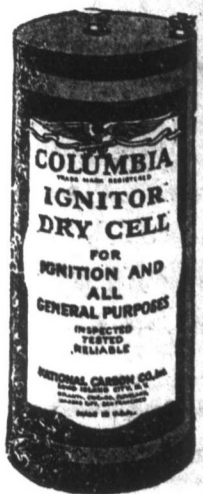


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Chart That Columbus Used

Historians have long sought the chart that guided Christopher Columbus through uncharted paths on his memorable journey in 1492, which led to the discovery of America.

Recently, in the dusty files of the French National Library has been found a document that is believed to be the missing map. It was dug out of its hiding place by M. de la Ronciere, Director of Documents for the library, and made the subject of a paper read not long ago before the Academie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres.

The map drawn on seal skin, in still vivid red, green and blue, shows Africa down to the Cape of Good Hope, as well as Asia Minor and Europe. Beside it, in smaller scale, is a world chart giving the conception of the earth as a sphere in the centre of nine spheres, the continents then known forming an island surrounded by four oceans. M. de la Ronciere arrives at the definite conclusion that the map was made under the personal direction of Columbus less than four years before the discovery of America, but, he adds, the world chart contains no trace of America or its islands. The Cape of Good Hope was discovered in 1488; the West Indies were discovered in 1492. The document was therefore produced between the two dates.

All of the inscriptions are in Latin. The archipelago of Cape Verde is marked with a lone one, which begins as follows: "These islands are called in

the Italian tongue Cavo Verde, in Latin Cap Vert. They were discovered by a Genoese called Anthony de Noli, a name which they still bear."

M. de la Ronciere's Conclusion. This and other inscriptions on the map lead M. de la Ronciere to the conclusion that the draftsman was an Italian. Further investigation of the document proved that the man knew Iceland—Frislandia, an island covered with mountains, snow and ice, with an ever raw climate which is called Iceland in the local tongue and in Latin Thile. There, owing to the cold, there is no other food but frozen fish. The islanders exchange this in lieu of money against wheat and flour which the English bring them every year.

Then, according to the Ronciere paper, follows another inscription purporting to show that a Genoese sailor claimed to have "sailed in the month of February, 1477, 100 leagues beyond Thile, where the English, notably from Bristol, go and trade. It is quite true that the Thile of which Ptolemy speaks exists at the point he says, and that it is the island which is today called Frislandia." These lines are signed Christopher Columbus.

M. de la Ronciere bases his hypothesis that the inspirer of the map and the discoverer of America was one and the same on the similarity between the writing on the map and the writing in certain scribbled notes, said to have been made by Columbus, on a document preserved in Seville Archives. The map in the National Library, concludes the expert, was probably executed under the direction

of Columbus by his younger brother Bartholomew, "no less skilled than he in cosmography and its allied arts, and in the construction and painting of marine maps, spheres and other instruments of that nature." M. de la Ronciere then proceeds to enumerate some of the facts presumably in the possession of Christopher Columbus at the time he was about to make his famous voyage.

What Columbus Thought.

Columbus thought, according to his son Ferdinand, that between the extremity of Spain and the Indies there would surely be some islands. At that time from all the archipelagoes sensational stories were reaching Portugal. Pieces of carved wood, enormous reefs, dead bodies with very broad faces that had nothing in common with the European type were driven ashore at Porto Santo, at Flores and on other islands. There was certainly an unknown land somewhere in the west. More than one attempt was made to discover it. Among others, the Captain of the Island of Terceira, in the Azores, the Fleming, Ferdinand van Olm, obtained, on July 24, 1486, the concession of a large island, islands, or mainland beyond the coasts, which was presumed to be the Island of the Seven Cities.

Antila, or the Island of the Seven Cities, was the mysterious island where seven Portuguese Bishops, seeking refuge with their congregations during the Moslem invasion, were said to have founded each a city and to have burned their ships in order to destroy all hope of return. In the time of Henry the Navigator (1490) it was said that a ship was driven there in a storm. The crew was taken to church by the islanders, who wished to find out whether they were Christians. The strange sailors fled in a hurry for fear of being kept on the island, but some of the ship's boys had time to examine the sand on the shore, which they found was mixed with pure gold. This fabulous story is "told faithfully" by Ferdinand Columbus, "just as I found it in the writings of my father."

Island of Seven Cities.

And on the Columbus map, at a great distance from Ireland, the following indistinct inscription has been with difficulty deciphered: "Here is the Island of the Seven Cities, a colony still peopled by Portuguese. According to Spanish ships' boys, one finds there, it is asserted, silver in the sands." It was Antilla, or the Island of the Seven Cities, continues M. de la Ronciere, as indicated on the map in almost the same terms as in the memoirs, that was the secret object of the expedition of Christopher Columbus.

In describing the Far East as it appears on the map of Columbus, the

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Why Radio Bends Around the Globe

The radio wave travels slower than light, according to Capt. J. J. See, Professor of Mathematics in the U. S. Navy, and government astronomer at the Mare Island Navy Yard. Captain See asserts that the radio wave travels around the globe with a velocity of 165,000 miles a second, while light travels 186,000 miles a second. His discovery of this fact, he believes, may prove the most notable step in the development of the wave theory since 1875. We read in an Associated Press dispatch from San Francisco:

"In an outline of his discovery, Captain See said since the wave is propagated in the ether it is remarkable that there should be the long-recognized velocity for light in free space and a smaller velocity for the radio wave as it 'bends' around the globe.

"In the year 1914 there was an official interchange of signals between the naval observatory at Washington and the national observatory at Paris. The mean velocity of the wireless wave was found to be about 173,000 miles per second.

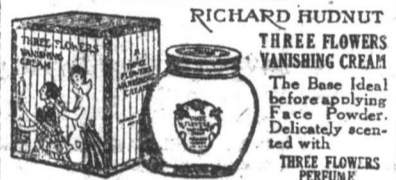
"Early in March of the present year a wireless signal was sent from the sending station near New York to Warsaw, Poland, and reflected back in 0.084 of a second of time. The double distance is 8,500 miles, and the speed of the transmission comes out about 168,000 miles per second, or about 15 per cent. less than the velocity of light.

"The mean of the two independent determinations of the wireless wave is 165,500 miles per second, or 20,500 miles per second less than the velocity of light. This is 11 per cent. slower than light travels in free space. So great a falling off in speed in two well devised experiments, separated in time by ten years, could hardly be the result of chance, and thus we are led to recognize the fact that radio wave certainly travels over 10 per cent. slower than light, in distance such as those separating Europe from America.

"What is the cause of this slower velocity of the wireless wave? It is simply this: The wave travels through the solid earth as well as through the air and free space above the air, but is much retarded in the solid globe. As the ether is 688,321,600,000 times more elastic than air in proportion to its density—thus almost infinitely elastic—the medium can not suffer a break in its continuity, yet the movement above the earth is held back by the slower movement of the wave in the earth. The resistance in the globe thus acts as a drag on the wave at its base. The result is that the wave bends around the earth.

"This bending of the wave-front in the ether, due to retardation at the base of it in the earth, is quite analogous to the change of form of water waves as they run ashore to form breakers. The advance of the water is retarded at the base, while that of the crest is 'unimpeded'; the top of the wave thus gains upon the base and its form changes.

"Recently a concert going on at



American Visitor

HOLDS OPINION COLONY WILL REPEAL PROHIBITION.

People of Newfoundland Are Not Satisfied With Results Obtained—Government Should be Getting Liquor Revenue.

An American gentleman in the city after a visit to St. John's, Nfld., informs The Post that should the question of the sale of liquor be put to the people, he is of the opinion the vote will be almost unanimously in favor of a partial repeal of Prohibition.

Residents of the Colony with whom I discussed the question," he said, "are disappointed with the present law, and the manner in which it is ignored and breached. Prohibition has not justified claims made for it by its ardent supporters.

"I believe that if the temperance regulations at present on the statute, but certainly not enforced, were annulled the Colony would become a Mecca for tourists, from two continents. It is not difficult to obtain liquor there now, but the quality of the stuff is more or less doubtful. Every year the government loses hundreds of thousands of dollars in revenue from this source, which, the thoughtful believe, might as well go into the coffers of the country, as to those of bands of bootleggers and smugglers, who are getting rich quick.

"I was informed that the Colony legislature will, in the near future, hold a plebiscite on the sale of beer and ale in hotels and other regulations regarding the dispensing of hard liquors. As I said in the beginning if such a vote is taken I look for an overwhelming majority against the present regulations.



Dr. CHASE'S OINTMENT

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