

hawkbells, strings of glass beads, and red caps, 1492. which, though of small intrinsic worth, were by them highly valued. The reason, assigned for their peculiar estimation of these baubles, is, that, confidently believing that these visitants had come down from heaven,¹ they ardently desired to have something left them as a memorial. They gave the Spaniards, in return, such provisions, as they had, and some cotton yarn, which was the only valuable commodity they could produce.²

II. Columbus, after visiting the coasts of the island, proceeded to make farther discoveries, taking with him several of the natives of San Salvador. He saw several islands, and touched at three of the largest of them, which he named St. Mary of the Conception, Fernandina, and Isabella. On the twenty seventh of October, he discovered the island of Cuba, which, in honour of the prince, the son of the Spanish king and queen, he called Juanna. Oct. 15.
Cuba discovered. Entering the mouth of a large river with his squadron, he staid here to careen his ships, sending, in the mean time, some of his people, with one of the natives of San Salvador, to view the interior parts of the country. Returning to him on the fifth of November, they report, that they had travelled above sixty miles from the shore; that the soil is richer and better, than any they had hitherto discovered; and that, beside many scattering cottages, they found one village of fifty houses, containing about a thousand inhabitants.³ Sailing from Cuba on the fifth of December, he arrived, the next day, at an island, called by the natives Hayti, which, in honour of the kingdom, by which he was employed, he named Hispaniola. Dec. 6.
Hispaniola discovered.

¹ —“Gentem esse missam à cælo autumant.” P. Martyr, p. 4.

² Life of Columbus, c. xxiii, xxiv. Robertson, i. book ii. Herrera, i. 47.

³ Robertson, i. book ii. Herrera [i. 54.] says, “a whole generation lived in a house.”

⁴ “Ab Hispania — diminutive Hispaniola.” P. Martyr, 245. Herrera, i. 107, 158.