

One wishes he could have had a like solicitude for the exactness of his own statements. Before setting out on his fourth voyage, he intrusted one of these copies to Francesco di Rivarolo, for delivery to Nicolás Odérigo, the ambassador of Genoa, in Madrid. From Cadiz shortly afterwards he sent a second copy to the same Odérigo. In 1670 both of these copies were given, by a descendant of Odérigo, to the Republic of Genoa. They subsequently disappeared from the archives of the State, and HARRISSE¹ has recently found one of them in the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Paris. The other was bought in 1816 by the Sardinian Government, at a sale of the effects of Count Michael-Angelo Cambiasi. After a copy had been made and deposited in the archives at Turin, this second copy was deposited in a marble custodia, surmounted by a bust of Columbus, and placed in the palace of the Doges in Genoa.² These documents, with two of the letters addressed (March 21, 1502, and Dec. 27, 1504)³ to Odérigo, were published in Genoa in 1823 in the *Codice diplomatico Colombo-Americano*, edited with a biographical introduction by Giovanni Battista Spotorno.⁴ A third letter (April 2, 1502), addressed to the governors of the Bank of St. George, was not printed by Spotorno, but was given in English in 1851 in the *Memorials of Columbus* by Robert Dodge, published by the Maryland Historical Society.⁵

The State Archives of Genoa were transferred from the Ducal Palace, in 1817, to the Palazzetto, where they now are; and HARRISSE's account⁶ of them tells us what they do not contain respecting Columbus, rather than what they do. We also learn from him something of the "Archives du Notariat Génois," and of the collections formed by the Senator Federico Federici (d. 1647), by Gian Battista Richeri (*circa* 1724), and by others; but they seem to have afforded HARRISSE little more than stray notices of early members of the Colombo family.

Washington Irving refers to the "self-sustained zeal of one of the last veterans of Spanish literature, who is almost alone, yet indefatigable, in his labors in a country where at present literary exertion meets with but little excitement or reward." Such is his introduction of Martín Fernández de Navarrete,⁷ who was born in 1765

¹ *Christophe Colomb*, i. 20.

² See *post*, p. 77. A third copy, made by Columbus' direction was sent to his factor in Hispaniola, Alonso Sanchez de Carvajal. This is not known; and HARRISSE does not show that the archives of Santo Domingo offer much of interest of so early a date. A fourth copy was deposited in the monastery of the Cuevas at Seville, and is probably the one which his son, Diego, was directed to send to Gaspar Gorricio. Cf. HARRISSE, *Christophe Colomb*, i. 16-23, 41, 46.

³ This letter is given in fac-simile in the Navarrete Collection, French translation, vol. iii.

⁴ This book was reprinted at Genoa in 1857, with additions, edited by Giuseppe Banchemo, and translated into English, and published in 1823 in London, as *Memorials of a Collection of Authentic Documents*, etc. A Spanish edition was issued at Havana in 1867 (Leclerc, nos.

134, 135). Wagner, in his *Colombo und seine Entdeckungen* (Leipsic, 1825), makes use of Spotorno, and translates the letters. These and other letters are also given in Torre's *Scritti di Colombo*; in the *Lettere autografe di Colombo*, Milan, 1863; and in Navarrete's *Collection*, vol. ii. following the text of those in the Veraguas collections. Cf. *North American Review*, xviii. 417; xxi. 398.

⁵ Dodge also translated the other letters. Photographic fac-similes of these letters are in the Harvard College Library and in the Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society. See the *Proceedings* of the latter Society, February, 1870.

⁶ *Christophe Colomb*, p. 11.

⁷ Prescott, in the preface to his *Mexico*, speaks of him as "zealously devoted to letters; while his reputation as a scholar was enhanced by the higher qualities which he possessed as