “encircles the ultimate bounds of the inhabited earth, and all beyond it is unknown. No one has been able to verify anything concerning it, on account of its difficult and perilous navigation, its great obscurity, its profound depth, and frequent tempests; through fear of its mighty fishes and its haughty winds; yet there are many islands in it, some of which are peopled, and others uninhabited. There is no mariner who dares to enter into its deep waters; or, if any have done so, they have merely kept along its coasts, fearful of departing from them. The waves of this ocean, although they roll as high as mountains, yet maintain themselves without breaking; for if they broke, it would be impossible for a ship to plow them.”

It is the object of the following work to relate the deeds and fortunes of the mariner who first had the judgment to divine, and the intrepidity to brave, the mysteries of this perilous deep; and who, by his hardy genius, his inflexible constancy, and his heroic courage, brought

the ends of the earth into communication with each other. The narrative of his troubled life is the link which connects the history of the old world with that of the new.

NOTE.

SINCE the first publication of this work, researches made concerning the early voyages of the "Northmen" have established the fact, to the conviction of most minds, that "Vinland," the country accidentally discovered by those wide-wandering navigators, about the year 1000, was really a part of the continent of North America.

This fact, however, does not lessen the merit of the great enterprise and achievement of Columbus. Nothing grew out of this discovery of Vinland, nor does any idea appear to have been entertained of the extent or importance of the region thus casually brought to light. Two or three voyages were made to it, between the years 1000 and 1021, after which it ceased to be an object of further quest, and apparently faded from thought as if it had never been. At the time when Columbus visited Thule, upwards of three centuries and a half had elapsed since the last voyage to Vinland of which we have any record; and two centuries and a half since the sagas which mention the country had been written. We see no reason to believe that he heard anything of these discoveries or saw the sagas in question. Had he done so, he would doubtless have cited them among the various reports of lands seen by mariners in the west; with which he sought to fortify his theory and win patronage to his

enterprise during years of weary and almost hopeless solicitation. It is more than probable that at the time of his visiting Thule the tradition concerning Vinland had long been forgotten, and the sagas had been consigned to the dust of libraries and archives, thence to be drawn forth by antiquarian research in after ages, when his own discoveries should have cast back a light to illuminate their obscurity.



ARMS OF COLUMBUS. .

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THE AUTHENTIC PORTRAIT OF CHRISTOPHER
COLUMBUS.—(*See frontispiece.*)

FROM A PAINTING IN THE POSSESSION OF WILLIAM HARRISON BRADLEY,
OF CHICAGO, UNITED STATES CONSUL AT NICE.

Touching the history of the painting from which the above portrait was taken, Mr. Bradley writes to the publishers as follows :

“ In De Bry's ‘ Grands Voyages,’ Part V., appears an engraving of Columbus of which De Bry says that it was engraved from a copy in his possession, of the portrait painted during the life of Columbus under the instructions of Ferdinand and Isabella. This original picture, afterwards stolen from the Casa de las Indias and taken to the Netherlands, was copied by an artist of De Bry's acquaintance, and from this copy the engraving appearing in the ‘ Voyages ’ was made, towards the end of the sixteenth century. At this time, as later, France was the great art collector of Europe, and the picture went where so much of artistic and historic value was being collected, for we find Imbert de Lonne, a man of letters and the trusted physician of the royal family, facing the terrors of Paris during the Revolution of 1789 to purchase, at a sale of royal effects, keepsakes of the family he had served. Among the articles purchased by him was this picture of Columbus, and the person from whom I purchased it had received the painting from the granddaughter of De Lonne.”

A GLOSSARY

OF THE LATIN, FRENCH, SPANISH, AND OTHER NOT-EASILY-UNDERSTOOD WORDS AND PHRASES.

ALSO, A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THOSE PERSONS AND PLACES SPOKEN OF, WHOSE HISTORY CONTAINS SOMETHING PECULIAR, OR A KNOWLEDGE OF WHOM CANNOT BE OBTAINED FROM SOURCES ORDINARILY WITHIN THE REACH OF THE READER.

Adios, adieu, farewell.

Adelantado, lieutenant-governor.

Alcala de la Guadaira, a small Spanish town, situated six miles southeast of Seville, on the river Guadaira.

Alcalde (Spanish), a justice of the peace, or judge who administers justice in a town.

Alcantara, one of the three ancient Spanish orders of knighthood. It assumed this name from the town of Alcantara, in the Spanish province of Estremadura, which was given to it in 1207.

Alcayde, governor of a castle or fort.

Alguasil (from the Spanish), an inferior officer of justice, answering to our constable.

Alhambra, the red city, formerly the royal palace of the Moorish kings of Granada, in Spain.

Alpha and Omega, names of the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, hence often used to signify the beginning and end.

Amazons, a race of masculine women or female warriors.

Anana, pineapple.

Anjou, an ancient province of France.

Apostolical Vicar, the Pope's representative in religious affairs.

Arabic, language of the inhabitants of Arabia, which is the most westerly portion of southern Asia, between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

Archdeacon, an ecclesiastical officer, next in rank to a bishop, for whom he acts on many occasions. He has a superintendence over other clergymen in his district.

Archipelago, a sea interspersed with many islands ; the name generally applied to the Ægean Sea, situated between Europe and Asia, but in this volume referring to the islands in the Caribbean Sea.

Aristotle, a distinguished Grecian philosopher, born three hundred and eighty-four years before Christ, at Stagira, in Macedonia ; hence he is sometimes called the Stagyrite.

Arrieros, carriers.

Arquebusier, a soldier armed with an arquebuse, a kind of firearms, formerly in use, which was cocked with a wheel.

Atlantis. Many of the ancients supposed that there existed in the Atlantic Ocean a large island, to which the above name was given. Writers differ in their description and location of it, and as no such island is now known, the general opinion is that its existence was imaginary. Some, however, conjecture that the original accounts were true ; but that, instead of an island, the early voyagers had visited the American continent.

Augustine, St. See *Saint*.

Aura or *Aurea Chersonesus*, the golden peninsula. There is much difference of opinion among the learned, what place the ancients intended to designate by this name. Dr. Rees considers there is little reason to doubt that the Golden Chersonese is the southern part of the former kingdom, now province, of Pegu, in Asia, which may be considered as insulated.

Autograph, a person's own handwriting.

Ave Maria, the beginning of a Roman Catholic prayer to the Virgin Mary, from which the whole prayer is called *Ave Maria*. It literally means, *Hail, Mary* ; and is the commencement of the salutation which the angel addressed to the Virgin, when announcing to her that she should be the mother of our Saviour.

Avenger, a title given to King John the First of Portugal, who reigned from 1383 to 1433. He was inflexible in the punishment of crimes, and rooted out the band of brayoes kept by the nobility to execute private revenge. It was a saying of his that conversation was the cheapest of all pleasures, as well as the most improving, and he promoted a taste for letters among his people.

Areytos, sacred, heroic, and historic ballads of the natives of Hispaniola, or Hayti, or San Domingo, as the island is variously called.

Benedictine, an order of monks, founded by St. Benedict. He was born at Norcia, in Spoleto (which lies north of Rome), in the year 480. " In the fourteenth year of his age he retired to a cavern, situated in the desert of Subiaco, forty miles from Rome, and in 515 drew up a rule for his monks, which was first introduced into the monastery on Monte Cassino, in the neighborhood of Naples, founded by him (in 529) in a grove of

Apollo, after the temple had been demolished. With the intention of banishing idleness, he prescribed, in addition to the work of God (as he called prayer and the reading of religious writings), the instruction of youth in reading, writing, and ciphering, in the doctrines of Christianity, in manual labors (including mechanic arts of every kind), and in the management of the monastery. With regard to dress and food, the rule was severe, but not extravagant. He caused a library to be founded, for which the aged and infirm brethren were obliged to copy manuscripts. By this means he contributed to preserve the literary remains of antiquity from ruin ; for though he had in view only the copying of religious writings, yet the practice was afterwards extended to classical works of every kind. The learned world is indebted for the preservation of great literary treasures to the order of St. Benedict."

Bight, a bend or small bay between two points of land.

Bivouac, a military term, signifying to watch, or be on guard, or to lie in the open air, remaining dressed, so as to be ready to march at a moment's warning.

Bodega, a magazine, storeroom, wine-cellar.

Bottinas, spatterdashes, or coverings for the legs.

Bustard, a common name of a species of waders, or birds that often wade in the water for their food. The great bustard is the largest of European land birds, averaging in weight twenty-five pounds. They seldom fly, but employ their wings, as the ostrich does, to aid them in running. They congregate in flocks, and are usually found on open and level grounds. They feed on grain, herbs, seeds, worms, and insects.

Butios, Indian priests.

Caballero, a knight, nobleman, cavalier.

Cabriolet, a light carriage, or one-horse chair.

Cacique, a chief.

Calabash, a vessel made of a dried gourd-shell, or shell of the fruit of the calabash tree, which resembles somewhat a squash or pumpkin shell, but is much harder, and closer grained.

Calabria, a mountainous country forming the southern part of the peninsula of Italy.

Calisa, a Spanish calash or chaise with two wheels.

Calestro, driver of a calash.

Calicut, a district of Hindostan, in Asia, on the Malabar coast.

Cama de luxo (Spanish), state bed.

Cape Bojador, on the western coast of Africa.

Cape Non, on the west coast of the island of Ivice, in the Mediterranean Sea.

Cape of Good Hope, southern extremity of Africa.

Cape Tiburon, the southwest extremity of Hispaniola, or San Domingo.

Capitaz, overseer.

Captain-general of the Navy, in Spain, the commander-in-chief of a fleet.

Caravel, a light, round, old-fashioned ship.

Caribs, inhabitants of the Caribbee Islands, as a part of the West India Islands are called. In the last century they were almost entirely expelled.

They are of an olive-brown color, but paint themselves with a red vegetable paint, called annotto, as a defence against insects. They voraciously devour the flesh of their enemies.

Carthusian, a religious order of monks, founded by St. Bruno, in 1086, who derived their name from the desert of Chartreuse, which is about twelve or fifteen miles from the city of Grenoble, in the southeast of France, and in which they built their first hermitages, which were anciently called Chartreuses. They practiced the greatest abstinence, wore coarse garments, and lived exclusively upon vegetables and the coarsest bread. Their habit or dress was entirely white within, covered with a black mantle. Their fifth general, who died in 1137, "prescribed, besides their usual monastic vows, eternal silence and solitude. Mechanical labors, copying of books, and religious worship, constituted their occupation. They observed a strict temperance, and submitted to bleeding five times a year. Excessive penance was forbidden, but their laws were very severe, against disobedience. They were in general well informed, hospitable, and remarkable for their neatness." The order is now abolished, excepting in Sicily and Spain.

Cassava, a bread made of the root of the *yuca*; which see.

Cassock, a robe or gown worn over the other garments, particularly by the clergy.

Castillanos, a Spanish coin equal to five dollars thirty-two cents and five mills.

Catalonians, inhabitants of Catalonia, a province of Spain.

Ceres, the fabled goddess of corn and of harvests, who is said to have instructed mankind in the knowledge of agriculture, how to plow the ground, sow and reap corn, and make bread. She is usually represented with a garland of ears of corn on her head, holding in one hand a lighted torch and in the other a poppy; sometimes she appears as a country-woman sitting on the back of an ox, carrying a basket on her left arm, and holding a hoe.

Ceuta, a city on the African coast of the Mediterranean.

Chaldaic, the language of the inhabitants of Chaldea, one of the most famous nations of Asia, in ancient times. Chaldea was the southerly part of Babylonia, towards Arabia and the Persian Gulf. It was formerly a fertile country, but is now barren.

Charles V., "Emperor of Germany and King of Spain (in the latter capacity he is called Charles the First)," was born at Ghent, in the Netherlands, February 24, 1500. He "had a noble air and refined manners; spoke little and smiled seldom; was firm of purpose; slow to decide; prompt to execute; equally rich in resources and sagacious in the choice of them; gifted with a cool judgment and always master of himself, he steadily pursued his purposes, and easily triumphed over obstacles. Circumstances developed his genius and made him great. An acute judge of men, he knew how to use them for his purposes. In misfortune he appeared greater than in prosperity. He protected and encouraged the arts and sciences, and is said to have picked up a brush which had fallen from the hand of the celebrated painter Titian, with the words, 'Titian is worthy of being served by an emperor.'" He is looked upon as "one of the most remarkable characters in history. He exhibited no talents in his youth, and in after life, when his armies in Italy were winning battle after battle, he remained quietly in Spain, apparently not much interested in these victories; but even in his early youth, his motto was (*Nondum*) *Not yet.*" But, from his thirtieth year to the time of abdicating his throne, he showed himself a monarch. "No minister had a marked influence over him; he was indefatigable in business, weighing the reasons on both sides of every case with great minuteness; very slow in deciding; unchangeable of purpose. Wherever he was, he imitated the customs of the country, and won the favor of every people except the Germans. He was slow in punishing, as well as in rewarding; but when he did punish, it was with severity; when he rewarded, it was with munificence." He relinquished his right to the Spanish throne in favor of his son Philip, January 15, 1556, and retired to the monastery of St. Justus, near Placencia, in the province of Estremadura, in Spain. "Here he exchanged sovereignty, dominion, and pomp, for the quiet and solitude of a cloister. His amusements were confined to short rides, to the cultivation of a garden, and to mechanical labors. It is said that he made wooden clocks, and being unable to make two of them go exactly alike, he was reminded of the folly of his efforts to bring a number of men to the same sentiments. He attended religious services twice daily, read books of devotion, and gradually fell into such dejection that his faculties seemed to suffer from it. He renounced the most innocent pleasures, and observed the rules of the monastic life in all their rigor. In order to perform an extraordinary act of piety, he celebrated his own obsequies. Wrapped in a shroud, and surrounded by his retinue, he laid himself in a coffin, which was placed in the middle of the church. The funeral service was performed, and the monarch mingled his voice with those of the clergy who prayed for him. After

the last sprinkling, all withdrew, and the doors were closed. He remained some time in the coffin, then arose, threw himself before the altar, and returned to his cell, where he spent the night in deep meditation. This ceremony hastened his death," which occurred from a fever, September 21, 1558, in the fifty-ninth year of his age.

Cibao, a district in the interior of Hispaniola, so named from its *stony*, sterile appearance.

Clerical Beaver, clergyman's hat.

Coat of Arms, emblematic badge of a family; originally worn on some part of the person's armor, hence its name.

Confession, in the Roman Catholic Church, an acknowledgment of sins and faults to a priest, to obtain a remission of them.

Contrabandista, a smuggler; one who carries on a trade in goods, the exporting or importing of which is prohibited by law.

Cubanacan, a name given by the natives to a province in the centre of Cuba, *nacan*, in their language, signifying "in the midst."

Darien (Isthmus of), a narrow neck of land which connects North and South America.

Decked. Vessels having planked floors which connect the sides together, and serve as platforms to support the artillery, lodge the men, and also to preserve the cargo from sea and rain, are said to be decked.

Desperado, a desperate fellow.

Dominican, an order of monks founded by St. Dominic de Guzman, of Calahorra, in Old Castile, who was the inquisitor-general of the first Inquisition. He was born in 1170, and died at Bologna, in 1221. The principal object of this order of monks was to preach against heretics, or those who held and taught opinions opposed to the Roman Catholic faith. At one time it extensively prevailed in Europe and on the coasts of Asia, Africa, and America. It now flourishes chiefly in Spain, Portugal, and Sicily. The monks dress in black, with white mantles and veils, the nuns in white, with black mantles and veils. See *Franciscan*.

Don Quixote (Adventures of), a very celebrated work, written by Cervantes, a distinguished Spanish writer, who was born in 1547, and died in 1616, at Madrid, where he lies buried, without a stone to indicate the spot. The object had in view by the author in this work was "to reform the taste and opinions of his countrymen. He wished to ridicule that adventurous heroism, with all its evil consequences, the source of which was the innumerable novels on knight-errantry. While he struggles against the prevailing false romance of the time, he displays the most truly romantic spirit. The beginning of the work was at first coldly received, but soon met with the greatest applause, in which, at a later period, the whole of Europe joined," and it has now been translated into every European language.

Dryads, wood-nymphs, fabled goddesses who were said to preside over woods or forests.

Ducat, a coin used by several European nations, varying in value, but worth about two dollars and twenty-five cents.

East (The). The countries situated in Asia, being east of Europe, are generally spoken of as *The East*, or the Eastern or Oriental world, as America, being west of Europe, is denominated the Western world.

Eden, the place in which our first parents dwelt, previously to their disobedience and fall. There is a great difference of opinion relative to its precise situation. It is often termed Paradise, from a Greek word signifying a park or garden.

Española. See *Hispaniola*.

Esplanade, as used in this volume, means a grass-plat.

Falconets, small pieces of artillery,

False Keel, a strong, thick piece of timber, fastened with iron bolts to the lower side of the keel or bottom of a ship, for the purpose of preserving it.

Ferro, or *Hiero*, the most westerly of the Canary Islands. It was anciently supposed to be the most western point of the old world, and was employed by all geographers as their first meridian, or the point from which they calculated longitude.

Flamingo, an aquatic bird, of which there are two species. The one referred to in this volume is an inhabitant of the tropical parts of America, and migrates in the summer season to the Southern, and sometimes, though seldom, to the Middle States. It is from three to four feet in height, of a deep red color with black quills. "They live in large flocks, frequenting desert sea-coasts and salt-marshes. They are shy and watchful. While feeding they keep together, drawn up artificially in lines, which, at a distance, resemble those of an army. They employ some to act as sentinels, for the security of the rest. On the approach of danger these sentinels give warning by a loud sound, like that of a trumpet, which may be heard at a great distance. When flying, they form a triangle." They feed on shell-fish, insects, and the spawn of fishes.

Flanders. See *Flemish*.

Flemish, relating to Flanders, a country situated partly in France and partly in the Netherlands.

Florentine, an inhabitant of Florence, the capital of Tuscany.

Flores, one of the Azores or Western Islands, in the Atlantic Ocean.

Foray, act of ravaging; as used in this volume, a hunting excursion.

Franciscan, a religious order of monks, founded in 1208, by St. Francis of Assisi, in Umbria. The order was originally distinguished by vows of absolute poverty, and a renunciation of all the pleasures of the world.

- Their common dress is a coarse woolen frock, with a cord round the waist, to which is suspended a rope with a knotted scourge. "An interesting comparison might be made between St. Franciscus and St. Dominic. The first labored all his life to relieve the poor and persecuted, to propagate the gospel among the lower classes, who, in those convulsed periods, were almost entirely excluded, in most countries, from education and instruction in Christianity; whilst St. Dominicus strove to spread Christianity by persecution. The character of the two is deeply imprinted on the two orders—the humble Franciscans and the zealous Dominicans."
- Friar*, a term derived from the Spanish, French, and Italian word for brother, and applied to monks, as associated or bound together in brotherhood.
- Furling*, rolling up and fastening the sails of vessels.
- Genoese*, belonging or relating to Genoa.
- George, St.* See *Saint George*.
- Giralda*, a Spanish name for a vane or weathercock in the form of a statue; derived from the statue of a woman put on the spire of the cathedral church of Seville.
- Gloria in excelsis Deo*, Glory to God in the highest, the commencing words of a hymn of praise to the Almighty.
- Grand or Great Khan*, a title given in the north of Asia to the highest royal dignity.
- Grand Soldan, Sultan*, king.
- Grapplings*, iron instruments having four or five sharp-pointed flukes or claws, and used in naval engagements to seize hold of and secure an enemy's ship.
- Gray Friar*, a monk of the Franciscan order; *which see*.
- Guanin*, adulterated gold.
- Hacienda*, country seat.
- Hebrew*, the language of the Jews or Israelites, the descendants of Abraham.
- Heir-apparent*, one who has an absolute and exclusive right to succeed to an estate or crown.
- Herrera*, a Spanish historian, who was born at Cuellar, in Segovia, in 1559, and died 1625.
- Hidalgo*, in Spain, a person of noble birth.
- High Admiral*, as used in this volume, admiral-in-chief, or highest officer.
- High Altar*. In Roman Catholic churches, there are several altars; the principal one is elevated above the others, and is called the high altar.
- His Holiness*, a title of the Pope.
- Hispaniola, Hayti, or San Domingo*, one of the largest and most fertile of the West India Islands, named by Columbus Española, from a fancied resemblance to some of the beautiful provinces of Spain.

Holy Chair, a term frequently used for Pope, as "the crown" is often used instead of king.

Holy Sepulchre, the supposed tomb or burial-place of Christ, in Jerusalem.

Holy Writ, the Bible.

India, Indians, names given to this country and to its inhabitants, by Columbus, on his discovery of America, under the impression that it was the eastern coast of Asia, for which he was in search, that he had reached. Subsequently, when the mistake was ascertained, the name was retained with the word West prefixed, so as to distinguish the country from the other, or East Indies. At a later period the name West Indies was restricted to the islands, which now retain it, lying between North and South America.

Indulgence, remission of punishment due to sins; granted by the Pope or Romish Church.

Infidels, disbelievers of Christianity.

Israelite, a Jew.

Junta, a high council of state.

Junto, a council.

Labrador, an extensive country of North America, seven hundred miles long from north to south, and five hundred miles broad, situated between Hudson's Bay, the Atlantic Ocean, and Canada. It belongs to Great Britain, and is annexed to the government of Newfoundland. The severity of the climate and the barrenness of the region, confining the visits of foreigners principally to the coasts, it has never been fully explored.

Lactantius, a celebrated orator and author, supposed to have been an African. He was, at first, a teacher of rhetoric, and afterwards the tutor of Crispus, the eldest son of Constantine the Great. On account of the purity and eloquence of his language he is frequently styled the Christian Cicero. He died about 325.

Latine, or *Lateen*, a triangular sail, frequently used by vessels navigating the Mediterranean Sea.

Lay-Brother, a pious but illiterate person, who devotes himself in some convent or monastery to the service of the religious (as that class devoted exclusively to religious affairs is termed); being too ignorant to become a clerk (or clergyman), he applies himself wholly to bodily labor.

Levant, from the Italian and French, signifying the *East*. In a general sense, this name is used to designate the countries on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, and in a more contracted sense, the Asiatic coasts from Constantinople to Alexandria, in Egypt.

Lucayan, an inhabitant of the Bahama Islands.

Lucayos, the Bahama Islands.

Martin Behem or *Behaim*, one of the most learned mathematicians and astronomers of his age, born at Nuremberg about 1430.

Master of the game, the winner.

Mayorazgo, an entailed estate.

Medina Celi, a Spanish town in Old Castile, eighty-four miles southwest of Saragossa.

Medina Sidonia, a Spanish town in Andalusia, twenty-two miles southeast of Cadiz.

Mohammedan, a follower of, or believer in, the doctrines of Mohammed, an individual born at Mecca, in Arabia, A.D. 569, and who in the year 609 announced himself as an apostle of God. His religious code, written in Arabic, is contained in a book called the *Koran*, or Al Koran, a word signifying *The reading*, or that which is to be read; his doctrines were promulgated as revelations of the divine will. "The first tenet of his creed was, 'Allah alone is God, and Mohammed is his prophet.' Moses and Christ were regarded by him as divinely inspired teachers of former times; he did not deny the authenticity of the sacred histories and revelations of Christianity," but believed them to have become corrupted; he declared himself as sent to *perfect* the work of redemption already commenced. The heaven he promised his followers was one of sensual pleasures. "His morality was compiled from the ancient Jewish and Christian systems. The chief points in it are, the faithful adoration of Allah as the only God, unwavering obedience to the commands of the *prophet* (that is, himself), the necessity of prayer, charity to the poor, purifications, abstinence from forbidden enjoyments (especially from strong drinks, a prohibition caused by the quarrels that arose among his adherents), bravery, upholding, even to death, the cause of God, and entire resignation to unavoidable fate." His doctrines were widely disseminated by means of the sword and violence, and to this day extensively prevail in Asia and Africa. It is unnecessary for us to draw a comparison between him and the Founder of Christianity, who preached Peace on earth, good-will to man. Mohammed died at Medina, A.D. 632, and in the holy chapel there is an urn, surrounded with iron trellis-work, which constitutes his sepulchre.

Moors, a class of the inhabitants of western Africa, particularly of Fez and Morocco. The name was given to them by the Spanish writers, who derived it from *Mauritania*, as that part of Africa which they inhabited was called by the Romans. They held dominion in Spain for eight hundred years; and were finally conquered, and their kingdom of Granada subdued, in 1492, by Ferdinand, after a ten years' war. After their subjugation, a part of them "went to Africa; but most of them remained in Spain, where they were industrious, peaceful subjects, and adopted generally the external forms of Christianity. The latter were called in Spain,

- Moriscoes. Philip II., in his ferocious zeal for Christianity, resolved upon their entire destruction. His oppressions and persecutions excited an insurrection of the Moriscoes in Granada (1571), after the suppression of which over one hundred thousand of them were banished. Philip III., in the same fanatic spirit, completed their expulsion, and nearly a million of them emigrated to Africa. As they were the most ingenious and industrious inhabitants of Spain, they were a great loss to the country. Agriculture speedily fell into decay, and their expulsion is regarded as one of the leading causes of the decline of Spain.
- Moorish, or Saracenic, Arch*, in building, an arch which is sometimes lancet-shaped or pointed, and sometimes either of a crescent or horseshoe form. It is supposed to have been introduced into Spain by the Moors, and by them first used in buildings there erected. An explanation of different kinds of arches, with cuts, may be found in Bigelow's "Useful Arts," published as vols. xi. and xii. of "The School Library."
- Moslem*, a Mohammedan. Every one who acknowledges the unity of God and the apostleship of Mohammed is called a Moslem; that is, one who has given himself up to the will of God, and is therefore in a state of salvation.
- Muscatel, or Muscadel*, from the Italian moscadello, a sweet wine, so named from its flavor.
- Ne plus ultra*, a Latin phrase, literally meaning *nothing more beyond*; used in this volume to denote the extreme limit, or farthest point of discovery.
- Nereids*, sea-nymphs, named after Nereus, a fabled deity of the sea.
- Newfoundland*, an island in the North Atlantic Ocean (separated from the North American continent by the Straits of Belle Isle and the Gulf of St. Lawrence), which was discovered in 1497, by Sebastian Cabot. See his Life, in vol. v. of "The School Library."
- New World*, America.
- Northmen*, the inhabitants of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, who were so called in early times.
- Nubian*, relating to Nubia, a country of Africa, south of Egypt, and lying on each side of the River Nile. It is the northern part of ancient Ethiopia. Its inhabitants are perfectly black.
- Nuncio*, the Pope's ambassador.
- Ophir*, a place frequently mentioned in Scripture, and supposed to have been situated in the East Indies or on the eastern coast of Africa. It was celebrated for its gold, ivory, spices, and other valuable productions, for which it was visited in the time of David and Solomon.
- Optical Delusion*, deception of the eyesight.
- Order of Santiago*, or St. James, a Spanish military order, instituted in 1170, by Ferdinand II., to stop the incursions of the Moors. The battle-cry of

the Spaniards, when engaging the Moors, was *Santiago*. "The knights were required to prove their descent from families that have been noble on both sides for four generations, and that their ancestors had neither been Jews, Saracens, nor heretics, nor called in question by the Inquisition. Their vows are those of poverty, obedience, conjugal fidelity, and the defence of the immaculate conception of the Holy Virgin.

Our Lady, a name by which the Virgin Mary is sometimes called by Roman Catholics.

Papal Bull, an instrument, ordinance, or decree of the Pope, relating to matters of faith, or the affairs of the Romish Church, written on parchment, and having a leaden or golden seal. The name, from the Italian *bolla*, was originally applied to the seal itself.

Papal Chair, the throne of the Pope.

Patents, writings, given by the proper authority and duly authenticated, granting a privilege to some person or persons.

Pater Noster, the Lord's prayer; so called from the first two Latin words, signifying Our Father.

Patios, courts, or open spaces in front of, or behind, houses.

Patriarch, in the Church, a dignitary or officer superior to the archbishop.

Payed, from *pay*, a nautical or sea phrase, implying to daub or anoint the surface of any body in order to preserve it from injury by water or weather.

Penitences, sufferings endured as an expression of repentance for sins.

Phantasy, freak, caprice.

Phenicians, inhabitants of Phenicia, a territory in Syria, on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean, and northwest of Palestine, the principal cities of which were Tyre and Sidon. The Phenicians were early celebrated as adventurous mariners, and the invention of letters is attributed to them. They planted colonies on the shores of the Mediterranean, particularly Carthage, Hippo, Marseilles, and Utica, and their manufactures acquired such a superiority over those of other nations, that among the ancients whatever was elegant, great, or pleasing, either in apparel or domestic utensils, was called Sidonian. In the time of Solomon, it is said, there were "none who were skilled how to hew timber like the Sidonians."

Pillars of Hercules. According to some authors, two pillars are said to have been erected by Hercules, a celebrated hero in ancient mythology, upon the mountains on each side of the strait named after him (now known as the Straits of Gibraltar), intended to point out the limits of his wanderings to the west. By other authors the mountains themselves are called the "Pillars." That on the Asiatic side is called Abyla, that on the European side, Calpe. The latter is now Gibraltar.

Plato, a celebrated Greek philosopher, born about 429 B. C. He died on his

eighty-second birthday. His name was given him (from a Greek word, signifying *broad*) on account of the breadth of his chest and forehead.

Pliny, a distinguished Roman scholar and historian. His best known and most valued work is that entitled, "Natural History, or History of the World." He filled many public offices. All time not required for official duties he devoted to his literary pursuits. "He was a very early riser, even in winter; often did not retire to bed at all; and used to read while at meals, and in the bath, or had some one to read to him. He diligently noted down everything of importance; and often said, that no book was so bad but that something might be learned from it." When not able to write, he dictated to others. He fell a sacrifice to his spirit of inquiry, in the year 79; when, being near Vesuvius, during a terrible eruption of that volcano, he was induced to approach it, in order to examine it the more closely, and whilst engaged in his scientific investigations, on the second day, "he perished by a suffocating vapor which spread over the whole country."

Posada, a tavern or inn.

Promised Land, Palestine, anciently called Canaan. It received the name of *Land of Promise* (see Heb. xi. 9) on account of having been promised to the posterity of Abraham. "It embraces the coast of Syria on the Mediterranean, from Lebanon south to the limits of Egypt, and was one of the most fertile countries of the old world."

Ptolemy, a celebrated geographer, mathematician, and astronomer, born in Egypt in the year 70, who is considered the first astronomer of antiquity. He was the earliest writer who sought to fix the situation of places by their latitude and longitude.

Pundonor (Spanish), point of honor.

Regidors, magistrates of a city.

Repartimientos (Spanish), partition, division, distribution.

Rover, pirate, freebooter.

Sagas, Icelandic heroic tales.

Saint Augustine, one of the most renowned fathers of the Christian Church.

He was born at Tagaste, a small city in Africa, November 13, 354; and died at Hippo, August 28, 403.

Saint George, "the holy knight; according to ancient legends, a prince of Cappadocia," which was formerly one of the most important provinces of Asia. "His greatest achievement was the conquest of a dragon, by which he effected the deliverance of a king's daughter. He is commonly represented on horseback, in full armor, with the formidable dragon writhing at his feet. The drawing is founded on the tradition that Aja, the daughter of an ancient monarch, was met by a dragon, which attacked

and threatened to devour her." The knight, passing by, slew the dragon and rescued the lady. The ancient Christian emperors bore a representation of the knight upon their standards. To these sacred banners was attributed a miraculous power, and it was supposed that those who fought under them were sure of conquering. St. George is called the protector and patron of the English nation.

Saint Thomas, one of the Twelve Apostles, whose name has been given to many places. The reason of its being given, by Columbus, to the place mentioned on page 151, is there stated; and its appropriateness may be judged of by reference to the Gospel of St. John, chapter xx., verses 24 to 29, where the occurrence is recorded that Columbus at the time had in mind.

Salve Regina, the name of the vesper or evening hymn to the Virgin, that is, to Mary, the mother of Christ.

San Antonio, St. Anthony, born in Lisbon, August 15, 1195, and died at Padua, Italy, June 13, 1231. He was a disciple of St. Francis, and a prominent advocate of the Franciscan order. He is, by *tradition*, said to have been so eloquent that the very fishes were moved by his exhortations and preaching.

Santa (Spanish), Saint.

Santa Maria, Holy Mary; an exclamation of surprise or wonder.

Satyrs, wood gods, or fabulous deities who are said to have presided over woods.

Saturn, one of the fabulous deities of the ancients, who is said to have taught the people of Italy agriculture, and the useful and liberal arts. While he was King of Italy his reign was so mild and popular, so beneficent and virtuous, that it has been called the *golden age*, to intimate the happiness and tranquillity which the earth then enjoyed.

Scandinavian, from Scandinavia, the ancient name of the northern portion of Europe, embracing Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Iceland, etc.

See, the jurisdiction of a bishop or archbishop.

Semi-barbarous, half savage; partially civilized.

Seneca, a philosopher, born in the first year of the Christian era, at Corduba, in Spain. Most of his life was spent in Rome. He was condemned to death upon suspicion of being engaged in a conspiracy. Being allowed to choose the manner of his death, he caused his veins to be opened; but the blood not flowing rapidly, he swallowed poison, and was subsequently drowned in a warm bath.

Señor, Sir or master.

Siesta (Spanish), the *time* for taking a nap after dinner, generally from one to three o'clock. In this volume it signifies the *nap* itself.

Southern Ocean, the sea situated south of an imaginary line drawn from

- Cape Horn**, the southern extremity of the American continent, to the Cape of Good Hope, and continuing east, around back again to Cape Horn.
- Staff**, in military affairs, consists of a quartermaster-general, adjutant-general, majors of brigade, aids-de-camp, etc.; this term, therefore, means generally the officers whose command extends over several bodies of troops, of which each has its particular officers. The term is derived from the baton or staff which was formerly carried by officers high in command.
- Strabo**, an eminent Greek geographer, born in Cappadocia, about the year 19 of the Christian era. He travelled extensively in Greece, Italy, Egypt, and various parts of Asia. "His great geographical work, in seventeen books, contains a full account of the manners and governments of different people," and is deemed invaluable.
- Superhuman**, more than human; divine.
- Superior**, the head or chief man of a monastery.
- Te Deum laudamus**, We praise thee, O Lord! The commencing words of a hymn of praise, frequently chanted on the occasion of some great national event.
- Teredo**, a shell-fish of a tubular shape and about six inches long. It is very destructive to ships, perforating their bottoms in all directions. One species of this animal, it is said, has more than once threatened Holland with ruin, by the destruction of the dikes, which are raised to prevent the sea from overflowing the country.
- Terra Firma**, literally, firm earth or solid land; used, in this volume, as the mainland or continent.
- Thomas, St.** See *Saint Thomas*.
- Thule**, a name given by the ancients to the most extreme land to the north with which they were acquainted. In this volume *Iceland* is meant. Probably the name was not always applied to the same place, by different writers, but varied with the progress of discovery.
- Tinto.** This river is so called from its waters being tinged of a yellow color. It is situated in the Spanish province of Seville, and empties into the Atlantic at the town of Huelva.
- Triptolemus**, an ancient king of Attica, who is said to have been taught by Ceres everything which related to agriculture, and how to plow the ground, to sow and reap the corn, to make bread, and to take particular care of fruit-trees. He is also said to have travelled over the earth, distributing corn to all the inhabitants of the world.
- Tunis**, one of the Barbary States, in Africa, situated on the Mediterranean Sea, between Algiers and Tripoli.
- Ultimæ Thule.** See *Thule*.

Variation of the needle, deviation of the magnetic needle of the compass from the true north point, towards which it naturally turns.

Vasco de Gama, a Portuguese, born at the small seaport of Sines, of a noble family. "He discovered the route to the East Indies by sea; a discovery of the greatest importance, not only in regard to commerce, but to the civilization and political relations of Europe, and which laid the foundation of the commercial power of Portugal in the Indian seas." He died in 1524, at Goa, in the East Indies.

Veering, changing the course of a vessel.

Vega, plain.

Venetian, belonging or relating to Venice.

Venta, an inn.

Vesper-peal, the sound of the bell for evening religious service.

Vicar, representative.

Vinland, according to the recent investigations of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, at Copenhagen, this name was given by the European voyagers, who are supposed to have visited America in the tenth and eleventh centuries, to that portion of the country now included within the limits of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The name was selected in consequence of the great abundance of grape-vines that were met with; vinland, vineland, land of vines.

Virgin ore, pure, unadulterated ore.

Weather-boards, boards placed in an inclined position to prevent the sea from breaking in upon a vessel.

Yuca. *Yucca*, or *Jucca*, a name given by the natives of America and the West India Islands to a shrub which grows to the height of three feet, and bears broad, shining, hand-shaped leaves, and beautiful white and rose-colored flowers. It is the *Xatropa manihot* of botanists. Its roots are poisonous in their natural state, but when prepared by heat are harmless and nutritive. The natives of this continent and the adjacent islands, when first visited by the Europeans, were in the practice of making a kind of bread of these roots, which they called Cassava or Cassada.

Zemi (plural, *Zemes*), a name given by the natives of the island of Hispaniola to supposed inferior deities, who acted as mediators or messengers between the Supreme Being and man.

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