

Aragon, offered to pledge the precious stones of her crown, in order to defray the expenses of his expedition. If, as there is reason to believe, she was prompted to this by love for souls that might be saved, even though their existence was yet doubtful, this was not only a sublime moment, it was almost divine, as insuring success to the enterprise from the inward prompting and impulse of heavenly charity. Of course, the chivalry of Spain would not allow their sovereign lady to make such a sacrifice. They provided means from other sources. And although they did well in this, we are tempted almost to regret that some of her jewels did not, by some honest accident, find their way to this country. The sword of Washington is treasured as a precious relic, no less of his patriotism than of his bravery. The hilt of such a sword would be fitly gemmed by a jewel once possessed by such a queen—the patroness of Christopher Columbus. The double relic would represent two important events connected with American history, and be an interesting memorial at the same time of the achievements of Washington and of the magnanimity and charity of "Isabella the Catholic."