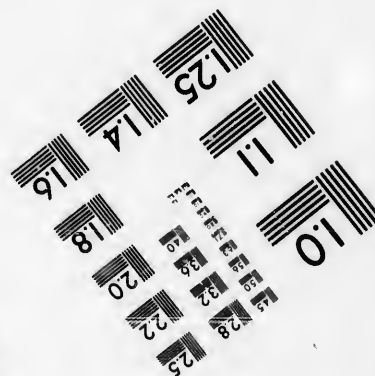
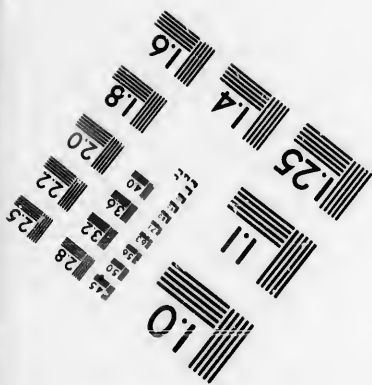
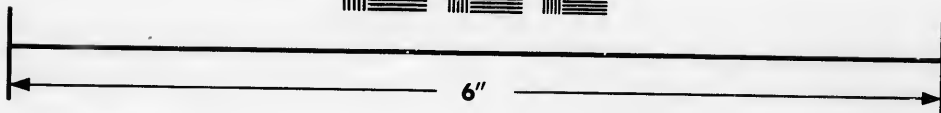
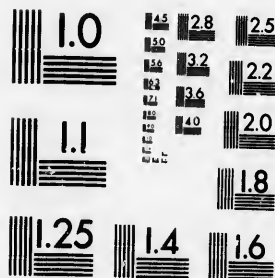


**IMAGE EVALUATION  
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



Photographic  
Sciences  
Corporation

23 WEST MAIN STREET  
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580  
(716) 872-4503



**CIHM/ICMH  
Microfiche  
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH  
Collection de  
microfiches.**



**Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions h.storiques**



**© 1986**

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coloured covers/<br>Couverture de couleur  | <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured pages/<br>Pages de couleur   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers damaged/<br>Couverture endommagée  | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages damaged/<br>Pages endommagées   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers restored and/or laminated/<br>Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée  | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages restored and/or laminated/<br>Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover title missing/<br>Le titre de couverture manque   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/<br>Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured maps/<br>Cartes géographiques en couleur   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages detached/<br>Pages détachées  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/<br>Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Showthrough/<br>Transparence   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured plates and/or illustrations/<br>Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur  | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of print varies/<br>Qualité inégale de l'impression   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bound with other material/<br>Relié avec d'autres documents   | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes supplementary material/<br>Comprend du matériel supplémentaire   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion<br>along interior margin/<br>La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la<br>distorsion le long de la marge intérieure   | <input type="checkbox"/> Only edition available/<br>Seule édition disponible   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blank leaves added during restoration may<br>appear within the text. Whenever possible, these<br>have been omitted from filming/<br>Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées<br>lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,<br>mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont<br>pas été filmées. | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata<br>slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to<br>ensure the best possible image/<br>Les pages totalement ou partiellement<br>obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure,<br>etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à<br>obtenir la meilleure image possible. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional comments:<br>Commentaires supplémentaires:   |  |

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/  
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

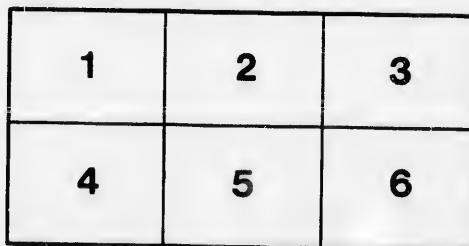
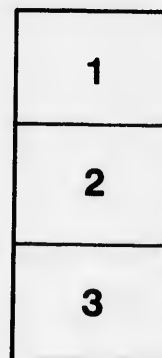
Seminary of Quebec  
Library

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol → (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

Séminaire de Québec  
Bibliothèque

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminent par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

aire  
détails  
ues du  
modifier  
ger une  
filmage

es

errata  
to

pelure,  
on à

32X

269 *Amerique* No 7

FACSIMILE  
OF  
THE FIRST PUBLICATION CONCERNING AMERICA

LETTER

OF  
**Christopher Columbus**

TO  
**RAFAEL SANCHEZ,**

WRITTEN ON BOARD THE CARAVEL WHILE RETURNING FROM  
HIS FIRST VOYAGE.

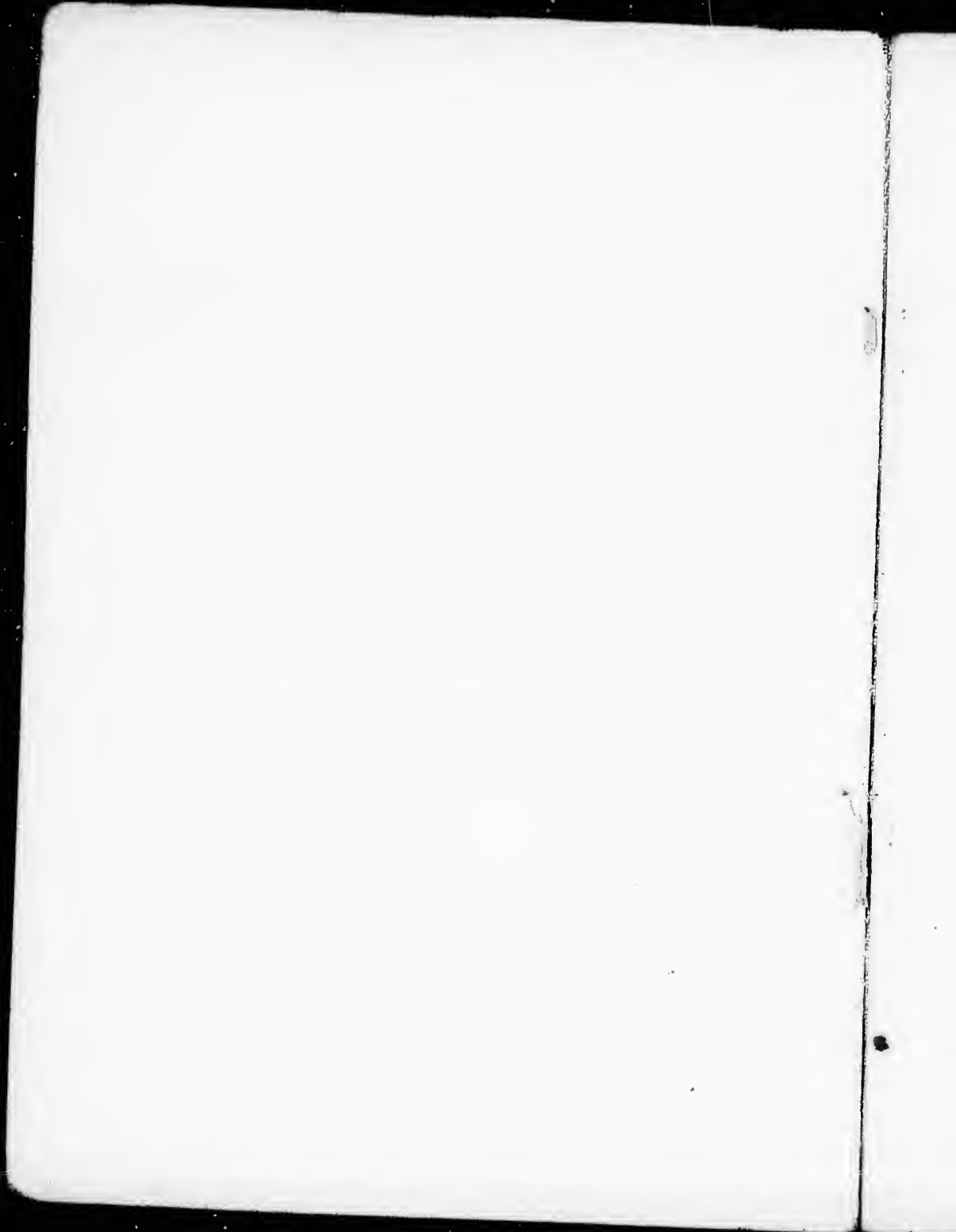
PUBLISHED AT BARCELONA, MAY, 1493.

CHICAGO:  
THE W. H. LOWDERMILK CO.  
1893.

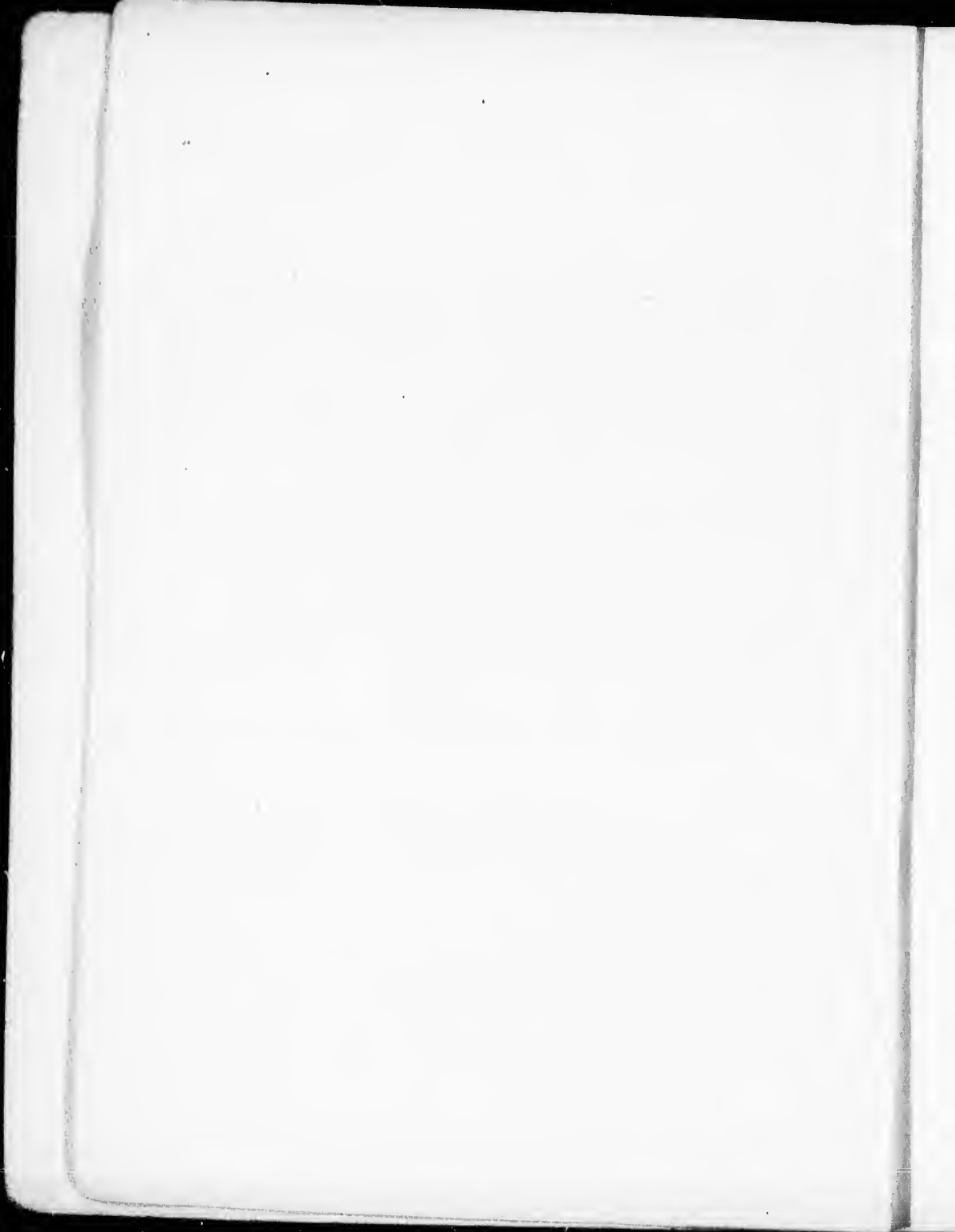
Bibliothèque,  
Le Séminaire de Québec,  
3, rue de l'Université,  
Québec 4, QUE.



22  
Cart. n° 2









**Regnū byspanie.**



Oceanica Classis



ffis



## De Insulis inuentis

Epistola Cristoferi Colom (cui etas nostra multū debet : de Insulis in mari Indico nup inuētis. Ad quas perquirendas octauo antea mense: auspicijs et ere Inuictissimi Fernandi Hispaniarum Regis missus fuerat) ad Magnificum dñm Raphaelē Sanxis: eiusdē serenissimi Regis Thesaurariū missa. quam nobilis ac litterat⁹ vir Aliander d Cosco: ab Hispano ydeomate in latinū conuertit: tercio kl's Adaj. ad. cccc. xcij. Pontificatus Alexandri Sexti Anno Primo.

Cloniam suscepte prouintie rem pfectam me psecutum fuisse: gratū tibi fore scio: has pstitui exarare: que te vnius cuiusq; rei in hoc nostro itinere geste inuenteq; admoneāt. Tricesimotertio die postq; Sadibus discessi: in mare Indicū perueni: vbi plurimas Insulas innumeris habitatas hominib⁹ reperi: quaz oim p felicissimo Rege nostro: preconio celebrato r vexillis extensis: cōtradicante nemine possessio nē accepi. primeq; earum: diui Saluatoris nomen imposui (cuius fret⁹ auxilio) tam ad hāc q; ad ceteras alias puenim⁹. Eam vero Indi



Quarabany vocant. Alias etiā vnā quanq̃  
nouo nomine nuncupauī. Quippe aliam Insu-  
lam Sancte Marie Cōceptiōis. aliam Fernā-  
dinam. alias Isabellam. aliā Iohanam. ⁊ sic  
de reliquis appellari iussi. Quāprimū i eā Ins-  
ulam quā dudū Iohanam vocari dixi apuli-  
mus iuxta ei⁹ litus occidentē versus aliquā-  
tulum processi: tamq̃ eam magnā nullo reper-  
to sine inueni: vt non insulam: sed cōtinentem  
Charay prouinciā esse crediderim: nulla tamē  
vidēs opida municipiaue in maritimis sita cō-  
finibus: preter aliquos vicos ⁊ predia rustica:  
cum quorū incolis loqui nequibam: quare si-  
mul ac nos videbant surripiēbāt fugam. Pro-  
gre diebar vltra: existimans aliquam me vrbē  
villasue inuenturum. Deniq̃ videns q̃ longe  
admodum p̃gressis: nihil noui emergebat: et  
huiusmodi via nos ad Septentrionem defere-  
bat: q̃ ipse fugere exoptabam: terris etenim re-  
gnabat bruma: ad austrumq̃ erat in voto cōs-  
tendere: nec minus venti flagitantibus succe-  
debāt. cōstitui alios uō operiri successus: et sic  
retrocedens ad portum quendam quem signa-  
ueram sum reuersus: vnde duos hoies ex no-  
stris in terram misi. qui inuestigarent: esset ne  
Rex in ea prouincia/ vrbesue alique. h̃i per





tres dies ambularunt inueneruntque innumeros  
populos et habitatores: paruas tamen et absque ullo  
regimine: quae prope redierunt. Interea ego iam  
intellegeram a quibusdam Indis: quos ibidem sus-  
ceperam: quod huiusmodi prouincia: insula quidem  
erat. et sic perrexi orientem versus: et semper strin-  
gens littoza usque ad miliaria .cccxxij. ubi ipsi  
insule sunt extrema. hinc aliam insulam ad orien-  
tem prospexi: distantem ab hac Iohana milia-  
ribus .liij. quam protinus Hispanam dixi: in eam  
que concessi: et direxi iter quasi per Septentriones  
quae admodum in Iohana ad orientem: miliaria  
xlxiiij. que dicta Iohana et alie ibidem insule  
fertilissime existunt. Hec multis atque tutissi-  
mis et latis: nec alijs quos unquam viderim com-  
pandis portibus: est circumdata. multi maximi et  
salubres hanc interfluit fluij. multi quoque et  
eminetissimi in ea sunt montes. Omnes hae insu-  
le sunt pulcherrime et varijs distincte figuris: pro-  
prie: et maxima arborum varietate sidera lamben-  
tium plene: quae nunquam folijs prouari credo: quippe  
vidi eas ita virescentes atque decoras: ceu mense  
Madio in Hispania solent esse: quae alie florescentes: alie  
fructuose: alie in alio statu: semper uniuscuiusque quali-  
tatem vigeant: garriebat philomena: et alij passe-  
res varij ac innumeri: mense Nouembrijs quae ipse per  
eas deambulabam. Sunt propterea in dicta insula

Johana septē vel octo palmarū genera: q̄ p̄ce  
ritate ⁊ pulchritudine (quē admodū cetera oēs  
arbores/herbe/fructuosas) n̄ facile exuperāt  
Sūt ⁊ mirabiles pin⁹/agri/⁊ prata vastissima/  
varie aues/varie mella/variaq; metalla:ferro  
excepto. In ea autē quā Hispanā supra dixim⁹  
nūcupari: maximi sunt mōtes ac pulcri:vasta  
rura/nemora/campi feracissimi/seri/pacisq; ⁊  
cōdendis edificijs aptissimi. Portuū in hac in  
sula cōmoditas: ⁊ p̄stantia fluminū copia salu  
britate admirata hoīm:q̄ nisi quis viderit: cre  
dulitatē superat. Huius arbores pascua ⁊ fruct⁹  
multum ab illis Johane differūt. Nec p̄terea  
Hispana diuerso aromatis genere/auro/me  
tallisq; abundat. cui⁹ quidē ⁊ oīm aliarū quas  
ego vidi: ⁊ quarū cognitionē habeo: i: cole vtri  
usq; serus nudi semp̄ incedūt: quē admodum  
edunt in lucem. p̄ter aliquas feminas. q̄ so  
lio frondeue aliq; aut bombicino velo: pudē  
da operiūt: qd̄ ip̄e sibi ad id negocij parāt. Ca  
rent hi om̄es (vt supra dixi) quocunq; genere  
ferri. carent ⁊ armis: vtpote sibi ignotis nec ad  
ea sūt apti. nō p̄t corpis deformitatē (cū sint  
bñ formati) s; q; sūt timidi ac pleni formidine.  
gestāt tñ p̄ armis arūdines sole p̄stas: i: quarū  
radicib⁹ hastile q̄ dā lignēū siccū ⁊ in mucro  
nē attenuatū figūt: neq; his audēt iugit vti. nā



q̄ pce  
re oēs  
aperāt  
ssima/  
ferro  
ixim⁹  
yasta  
cisq; e  
hac in  
a salu  
t: cre  
fruct⁹  
terea  
/mes  
quas  
e vtri  
dum  
q̄ fos  
udē  
t. Ca  
nere  
ecad  
i sint  
line.  
uay  
ucro  
i nā



sepe euenit cū miserim duos vel tris homines  
ex meis ad aliquas villas: vt cū eaz loquerē-  
tur incolis: exiisse agmē glomeratū ex Indis:  
et vbi nostros appropinquare videbāt: fugam  
celeriter arripuisse: despretis a patre liberis ⁊  
ecōtra. ⁊ hoc nō q̄ cuipiam eozū damnū aliq̄s  
vel iniuria illata fuerit: immo ad quoscūq; ap-  
puli ⁊ q̄bus cū verbū facere potui: quicq̄d ha-  
bebā sum elargit⁹: pannū aliq; p̄ multa: nulla  
mibi facta versura: sed sunt natura pauidi ac  
timidi. Letez vbi se cernūt tutos: omī metu re-  
pulsio: sunt ad modū simplices ac bone fidei: ⁊  
in omībus que habent liberalissimi: roganti q̄  
possidet inficiat nemo: quin ipsi nos ad id po-  
scendum inuitāt. Maximū erga oēs amorē p̄-  
ferunt: dāt queq; magna p̄ paruis. minima lz  
re nihiloue p̄tent: ego attē p̄hibui ne tam mi-  
nima ⁊ nulli⁹ p̄cij hīsce darent: vt sunt lancis/  
parapsidii / vitriq; fragmēta / stez clauī / ligule /  
quanq; si hoc poterāt adipisci: videbat eis pul-  
cerrima mūdi possidere iocalia. Accidit enim  
quēdam nauitā: tantū auri pondus habuisse  
p̄ vna ligula: quāti sūt tres aurei solidi: ⁊ sic  
alios p̄ alijs mīoris p̄cij: p̄stim p̄ blanquis no-  
uis: ⁊ q̄busdā nūmis aurcis: p̄ q̄b⁹ habēdis da-  
bāt q̄cqd petebat vēditoz: putavnciā cū dimi-  
dia ⁊ duas auri: vl' triginta ⁊ q̄draginta bombic

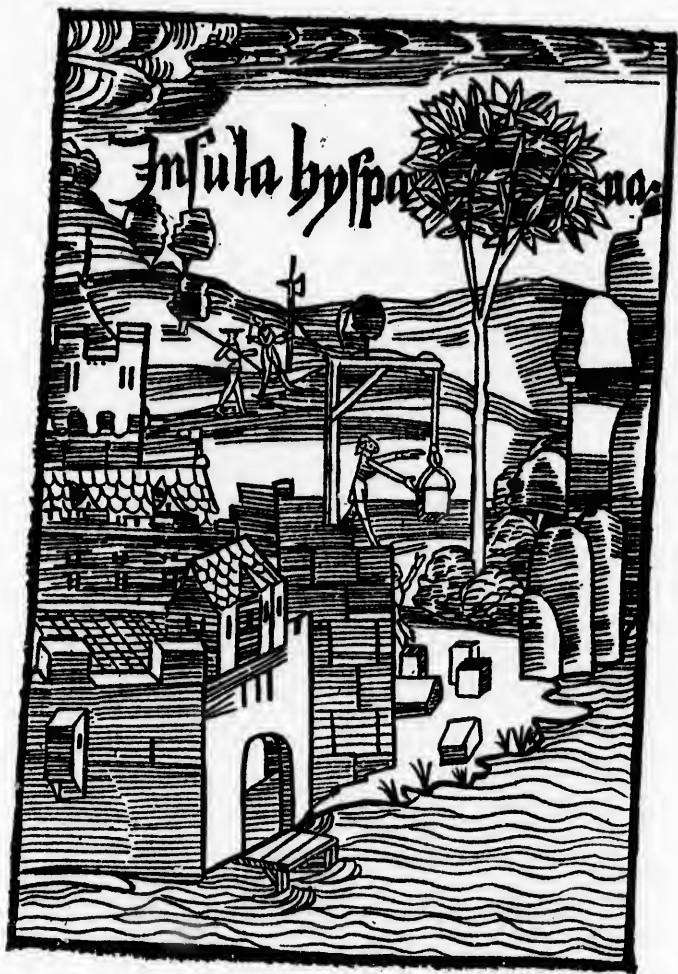
homines  
loquerē  
Indis:  
fugam  
liberis r  
ū aliq  
cūq; ap  
icqd ha  
a: nulla  
uidi ac  
metu re  
fider: r  
ganti q  
Id po  
aorē p  
nima lz  
am mi  
ancis/  
igule/  
is pul  
t enim  
buisse  
: r sic  
is no  
is da  
dini  
mbid

pondo: quā ipi iā nouerāt. jte arcuum/ampho  
re/hydrie/dolijq; fragmēta: bombicez auro tā  
q; bestie cōparabāt. qđ quia iniquū sane erat:  
vetul: dedi q; eis multa pulcra r grata q; mecū  
tulerā nullo iterueniēte p̄mio: vt eos mibi fa-  
cili<sup>9</sup> p̄cillarē: fierēt q; xp̄icole: r vt sint p̄zoni in  
amorē erga Regē/Reginā principesq; nostros  
et vniuersas gētes Hispanie: ac studeāt p̄gre-  
re r coaceruare: ea q; nobis tradere q; ipi af-  
fluūt r nos magnope idigem<sup>9</sup>. Nullā hij nozūt  
ydolatriā: imo firmissime credūt oēz vim: oēz  
potētā: oīa deniq; bona esse ī celo: meq; inde  
cū his nauib<sup>9</sup> r nauis: descendisse: atz h̄ aīo vbi  
fui susceptus postq; metū repulerāt. Nec sunt  
segnes aut rudes: quin summi ac p̄spicacis in-  
genij: r hoīes qui transfretāt mare illd: nō sine  
admiratiōe vniuscuiusq; rei rationē reddunt:  
sed nūq; viderunt gentes vestitas: neq; naues  
hmōi. Ego statim atq; ad mare illd pueni: e pri-  
ma insula quosdā Indos violenter arripui: q;  
ediscerēt a nobis: r nos p̄iter docerent ea: q; p̄  
ipsi in hisce partibus cognitionē habebant. et  
ex voto successit: nā breui nos ipos: r hij nos:  
tum gestu ac signis: tum verbis intellexerunt.  
magnos nobis fuere emolumēto. veniunt mō  
mecū in qui semp putant me desiluisse e celo  
quis diu nobiscū versati fuerint hodieq; ver-

sent. et hi erant primi: quod id quocumque appellabamus nunciabant: alij deinceps alijs elata voce dicentes. Venite venite et videbitis gentes et heredes. Quare tam femine quam viri: tam impuberes quam adulti: tam iuvenes quam senes: disposita fornice paulo ante precepta: nos certatim visabant magna iter stipante caterua alijs cibum/ alijs potum afferentibus: maximo cum amore ac benivolentia incredibili. Habent unaqueque insula multas scaphas solidi ligni: et si angustas: longitudine tamen ac forma nostris biremibus similes: cursu autem velociores. Regunt remis tantummodo. Harum quedam sunt magne: quedam parue: quedam in medio consistunt. Plures tamen biremi que remigant duodeviginti transtris maiores: cum quibus in omnes illas insulas: que innumere sunt: transiunt. cumque his suam mercaturam exercent: et inter eos commercia fiunt. Aliquas ego harum biremium seu scapharum: vidi que habebant septuaginta et octuaginta remiges. In omnibus his insulis nulla est diversitas inter gentis effigies. nulla in moribus atque loquela: quin omnes se intelligunt adinvicem: que res utilis est ad id quod serenissimum Regem nostrum exoptare precipue reor: scilicet eorum ad sanctam christi fidem conversionem. cui quidem quantum intelligere potui facilissimi sunt et primi. Dixi que

pellaba  
ta voce  
ces ethe  
uberes  
a formi  
visebāt  
alijs po  
niuolē-  
multas  
tudine  
rsu aut  
. Harū  
q̄ i me-  
emigēt  
in oēs  
ē. cūqz  
omer-  
eu sca-  
tuagin  
est di-  
ribus  
nuicē:  
Regē  
d san-  
ntum  
i quē

admodū sum pgressus antea insulā Jobanaz  
p rectū tramitez occasus in orientem miliaria  
cccxxij. sm quā viā ⁊ inuallū itineris possum  
dicere hāc Jobanā esse maiorē Anglia ⁊ Scu-  
tia sll:nanqz vltra dicta. cccxxij. passuū milia:  
in ea pte q̄ ad occidentē p̄spectat : due : quas  
non petij : sup sunt puincie: quaz alterā Indi  
Anan vocāt : cui⁹ accole caudati nascunt. ⁊ ē  
dunq̄ in longitudinem ad miliaria. clxxx. vt ab  
his q̄s vebo mecū Indis p̄cepti: qui om̄is has  
callēt insulas. Hispanie vero ambit⁹ maior est  
total Hispania a cologna vsqz ad fontē rabidū  
hincqz facile arguit q̄ quartū ei⁹ lat⁹ qd̄ ip̄e  
p rectā līnēā occidentis in orientē traieci: mili-  
aria p̄tinet. dxi. Hec insula ē affectāda ⁊ affe-  
ctata nō spernēda in qua ⁊ si aliaꝝ oīm vt dixi  
p inuictissimo Rege nro solenniter possessio-  
nem accepi: earūqz imperiū dicto Regi peni-  
tus cōmitti: i oportuniōri tñ loco: atqz oīm lu-  
cro ⁊ cōmercio p̄decenti: cuiusdā magneville:  
cui Flatiuitatis dñi nomē dedim⁹: possessionē  
peculiariter accepi. ibiqz arcem quandāz eri-  
gere: ex templo iussi: que modo iam debet esse  
pacta: in qua boves qui necessarij sunt viss: cū  
oīm armoz genere: ⁊ vltra annū victu oportu-  
no reliq. Itē quādā carauellā: ⁊ p alijs p̄strue-  
dis tā i hac arte q̄ in ceteri peritos: ac eiusdē





insule Regis erga nos beniuolentiā & familia-  
ritatē incredibilē. Sūt em̄ gētes ille amabiles  
admodū & benigne: eo q̄ Rex p̄dictus me fra-  
trem suum dici gloriabat. Et si animū reuoca-  
rent: & his q̄ i arce manserūt nocere uelint: ne  
queūt: quia armis carēt: nudi icedūt: & nimis  
timidi. ideo dictā arcem tenētes: dūtaxat p̄t  
totā eā insulā nullo sibi imminente discrimine  
(dūmodo leges quas uedim⁹ ac regimē nō ex-  
cedāt) facile detinere. In om̄ib⁹ his insulis ut  
intellexi: quisq̄ uni tm̄ iungi acquiescit: p̄ter  
principes aut reges: q̄bus uiginti habere licz.  
Femine magis q̄ uiri laborare uident: nec be-  
ne potui intelligere an habeāt bona ppria: ui-  
di em̄ qd̄ vn⁹ habebat alijs spartiri: p̄tīm da-  
pes/ obsonia/ & hmōi. Nullū ap̄ eos monst̄  
reperi: ut pleriq̄ existimabant: sed hos es ma-  
gne reuerētie atq̄ benignos. Nec sunt nigri uel  
ethiopes. habēt crines planos ac demissos  
nō degunt ubi radiorū solaris emicat calor. p̄  
magna nāq̄ hic est solis uehementia: p̄pterea  
q̄ ab æquinoctiali linea distat. ubi uidetur/ gra-  
dus sex & uiginti Ex montiū cacuminib⁹ ma-  
ximū q̄ uiget frig⁹: s̄ id q̄ dem moderant In-  
di: tū loci psuetudie: tū rex colidissimaz q̄b⁹  
frequētē & luxuriose uescunt presidio. Itaq̄  
mōstra aliq̄ nō uidi: neq̄ eoz alicubi habui co

gnitionem: excepta quadam insula Charis nū-  
cupata: que secunda ex Hispana in Indiam  
transfretatibus existit. quam gens quedam a  
finitimis habita ferocior incolit. hi carne hu-  
mana vescunt. Habent predicti biremiū gene-  
ra plurima: quibus in omnes Indicas insulas  
traſſiunt/depredāt/surripit q̄ quecūq̄ p̄t.  
Nihil ab alijs differunt nisi q̄ gerunt more fe-  
mineo longos crines. vtunt arcub⁹ et spiculis  
arundineis: fixis (vt dixim⁹) in grossiori pte at  
tenuatis hastilib⁹. ideo q̄ habēt feroces: qua-  
re ceteri Indi inexhausto metu plectuntur: sz  
hos ego nihili facio plus q̄ alios. Hi sunt qui  
coeunt cum quibusdam feminis: que sole insu-  
lam Adateunin primā ex Hispana in Indiam  
traſſientib⁹ habitant. He autē femine nulluz  
sui sexus opus exercent: vtunt em̄ arcub⁹ ⁊ spi-  
cul⁹ sicuti d̄ earū coniugib⁹ dixi munissit: sese iam  
nis eneis q̄ p̄ maria apd̄ eas copia existit. Ali-  
am mibi insulā affirmant supradicta Hispana  
maiorē: ei⁹ incole carēt pilis. auroq̄ inf̄ altas  
potissimū exuberat. Hui⁹ insule ⁊ aliarū q̄s vi-  
di hoīes mecū porto: q̄ horū q̄ dixi testimoniū  
phibēt. Deniq̄ vt nfi discessus et celeris reuer-  
sōis cōpēdiū: ac emolumētū breuib⁹ astringā  
B polliceor: mens Regib⁹ inuictissimis puo-  
eorū fultū auxilio: tantū auri daturū quantum



Charis nō  
n Indiam  
quedam a  
carne bu  
emiū gene  
as insulas  
ecū q̄ p̄nt .  
t more fe  
et sp̄culis  
iozi pte at  
oces: qua  
tuntur: s̄  
i sunt qui  
e sole insu  
i Indiam  
ne nulluz  
cub° r̄ sp̄i  
fese iam  
cistit . Ali  
hispana  
inf alias  
iaz q̄s vi  
stimoniu  
eris reuer  
astringā  
imis puo  
quantum

eis fuerit opus. tñ v̄ro aromatuꝝ. bombicis.  
masticis (q̄ apud Chium dūtaxat inuenit) tari  
tūq̄ ligni aloes. tantum fuoz hydrophilatoꝝ  
rum: quantū eozū maiestas voluerit exigere .  
Item reubarbarū r̄ alia aromatuꝝ genera: q̄ hi  
quos in dicta arce reliqui iā inuenisse: atq̄ in  
uenturos existimo. q̄ si quidem ego nullibi ma  
gis sum moratus nisi quantū me coegerūt v̄ti  
ti: p̄terq̄ in villa flatuitatis: dū arcem con  
dere r̄ tuta om̄ia esse prouidi. Que r̄ si maria  
et inaudita sunt: multo tamē maiora forzent si  
naues mihi vt ratio exigit subuenissent. Uex  
multū ac mirabile hoc: nec nostris meritis eoz  
respondēs: sed sancte Christiane fidei: nostroz  
rumq̄ Regū pietati ac religioni: quia q̄ hu  
manus cōsequi nō poterat intellectus: id hūa  
nis concessit diuinus. Solet em̄ deus suos su  
os: quiq̄ sua p̄cepta diligūt: etiā i impossibili  
bus exaudire: vt nobis i p̄ntia p̄tigit: q̄ ea p̄se  
cuti sum°: q̄ hacten° mortaliū vires misse atti  
gerāt. nā si haz insularū q̄piā aliqd̄ sc̄p̄sef̄t aut  
locuti sūt: oēs p̄ ambages r̄ p̄iecturas nemo se  
eas vidisse asserit: vñ p̄pe videbat̄ fabula Igi  
tur Rex r̄ Regia p̄ncipes ac eoz regna felicis  
lima: cūcteq̄ alie Christianoz puincie Salua  
tori dño n̄ro Iesu xp̄o agam° gr̄as: d̄ tāta nos  
victoria munereq̄ r̄ p̄tuit: celebrēf̄ p̄cessiōes

peragant solennia sacra. festaq; fronde velent  
velubra. Exultet *Christi* in terris: quæ admodum  
in celis exultat: cum tot populorum p̄ditas an  
hac animas saluatum iri p̄uidet. Letemur et  
nos: tum p̄pter exaltationem nostre fidei. tum p̄  
pter rerum temporalium incrementa: quorum non solum  
Hispania sed vniuersa *Christianitas* est futu-  
ra p̄ticeps. Hec vt gesta sunt sic breuiter enar-  
rata. Vale. *Ulisbone* pridie *Ydus Martij*.

*Cristoforo Colom Oceane classis Prefecto.*

Epigrama. *R. L. de Corbaria Episcopi*  
*Montispaluzij*

*Ad Inuictissimum Regem Hispaniarum*

Jam nulla Hispanis tellus addenda triumphis:  
Atq; parum tantis viribus orbis erat.  
Nunc longe *Lois* regio deprensasub vndis.  
Auctura est titulos *Betice* magnæ tuos.  
Unde repertori merito referenda *Colubo*  
Gratia: s; summo est maior habenda deo:  
Qui vincenda parat noua regna tibiq; sibiq;  
Teq; simul fortem prestat et esse pium.

nde velent  
eadmodū  
pditas añ  
Letemur z  
ei. tum p  
oz nō solū  
s est futu  
iter enar  
Marcij.  
refect.  
iscopi  
iaz  
triūphis:  
at.  
yndis.  
tuos.  
lūbo  
deo:  
sbiqz  
um.

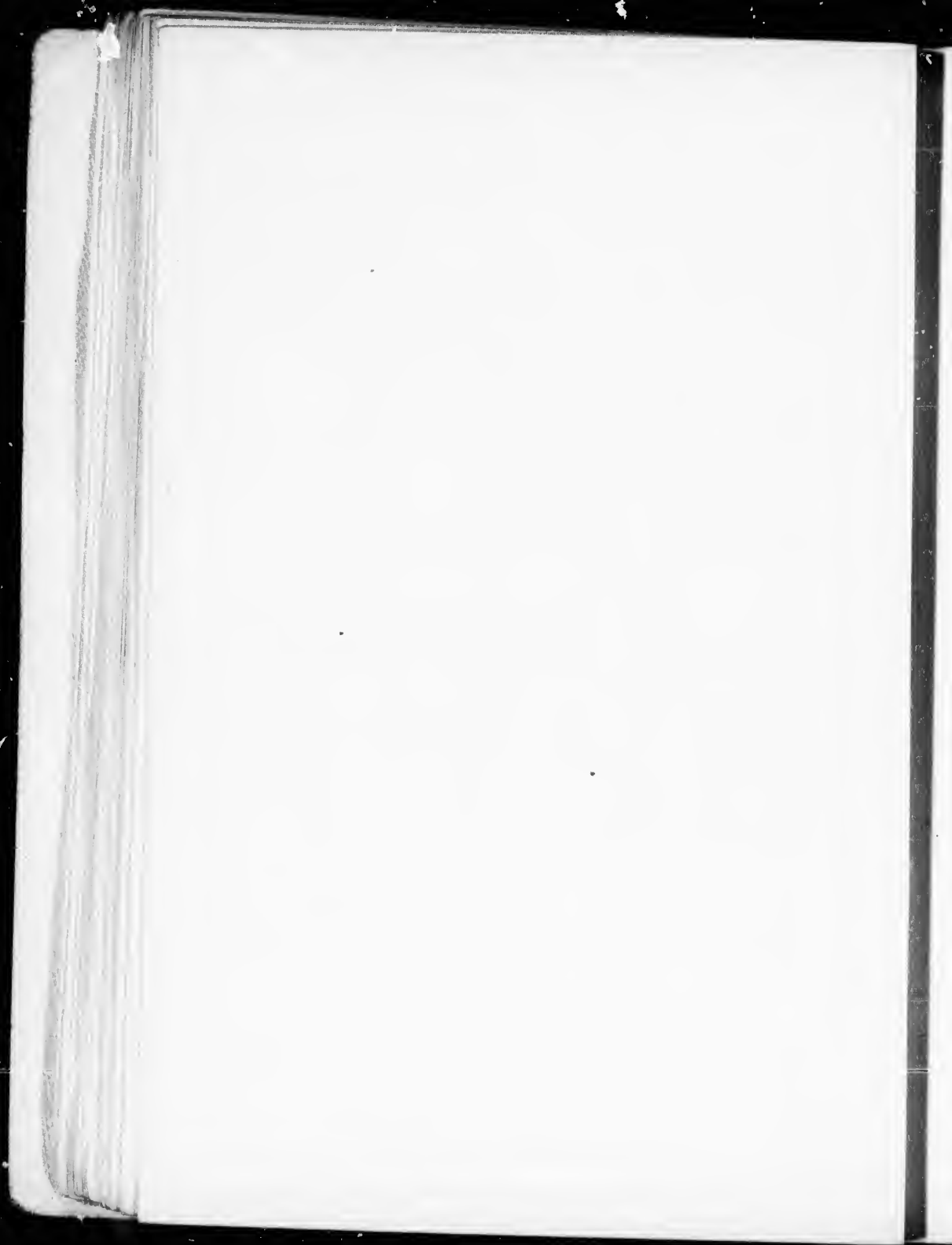
# Fernād<sup>o</sup> rex byspania



Granata:







## TRANSLATION.

---

*LETTER OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS,  
the great benefactor of the present age, con-  
cerning the newly discovered islands of India  
upon the Ganges, upon which enterprise he  
was despatched eight months since by the in-  
vincible Sovereigns of Spain, Ferdinand and  
Isabella; directed to Don Rafael Sanchez,  
Treasurer of their most Serene Highnesses.  
Translated from the Spanish into Latin by  
Leandro de Cosco, April 25, 1493, first year  
of the pontificate of Alexander VI.*

As I know you will take pleasure in hearing of the success of my undertaking, I have determined to send you an account of the occurrences of my voyage and discoveries. Thirty-three days after my departure from Cadiz I arrived in the sea of India, where I discovered many islands, inhabited by innumerable people. Of these I took posses-

sion in the name of our fortunate monarch, with public proclamation and colors flying, no one offering any resistance. I named the first of these islands San Salvador, thus bestowing upon it the name of our holy Saviour, under whose protection I made the discovery. The Indians call it Guahanahyn. I gave also a new name to the others, calling the second Santa Maria de la Concepcion, the third Fernandina, the fourth Isabella, the fifth Juana. In the same manner I named the rest. Arriving at the one last mentioned, I sailed along the coast toward the West, discovering so great an extent of land that I could not imagine it to be an island, but the continent of Cathay. I did not, however, discover upon the coast any large cities, all we saw being a few villages and farms, with the inhabitants of which we could not obtain any communication, they all flying at our approach. I continued my course, still expecting to meet with some town or city, but after having gone a great distance, and not meeting with any, and finding myself proceeding toward the North, which I was desirous to avoid on account of the cold, and, moreover, meeting with a contrary wind, I determined to return to the South, and, therefore, put



about and sailed back to a harbour which I had before observed.

At this place I sent two men into the country to see if the king or any cities were to be found. These returned in three days, having discovered a great number of towns, but all of them small, and without any government. In the meantime I had learned from certain Indians whom I had taken here that this country was an island. I returned along the coast to the east, a distance of three hundred and twenty-two miles, which brought me to the extremity of the island. Here I discovered to the East another island, fifty-four miles from Juana. I gave it the name of Espanola, and coasted along the island to the North as at Juana I had proceeded to the East, a distance of five hundred and sixty-four miles. All these islands are very fertile. That of Juana abounds in safe and capacious harbours, which surpass in excellence all I have ever seen elsewhere. It is watered by a great number of large and pleasant rivers, and contains many high mountains.

These islands are of a beautiful appearance, and present a great diversity of views. They may be traversed in any part, and are adorned with a

great variety of exceedingly lofty trees, which to appearance never lose their foliage, for I saw them as verdant and flourishing as they exist in Spain in the month of May, some covered with flowers, others loaded with fruit, according to their different species and their season of bearing, the whole offering a spectacle of great beauty. The nightingale and countless other birds were singing, although it was the month of November when I visited this delightful region. There are, in the island of Juana, six or eight sorts of palm trees, superior to those of our land in height and beauty, and this superiority is likewise observable in the other trees as well as in the herbs and fruits. Here are to be seen the most beautiful pine trees and the most extensive fields and pastures, a great variety of birds, several sorts of honey, and many kinds of metal, with the exception of iron. In the island named Espanola there are lofty and beautiful mountains, large cultivated tracts, woods, fertile fields, and everything adapted to the purposes of agriculture, the pasturage of cattle, and the erection of houses. The excellence of the harbours here, and the abundance of the streams which contribute to the salubrity of the climate,

exceed imagination. There is a considerable difference between the trees, fruits, and fields of this island and those of Juana, but here are found divers sorts of precious drugs, gold, and metals. The inhabitants of both sexes, in Espanola, and all the other islands which I saw or heard of, go naked as they were born, all except a few females who wear at the waist a green leaf, a portion of cotton, or bit of silk, which they manufacture for this purpose.

As I before remarked, they possess no iron, and they neither use nor are acquainted with weapons, to the exercise of which indeed they are not at all adapted, not by reason of any corporal deficiency, as they are very well shaped, but on account of their great timidity. Instead of arms they have canes dried in the sun, to the largest ends of which they fix a piece of wood sharpened at the end; of these, however, they have not the courage to make much use. I have in many instances sent two or three of my men to their towns to communicate with the inhabitants, when the Indians would tumultuously rush out, and seeing our people drawing near, run away with such haste that the father would abandon

his child and the child his father. This timidity was not owing to any violence or injury we offered them, as I was in the practice of making presents of cloth and other things to all the natives whom I met, but arose from their natural mildness and want of courage. Notwithstanding this, as soon as they have thrown aside their fear, and consider themselves in safety, they are very ingenuous and honest, and display great liberality with whatever they possess.

They never refuse to give any thing away which is demanded of them, and will even themselves entreat an acceptance of their property. They exhibit a great friendship towards every one, and will give whatever they have for a trifle or nothing at all. I forbade my men to purchase any thing of them with such worthless articles as bits of earthenware, fragments of platters, broken glass, nails, and thongs of leather, although when they got possession of any such thing they valued it as highly as the most precious jewel in the world. In this manner of bartering, a sailor has acquired for a leather strap or piece of rope, gold to the amount of three sueldos. Others have obtained as much for a matter of still lower value. For

new Spanish coins they would give any thing asked of them, as an ounce and a half or two ounces of gold, or thirty or forty pounds of cotton. Thus they would trade away their cotton and gold like idiots, for broken hoops, platters and glass. I prohibited their traffic on account of its injustice, and made them many presents of useful things which I had carried with me, for the purpose of gaining their affection, in order that they may receive the faith of Jesus Christ, be well disposed towards us, and be inclined to submit to the King and Queen, our Princes, and all the Spaniards, and furthermore that they may furnish us with the commodities which abound among them and we are in want of.

They are not idolators, but believe that all power and goodness is in heaven, and that I had proceeded from that place with my ships and men; under this notion they received me at my first arrival as soon as they had banished their fear. They are not stupid and indolent, but acute and sagacious. Those of them who navigate the seas among those islands give singular accounts of what they have observed upon their voyages, but have never seen people who wear clothes, nor

any ships similar to ours. On my arrival I took by force from the first island a few of the Indians, in order that we might become acquainted with one another's language, and to gain a knowledge of what their country contained. These were of singular use to us, as we came to understand each other in a short time by the help of words and signs. I have them still with me, and they continue in the belief that we come from heaven. This information they published wherever we arrived, exclaiming in a loud voice, "Come! come! and see the celestial people." Upon this call, the natives would come thronging to us, after having banished the fear which seized them at first, men, women and children, old and young, crowding the roads and bringing us victuals and drink, with the utmost affection and reverence.

In every one of these islands there are a great number of canoes, each one made of a solid log, of a narrow shape, somewhat resembling our fustas, but swifter in the water; they are navigated solely by oars. They are of different sizes, the most of them containing seats for eighteen rowers. Throughout these islands there is no diversity in the appearance of the people, their manners or

language, all the inhabitants understanding one another; a very favorable circumstance, in my opinion, to the design which I have no doubt is entertained by our king, namely, to convert them to the holy Christian faith, to which as far as I can perceive they are well disposed. I have said that I sailed from W. to E. three hundred and twenty-two miles along the island of Juana; from the length of this course I am confident that this island is larger than England and Scotland together, for besides the extent which I coasted there are two other provinces to the West which I did not survey. One of these is named by the Indians Anam, and contains inhabitants with tails. These tracts extend to the distance of a hundred and eighty miles, as I have learnt from the Indians with me, who are well acquainted with them.

The island of Espanola is as large as that part of Spain which extends from Catalonia to Fontarabia, which I infer from the extent of that side of it which I sailed along, being five hundred and forty miles in length. I took possession of this fine island, as I had done of the others, in the name of our invincible king; and fixed upon a spot for a large city here, as I judged it the most favorable

place. I called it Navidad, and ordered the construction of a fortress here, which is by this time finished. At this place I left a sufficient number of men, with all sorts of arms, and a sufficiency of provisions for above a year. I also left them a caravel and expert workmen, after having secured them the friendship of the king of this part of the country. The people are a friendly and amiable race, and the king took a pride in calling himself my brother. Even if their sentiments should change, and they should become hostile towards us, they will not be able to effect any injury to those who remain at the fortress, as they are destitute of weapons, go naked, and are very cowardly, so that those whom I have left there will be able to retain the whole island in subjection without any danger, if they adhere to the regulations with which I charged them.

Each of the natives, as far as I can understand, has one wife, with the exception of the King and Princes, who are permitted to have as many as twenty. The women appear to do more labour than the men. Whether there exists any such thing here as private property I have not been able to ascertain, as I have observed that an individual



has been set to distribute to the others, in particular, food and such things. I found no ferocious, sanguinary people in these parts, as some seem to have imagined the people here to be, but they are a very mild and friendly race. Their color is not black like that of the Ethiopians. Their hair is lank and hanging down. They do not inhabit those parts where the sun's rays are very powerful, as the heat is excessive here, the latitude being apparently twenty-six degrees. On the summits of the mountains the cold is great, but they do not suffer any incommodity from it, by being accustomed to the climate, and by the use of hot meats and drinks, which they consume very prodigally.

People of a monstrous description I saw none nor heard of any, except those of the island named Caris, which is the second on the course from Espanola to India; this island is inhabited by people who are regarded by their neighbors as exceedingly ferocious; they feed upon human flesh. These people have many sorts of canoes, with which they make incursions upon all the isles of India, robbing and plundering wherever they go. Their difference from the others consists in their wearing long hair like that of the women, and

in using bows and arrows of cane, these last constructed, as I have already related, by fixing a piece of sharpened wood at the larger end. On this account they are deemed very ferocious by the other Indians, and are much feared by them; I think, however, these men are precisely like the others. These are the natives who go to visit the females, who are the sole inhabitants, of the island of Matenin, which is the first on the route from Espanola to India. These women exercise none of the common occupations of their sex, but manage the bow and dart, as we are told of the ancients. They wear armour made of plates of copper, of which metal they have great abundance.

I am assured by the Indians that there is another island, larger than Espanola, whose inhabitants are without hair, and who possess a greater quantity of gold than the others. From this island, as well as the others, I have taken some of the inhabitants to confirm the accounts which I give.

Finally, to sum up the whole, and state briefly the great profits of this voyage, I am enabled to promise the acquisition, by a trifling assistance from their Majesties, of any quantity of gold, drugs, cotton, and mastick, which last article is

found only in the island of Scio; also any quantity of aloe, and as many slaves for the service of the marine as their Majesties may stand in need of. The same may be said of rhubarb, and a great variety of other things, which, I have no doubt, will be discovered by those I have left at the fort, as I did not stop long at any single place, unless obliged to do so by the weather, with the exception of the city of Navidad, where we made some stay to build the fort and provide the necessary securities for the place.

Although the discoveries actually accomplished appear great and surprising, yet I should have effected much more had I been furnished with a proper fleet. Nevertheless, the great success of this enterprise is not to be ascribed to my own merits, but to the holy Catholic faith and the piety of our Sovereigns, the Lord often granting to men what they never imagine themselves capable of effecting, as he is accustomed to hear the prayers of his servants and those who love his commandments, even in that which appears impossible; in this manner has it happened to me, who have succeeded in an undertaking never before accomplished by man. For although some persons

have written or spoken of the existence of these islands, they have all rested their assertions upon conjecture, no one having ever affirmed that he saw them, on which account their existence has been deemed fabulous.

And now ought the King, Queen, Princes, and all their dominions, as well as the whole of Christendom, to give thanks to our Saviour Jesus Christ, who has granted us such a victory and great success. Let processions be ordered, let solemn festivals be celebrated, let the temples be filled with boughs and flowers. Let Christ rejoice upon earth as he does in heaven, to witness the coming salvation of so many people heretofore given over to perdition. Let us rejoice for the exaltation of our faith, as well as for the augmentation of our temporal prosperity, in which not only Spain, but all Christendom shall participate. Such are the events which I have described to you with brevity. Adieu.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS,

*Admiral of the Armada of the Ocean.*

LISBON, *March 14th.*

