

Sebastian Cabot died probably in 1558, but no one at present knows precisely when or where, and therefore it would be as difficult to find a fit place to erect a monument to him, as to find a good and sufficient reason for it. It is better far, according to the old saw, that people should ask, why hath not this man a monument? than, why hath he one? We ask why should a statue be erected to Sebastian Cabot? and why should the new Continent be named Cabotia?

To all intents and purposes Christopher Columbus was the discoverer of America, and is entitled to that honorable distinction. The grand idea of sailing west to find the east was his, and the success was his; let the honor be his. For eighteen years was he laboring to cipher out and to carry out this theory, which was all his own.

Tired and worn out in Portugal, after ten years he found his way into Spain in 1485. For seven long years he danced attendance on the Spanish Court, with no fortune but his idea; sometimes thread-bare and bare-footed, ever pressing his suit, never flagging in his confidence,