

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

CHAPTER I
THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA
The first discovery of America was made by Christopher Columbus in 1492. He sailed from Spain in search of a westward route to the Indies. On October 12, 1492, he landed on the island of San Salvador in the West Indies. This event marked the beginning of European exploration of the Americas.

After his first voyage, Columbus made two more trips to the Americas. On his second voyage in 1493, he discovered the island of Hispaniola. On his third voyage in 1498, he discovered the continent of South America. Columbus's discoveries led to the establishment of Spanish colonies in the Americas.

The Spanish colonies were governed by the Spanish crown. The first governor of the Americas was Christopher Columbus. He was appointed by the Spanish crown in 1492. He ruled the Americas until 1499.

After Columbus's death, the Spanish colonies were governed by a series of viceroys. The first viceroy was Juan Ponce de Leon. He was appointed by the Spanish crown in 1493. He ruled the Americas until 1509.

The Spanish colonies were a source of wealth for Spain. The Spanish crown received a large amount of gold and silver from the colonies. This wealth helped Spain to become a powerful nation in the 16th century.

The Spanish colonies were also a source of labor for Spain. The Spanish crown used the labor of the colonies to build and maintain the Spanish empire.

The Spanish colonies were a source of culture for Spain. The Spanish crown received many new ideas and customs from the colonies. These ideas and customs helped to shape the Spanish culture.

The Spanish colonies were a source of pride for Spain. The Spanish crown was proud of its colonies and the role they played in the Spanish empire.