

OCTOBER 12, 1492



THE EARLIEST PICTURE OF THE LANDING OF COLUMBUS

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

OCTOBER 12 is a day which Americans set aside for honoring the memory of the Genoese sailor who is almost universally credited with being the "discoverer" of the New World and in twenty-three states of the Union—Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont and Washington—Columbus day is a legal holiday.

Most of us know something about Columbus, for the story of his life with the record of its dauntless ambition which drove him on in spite of many disappointments and discouragements until success came to him, only to end in poverty and failure, is one of the most romantic and at the same time one of the most tragic in the annals of mankind. But what of the history-making event itself, the anniversary of which we are about to celebrate again? How clear a picture do we have of what took place on that October day, 496 years ago? For all of the millions of words that have been written about Christopher Columbus and his voyages of discovery in the past four centuries, there is none which paints the scene more vividly than do the words of an American historian who wrote of it more than a hundred years ago, and modern scholarship has found but little to correct in the record as it is set down by Washington Irving in his "Life and Voyages of Columbus."

Here is the story of that historic day as Irving tells it:

It was on Friday morning the 12th of October, that Columbus first beheld the New World. As the day dawned he saw before him a level island, several leagues in extent, and covered with trees like a continual orchard. Though apparently uncultivated, it was populous, for the inhabitants were seen issuing from all parts of the woods and running to the shore. They were perfectly naked, and as they stood gazing at the ships, appeared by their attitudes and gestures to be lost in astonishment. Columbus made signal for the ships to cast anchor, and the boats to be manned and armed. He entered his own boat, richly attired in scarlet, and hiding the royal standard, while Martin Alonso Pinzon, and Vicente Yanez, his brother, put off in company in their boats, each with a banner of the enterprise emblazoned with a green cross, having on either side the letters F and Y, the initials of the Castilian monarchs, Fernando and Isabel, surmounted by crowns.

As he approached the shore, Columbus, who was disposed for all kinds of agreeable impressions, was delighted with the purity and suavity of the atmosphere, the crystal transparency of the sea, and the extraordinary beauty of the vegetation. He beheld, also, fruits of an unknown kind upon the trees which overhung the shores. On landing he threw himself on his

knees, kissed the earth, and returned thanks to God with tears of joy. His example was followed by the rest, whose hearts indeed overflowed with the same feelings of gratitude. Columbus then rising, drew his sword, displayed the royal standard, and assembling round him the two captains, with Rodrigo de Escobedo, notary of the armament, Rodrigo Sanchez, and the rest who had landed, he took solemn possession in the name of the Castilian sovereigns, giving the island the name of San Salvador. Having complied with the requisite forms and ceremonies, he called upon all present to take the oath of obedience to him, as admiral and viceroy, representing the persons of the sovereigns.

The feelings of the crew now burst forth in the most extravagant transports. They had recently considered themselves devoted men, hurrying forward to destruction; they now looked upon themselves as favorites of fortune, and gave themselves up to the most unbounded joy. They thronged around the admiral with overflowing zeal, some embracing him, others kissing his hands. Those who had been most mutinous and turbulent during the voyage were now most devoted and enthusiastic. Some begged favors of him, as if he already had wealth and honors in his gift. Many abject spirits, who had outraged him by their insolence, now crouched at his feet, begging pardon for all the trouble they had caused him and promising the blindest obedience for the future.

The natives of the island, when, at the dawn of day, they had beheld the ships hovering on their coast, had supposed them monsters which had issued from the deep during the night. They had crowded to the beach and watched their movements with awful anxiety. Their veering about, apparently without effort, and the shifting and furling of their sails, resembling huge wings, filled them with astonishment. When they beheld their boats approach the shore, and a number of strange beings clad in glittering steel, or ornament of various colors, landing upon the beach, they fled in affright to the woods. Finding, however, that there was no attempt to pursue or molest them, they gradually recovered from their terror, and approached the Spaniards with great awe; frequently prostrating themselves on the earth, and making signs of adoration. During the ceremonies of taking possession, they remained gazing in timid admiration at the complexion, the beards, the shining armor, and splendid dress of the Spaniards. The admiral particularly attracted their attention, from his commanding height, his air of authority, his dress of scarlet, and the deference which was paid him by his companions; all which pointed him out to be the commander. When they had still further recovered from their fears, they approached the Spaniards, touched their beards, and examined their hands and faces, admiring their whiteness. Columbus was pleased with their gentleness and confiding simplicity, and suffered their scrutiny with perfect acquiescence, winning them by his benignity. They now supposed that the ships had sailed out of the crystal firmament which bounded their horizon, or had descended from above on their ample wings, and that these marvelous beings were inhabitants of the skies.

The natives of the island were no less objects of curiosity to the Spaniards, differing, as they did, from any race of men they had ever seen. Their appearance gave no promise of either wealth or civilization, for they were entirely naked, and painted with a variety of colors. With some it was

confined merely to a part of the face, the nose or around the eyes; with others it extended to the whole body and gave them a wild and fantastic appearance. Their complexion was of a tawny or copper hue, and they were entirely destitute of beards. Their hair was not crisped, like the recently discovered tribes of the African coast, under the same latitude, but straight and coarse, partly cut short above the ears, but some locks were left long behind and falling upon their shoulders. Their features, though obscured and disfigured by paint, were agreeable; they had lofty foreheads and remarkably fine eyes. They were of moderate stature, and well-shaped; most of them appeared to be under thirty years of age; there was but one female with them, quite young, naked like her companions, but beautifully formed.

As Columbus supposed himself to have landed on an island and at the extremity of India, he called the natives by the general appellation of Indians, which was universally adopted before the true nature of his discovery was known, and has since been extended to all the aboriginals of the New World.

The islanders were friendly and gentle. Their only arms were lances, hardened at the end by fire, or pointed with a flint, or the teeth or bone of a fish. There was no iron to be seen, nor did they appear acquainted with its properties; for, when a drawn sword was presented to them they unguardedly took it by the edge.

Columbus distributed among them colored caps, glass beads, hawk's bells, and other trifles, such as the Portuguese were accustomed to trade with among the nations of the gold coast of Africa. They received them eagerly, hung the beads round their necks, and were wonderfully pleased with their finery, and with the sound of the bells. The Spaniards remained all day on shore, refreshing themselves after their anxious voyage amid the beautiful groves of the island.

The island where Columbus had thus, for the first time, set his foot upon the New World was called by the natives Guanahani. It still retains the name of San Salvador, which he gave it, though called by the English Cat Island. The light which he had seen the evening previous to his making land may have been on Watling's Island, which lies a few leagues to the east. San Salvador is one of the great cluster of the Lucayas or Bahama Islands, which stretch southeast and northwest, from the coast of Florida to Hispaniola.



A unique engraving made to illustrate an Italian poem by Guiliamo Dato, printed in Florence in 1493, shortly after Columbus' return. From a facsimile of the original in the British Museum, reproduced in the Yale University Press "Pageant of America."

portance to no other. And when it seemed that his ship would sink at any moment he set to work to make a record of his mighty undertaking, hoping that by some will of the Fates it would not be lost to posterity.

So he carefully prepared as complete an account of his marvelous voyage as was possible under the circumstances. He wrote the details of his journey on a stout piece of parchment, wrapped it carefully in a piece of waterproof cloth, then placed it in an ironbound barrel and threw

it into the raging ocean. But the Fates were kinder to Columbus than to this account made in a time of stress.

Certainly this, the first record of America, written by the brave hand of Columbus, would be the most precious relic in all the chronicles of our country. Alas, that it never has been found! And if I thought there were one chance in a million of finding it I would take my power boat, the First Folio, and cruise in the neighborhood of the Azores forever!—S. W. Rosenbach in the Saturday Evening Post.

Columbus' Story Lost

When Columbus returned to Spain from the New World, he stopped on February 14, 1493, at Santa Maria, one of the islands of the Azores, probably to take water. Four days before this he had encountered a most terrific storm and was convinced that he, his men and his vessels must perish.

Now Columbus realized in his heart that he was going back to Spain with news of a discovery second in im-

portance to no other. And when it seemed that his ship would sink at any moment he set to work to make a record of his mighty undertaking, hoping that by some will of the Fates it would not be lost to posterity.

So he carefully prepared as complete an account of his marvelous voyage as was possible under the circumstances. He wrote the details of his journey on a stout piece of parchment, wrapped it carefully in a piece of waterproof cloth, then placed it in an ironbound barrel and threw

it into the raging ocean. But the Fates were kinder to Columbus than to this account made in a time of stress.

Certainly this, the first record of America, written by the brave hand of Columbus, would be the most precious relic in all the chronicles of our country. Alas, that it never has been found! And if I thought there were one chance in a million of finding it I would take my power boat, the First Folio, and cruise in the neighborhood of the Azores forever!—S. W. Rosenbach in the Saturday Evening Post.

Poison Gophers During Autumn

Best Time to Apply Preventive Measures to Keep Pests Away.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The attitude of many farmers toward pocket-gopher control is much like that of the man with the leaky roof: In dry weather the roof didn't need repairing, and when it was raining it was too wet to fix it. Pocket gophers damage such cultivated crops as potatoes, sweet potatoes, and other root crops in the field during the early summer, but one of the most favorable times to apply preventive measures is late in fall, after the potatoes have been harvested and the pocket gophers largely forgotten.

Soil is Firmer.

At this time the soil is firmer and does not cave in and fill up the runways, so that it is easier to locate the runways and install poison bait in them with a fair chance of the pests traveling frequently over the same route and getting them. During the growing season this is not usually the case. New runways are continually made in the soft, loose soil, and the animals less frequently return to the used tunnels, many of which have caved in and are blocked up. If there are very many pocket gophers at that season, it is a most difficult task to eradicate them without injuring the crops one wishes to save.

Next Planting Free of Pests.

The biological survey of the United States Department of Agriculture urges that attention be given to cleaning up fields infested with pocket-gophers, using two or three applications of poisoned bait if necessary, so that next spring's planting will be free of these pests.

Dry Roughage for Dairy Cows Furnishes Protein

The best kinds of dry roughage to be fed to the dairy cow, in connection with corn silage or roots, are leguminous hays, such as alfalfa, red, crimson, or alsike clover and soy-bean or cowpea hay. While corn silage is an excellent feed, it is not a balanced one, as it does not contain sufficient protein and mineral matter to meet fully the requirements of the cow. The leguminous hays, in addition to being very palatable, have a tendency to correct this deficiency. They are also one of the best and cheapest sources of protein. One or more of these hays can be grown on any farm, and in addition to their value for feeding purposes, they improve the soil in which they are grown. Hay from Canada field peas, sown with oats to prevent the peas from lodging, also makes an excellent roughage.

Corn stover, coarse hay, etc., also find a good market through the dairy cow. This class of roughage is low in protein, however, and when it is used the grain ration must be richer in protein.

Fall Sowing of Alfalfa Will Give Good Results

Where alfalfa patches are cultivated for dairy cattle, farmers will find they can obtain the best results by sowing early in the fall so the crop may get a start before the frost sets in or in the spring after the frost has passed, George P. Grout, professor of dairy husbandry, A. and M. college of Texas, has pointed out.

In this connection, Professor Grout cited results obtained in the cultivation of alfalfa on the college dairy farm, a project conducted in co-operation with the experiment station. Following recent inspection of the two-acre field given over to this project, Professor Grout reports a fine yield of alfalfa. It was planted last January.

For the dry-land belt, sowing in rows to permit cultivation so that all measures possible may be taken to retain moisture and to keep the grass from choking out the crop, is recommended.

Agricultural Hints

When the lambs have reached the age of four or five months, they should be weaned and separated from the ewes.

Fat chickens are in demand, and those with full, plump bodies, and limbs do not remain on the market very long.

It is advisable to feed the lambs at certain definite times daily. The lambs soon learn to look for the grain at definite times.

It is very important in producing prime lambs that the ewes be heavy milkers and that they be fed so as to produce to their full capacity.

Since the ewes milk is the most important item in the food supply of the young lambs it is easy to see that a very definite relation exists between the milk producing capacity of the ewes and the rate of growth of the lambs.

The lime that is in the soil is subject to a continual loss through leaching out in the drainage water. The rapidity with which it leaches out varies with the amount in the soil, the amount of rainfall, the soil texture, and the kind of covering on the soil.

Look for this package It contains the original

SHREDDED WHEAT



12 ounces full-size biscuits

The whole wheat, nothing added, nothing taken away—made digestible and ready-to-eat with milk or fruits.

Entirely by Motor

"Did you complete your trip by motor?"

"Yes," said Mr. Chuggins; "part way in my own car and part way in an ambulance."

On the Level

Molly—Why do you fix up your eyebrows like that?

Polly—Well, I've got to draw the line somewhere.

Another sacred duty that can't be escaped: Keeping the trophy loving cup from being tarnished.

The Rosiclare mine in the southern part of Illinois is the largest fluorapatite mine in the United States and possibly in the world.

10 minutes ago-



How many people you know end their colds with Bayer Aspirin? And how often you've heard of its prompt relief of sore throat or tonsillitis. No wonder millions take it for colds, neuralgia, rheumatism; and the aches and pains that go with them. The wonder is that anyone still worries through a winter without these tablets! They relieve quickly, yet have no effect whatever on the heart. Friends have told you Bayer Aspirin is marvelous; doctors have declared it harmless. Every druggist has it, with proven directions. Why not put it to the test?

ASPIRIN

No Sale!

Phyllis—I'd like to buy a hope chest, please.

Clerk—Here's just the thing for you. This cedar-lined one will keep things lovely for years and years.—Telephone Topics.

In That Vicinity

Tourist—About what is the population of this place?

Native—About the hotel.

Strong reasons make strong actions.

Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monacotechnische Werke, Germany.

LEONARD EAR OIL

Improves Hearing, Relieves Head Noises

Nine out of ten cases of DEAFNESS and HEAD NOISES are caused by catarrhal mucus (matter) in the Eustachian Tubes, which connects the nose and the ears. Leonard Ear Oil removes the MUCUS, OPENS UP THE TUBE and the OTHER AIR PASSAGES OF THE HEAD, and the result is improved hearing and relief from Head Noises. It is not put in the ears, but is "INSERTED IN THE NOSTRILS" and "RUBBED IN BACK OF THE EARS" and special instructions by a noted Ear Specialist in each package for different kinds of Deafness and Head Noises tell you exactly how to take care of your own case. Leonard Ear Oil is not an experiment but has had a very large and constantly growing sale since 1907, and every year it has relieved thousands of people of their Ear Troubles. No matter how long you have been deaf, nor how deaf you are, or what caused your deafness, or how many things you have already tried which have failed to relieve you, Leonard Ear Oil has relieved many such cases as your own. Why not you? The price is \$1.25. Leonard Ear Oil is for sale at Druggists, or direct postpaid upon receipt of price.

Interesting folder sent on request

A. O. Leonard, Inc., 70 Fifth Ave., New York

Cuticura Heals Annoying Rashes

Bathe the affected parts freely with Cuticura Soap and hot water, dry with out rubbing, and anoint with Cuticura Ointment. This treatment not only soothes and heals rashes and irritations but tends to prevent such conditions.

Prepared by Cuticura Shaving Stick Co., Boston, Mass.

