

DIARY

CHRISTOPHER

COLUMBUS

PURPOSE OF THIS WORK

This book, like the others published by me, is intended to lead men to become better, to love God above all and neighbor with themselves. My works are not intended for entertainment, but to provoke reflection on our existence. In God there is an answer to everything, but the journey to knowledge is gradual and we will not achieve answers to everything, because our mind does not have enough free space to support it. But in this book you will find some answers to some of the dilemmas in our existence.

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INTRODUCTION

In appoint this work naming Christopher Columbus as the hero of humanity, I do not mean to beatify or canonize him. He did not use fair methods at all, nor was he honest at all, nor did he act at all with a clear and crystalline conscience.

This work is a compilation of the Diary of Christopher Columbus, the navigator, so I will not go on these pages to dwell on the heroism of Columbus, only the personal Diary of Columbus in the days before and after the discovery of America.

Man's life is like this, we go on living, then the judgment of others will tell whether we were heroes or villains. For certain people and at a certain time some are heroes and these same characters can be seen as villains. I do not hide that I see Columbus as a hero, but in presenting Columbus's diary I give readers the opportunity to examine for yourselves Columbus's narratives about his days that made him famous worldwide and placed him on the list of fame in human history.

Christopher Columbus is for navigation what Neil Armstrong was for astronautics, being the first man to set

foot on the moon. Christopher Columbus risked everything, put his life on the line several times, lived like a castaway on an island in America. With the coming of Columbus the Europeans settled in America and with them came Christianity, with all its imperfect Christians, but in a way the Gospel came and the name of God was extolled, the cult of demons was repressed and the Indians and blacks were called to worship the true God. In his distress Christopher Columbus cried out to God, to the living God. God gave the natives of America time to seek him out and release his demons, as they did not do after centuries, God sent the Europeans to abolish the cult of the devil and institute the Christian religion.

The political Left of the socialists who claim to be defenders of the oppressed and who preach that the Indians are poor people would not want to be captured by tribes like the Tupinambás and the Mayans among other groups that worship demons and eat human flesh. The leftists' tendency will be to demonize the conquering whites, but they would never leave their apartments, cars, Iphone and life in society to live like animals in the middle of the forest. They defend the Indians as pets that must have their forest reserves, but they themselves do not want to let go of the comfort of modern life provided by European entrepreneurs who made humanity advance in science and technology and especially in religion, giving the poor Indians the opportunity to know the true God of the Bible.

Of course, the methods used by Europeans were not the most biblical, nor that the intentions of Europeans were the most holy, but in the midst of disorder God established a new order in America. God is always writing right by crooked lines.

Looking back on history I can congratulate Christopher Columbus as a hero of humanity, he built the new world, or at the very least started a new era. The socialists who now live throwing stones at the statues of Christopher Columbus, the only thing they make of significance in this world is manure, when they sit on the toilet. Their anti-God theories will soon lead them to confront divine judgment. Their rejection of God preaching by Jews and Christians will soon lead them to the depths of hell, a hell they do not believe in, but which will not change the truth that awaits them.

The political Left as an instrument of evil, tries through all its tentacles to reverse the divine order and the moral and spiritual values. The world today lives more than ever a dualism between good and evil, between the Conservative Right and the progressive Left. These evil creatures that have plagued politics, the media, newspapers and educational institutions are with their fallacious “truth commissions”, inverting values, exalting criminals and terrorists and criminalizing great entrepreneurs, statesmen and discoverers.

One of the targets of the Left is our hero Christopher Columbus. He has been portrayed by these patients as a genocide. Incredibly they forget that today America is a prosperous land of civilized humans because Christopher Columbus ventured the seas to arrive here in America and establish a more advanced civilization, in technologies, culture, religion, literature, art and morals and ethics. We will not fall for this small talk of pure and good natives, whites, blacks and Indians are all children of Adam and Eve and consequently sinners. We do not mystify reality, all are flour from the same sack, but it was the Indians who ate the other Indians in rituals of anthropophagy, it was the Indians of Central America who killed their citizens by the thousands by tearing their hearts out and offering them to the Devil from their gods. . It cannot be hidden that the slavery of blacks on a large scale, almost in an industrial way, happened only because the blacks themselves enslaved their countrymen and in a diabolical way they sold them as slaves exchanging for alcohol. America is the result of the clash between three civilizations - the Indians who were the first to colonize America, being, in my understanding, Asians who crossed the Bering Strait between Russia and Alaska. The second civilization was that of the Europeans who arrived here to establish themselves thanks to the audacity of navigators of the scope of Christopher Columbus, this being the exponent of the navigators. Finally, blacks came to form the new society in America, unfortunately these brothers

of ours on the part of Adam and Eve, being fully human like whites, were brought to America against their will, moved by the ambition of whites and the perversity of other Africans who sold their brothers to slave traders.

DIARY

This is the first voyage with the courses and route which the Admiral don Christopher Columbus took when he discovered the Indies, set down in an abbreviated form, except for the prologue to the Monarchs which is given in full and begins:

IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Most Christian and most exalted and most excellent and most powerful Princes, King and Queen of the Spains and of the islands of the sea, Our Sovereigns: Forasmuch as in this present year of 1492, after Your Highnesses had

brought to an end the war with the Moors who reigned in Europe and had concluded the war in the great city of Granada where this same year on the second day of January I saw Your Highnesses' royal banners placed by force of arms on the towers of the Alhambra, which is the fortress of the said city, and I saw the Moorish king come out to the city gates and kiss Your Highnesses' royal hands and those of My Lord the Prince;¹ and then in the same month from information which I had given Your Highnesses about the lands of India and a prince called the Great Khan, which means in our language King of Kings, and how he and his ancestors had many times sent to Rome for learned men to instruct him in our holy faith, and how the Holy Father had never provided them, and how so many people were being lost, falling into idolatry and embracing doctrines of perdition;² and Your Highnesses, as Catholic Christians and princes devoted to the holy Christian faith and the furtherance of its cause, and enemies of the sect of Mohammed and of all idolatry and heresy, resolved to send me, Christopher Columbus, to the said regions of India to see the said princes and the peoples and lands and determine the nature of them and of all other things, and the measures to be taken to convert them to our holy faith; and you ordered that I should not go by land to the East, which is the customary route, but by way of the West, a route which to this day we cannot be certain has been taken by anyone else: So then, after having expelled all the Jews from all your

kingdoms and domains, in the same month of January,³ Your Highnesses commanded me to take sufficient ships and sail to the said regions of India. And in consideration you granted me great favours and honoured me thenceforth with the title 'Don' and the rank of Admiral of the Ocean Sea and Viceroy and Governor in perpetuity of all the islands and mainland that I should discover and take possession of and which should hereafter be discovered and occupied in the Ocean Sea, and that my eldest son should succeed in turn, and so on from generation to generation for ever.⁴ And I left the city of Granada on the twelfth day of May of the same year 1492, a Saturday, and came to the town of Palos, which is a seaport, where I prepared three ships suitable for such an undertaking, and I set out from the said port well stocked with supplies and with many seamen⁵ on the third day of August of the same year, a Friday, half an hour before sunrise, and I took the route to the Canary Islands, Your Highnesses' possessions in the said Ocean Sea, thence to set my course and navigate until I should reach the Indies, and deliver Your Highnesses' embassy to those princes and comply with what you had ordered.⁶ And for this purpose I decided to write down the whole of this voyage in detail, day by day, everything that I should do and see and undergo, as will be seen in due course.⁷ Furthermore, My Lords, besides writing down each night whatever the day should bring, and each day the course taken during the night, I propose to make a

new navigational chart, on which I shall note all the sea and land in the Ocean Sea in their proper places with their bearings and also keep a book in which, in the same way, I shall record them by latitude from the equator and by longitude to the west; above all, I must give no thought to sleep, and must work diligently at my navigation, because such is my duty; all of which will require great effort.⁸

Friday 3 August

We left the bar of Saltés at eight o'clock on Friday 3 August 1492. We sailed with a strong sea breeze until sunset, S for 60 miles, which is 15 leagues, then SW and S by W, which was the route to the Canaries.⁹

Saturday 4 August

They sailed SW by S.

Sunday 5 August

They made more than 40 leagues during the day and night.

Monday 6 August

The rudder of the caravel Pinta, in which Martín Alonso Pinzón was sailing, came adrift or became dislodged and it was believed or suspected that this was the work of one Gómez Rascón and Cristóbal Quintero, the owner of the caravel, because he was annoyed at having to make the voyage; and the Admiral says that before they left they had been obstructive and always putting a spoke in, as

they say.¹⁰ The Admiral was very worried at not being able to assist the Pinta without danger to himself and says that his fears were somewhat allayed by the thought that Martín Alonso Pinzón was a courageous and resourceful man. They eventually made 29 leagues during the the day and night.

Tuesday 7 August

The Pinta's rudder again came adrift and they repaired it and made for the island of Lanzarote, which is one of the Canary Islands, and they made 25 leagues during the day and night.

Wednesday 8 August

There were differing opinions among the pilots of the three caravels about their position and the Admiral turned out to be nearest the truth. He wished to go to Gran Canaria to leave the caravel Pinta there because her rudder was in bad condition and she was taking in water, and he wished to obtain another if he could find one. They were unable to obtain one that day.

Thursday 9 August

The Admiral could not make Gomera until Sunday night and Martín Alonso remained off the coast of Gran Canaria at the Admiral's orders because he could not navigate. Then the Admiral returned to Canaria¹¹ and with painstaking effort from the Admiral, Martín Alonso and the rest the Pinta was put in very good repair and eventually

they reached Gomera. They saw a great fire issuing from the peak of the island of Tenerife, which is extremely high.¹² They fitted the Pinta¹³ with square sails because she was lateen-rigged. He returned to Gomera on Sunday 2 September with the Pinta repaired. The Admiral says that many trustworthy Spaniards from the neighbouring island of Ferro who were on Gomera with doña Inés Peraza, mother of Guillén Peraza, later to be the first Count of Gomera, swore that every year they could see land to the W of the Canaries, that is, under the setting sun. And others from Gomera affirmed as much on oath. Here the Admiral says he remembers that, when in Portugal in 1484, a man from the island of Madeira¹⁴ came to the King to ask for a caravel to go to this land which he had sighted, and which he swore he sighted every year and always in the same way.¹⁵ And he also says that he remembers the same thing being said in the Azores, with everyone seeing land in the same direction with the same aspect and the same size. Having taken on water and firewood and meat and the other things obtained by the men the Admiral left on Gomera when he went to the island of Canaria to repair the caravel Pinta, he finally set sail from the said island of Gomera with his three caravels on Thursday 6 September.

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Thursday 6 September

He left that day in the morning from the port of Gomera and rounded the island to proceed on his voyage. The Admiral learned from a caravel which came from the island of Ferro that three caravels from Portugal were cruising in the area with the intention of detaining him; it must have been due to the envy the King felt at his having gone to Castile. He was becalmed that day and night and in the morning lay between Gomera and Tenerife.

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Friday 7 September

He was becalmed all of Friday and until three o'clock on Saturday morning.

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Saturday 8 September

At three o'clock on Saturday morning the wind began to blow from the NE and he set his course and sailed W; he had heavy sea over the bows which made progress hard going and he made about 9 leagues that day and night.

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Sunday 9 September

He made 15 leagues that day and decided to reckon fewer than he was making so that if the journey were long the men should not be afraid and discouraged.¹⁶ That night he made 120 miles at 10 miles an hour, which is 30 leagues.

The sailors steered badly, drifting W by N and even WNW. The Admiral several times rebuked them about this.

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Monday 10 September

He made 60 leagues that day and night at 10 miles an hour, which is 2½ leagues, but he only reckoned 48 leagues so that the men should not be afraid if the journey were long.

⋮

Tuesday 11 September

That day they steered their course W and made 20 leagues or more and saw a great portion of the mast of a ship of 120 tons, but they could not catch it. During the night they made nearly 20 leagues and he counted no more than 16 for the reason stated.

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Wednesday 12 September

Proceeding on their course that day they made 33 leagues during the night and day, reckoning fewer for the reason given.

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Thursday 13 September

That day and night, following their course W, they made 33 leagues and he reckoned three or four fewer. The

currents were against him. On this day at nightfall the needles pointed NW and in the morning somewhat to the NE.¹⁷

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Friday 14 September

That day and night they steered their course W and made 20 leagues; he reckoned somewhat fewer. Here the crew of the caravel Niña said that they had seen a tern and a reed-tail, and these birds never go more than 25 leagues from land.

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Saturday 15 September

That day and night he steered his course W making a little over 27 leagues, and at nightfall they saw a marvellous sheet of fire fall from the sky into the sea 4 or 5 leagues away.

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Sunday 16 September

That day and night he steered his course W; they made about 39 leagues but he reckoned no more than 36. He had an overcast sky and some drizzle. Here the Admiral says that today and thenceforth they always encountered the most gentle breezes, that the enjoyment of the mornings was a great pleasure, that all they needed was to hear nightingales, he says; and the weather was like

April in Andalusia. Here they began to see great clumps of deep green seaweed which (so it seemed to him) had only recently been torn from land.¹⁸ On account of this they all thought that they were near some island, but not the mainland, according to the Admiral, who says: Because I make the mainland further on.

⚭

Monday 17 September

He steered his course W and they would have made more than 50 leagues during the day and night; he only reckoned 47. The current was assisting them. They saw a good deal of weed, very frequently, and it was a rock weed and came from westward. They reckoned they were near land. The pilots took the north and marked it and found that the compass needles veered NW by a full point, and the sailors were fearful and anxious and did not say why. The Admiral sensed this and ordered them to mark north again at dawn and they found that the compasses were true. The reason was that it is the star that appears to move, not the needles. At dawn on that Monday they saw much more weed which seemed to be a river weed and in which they found a live crab which the Admiral kept. He says that these were sure signs of land, because they are not found 80 leagues from land. They found the seawater less salty since they had left the Canaries and the breezes more and more gentle. Everyone was very happy and the ships sailed as fast as they could to be the

first to sight land. They saw many tunny fish and the crew of the Niña killed one. Here the Admiral says that those indications came from the west, where I hope that Almighty God, in whose hands all victories are found, will soon grant us land. That morning he says that he saw a white bird called a reed-tail which does not usually sleep on the sea.

⚭

Tuesday 18 September

He proceeded on his course during that day and night and they made about 55 leagues; but he only put down 48. All those days he had a very calm sea, like the river at Seville. On this day Martín Alonso with the Pinta, which was very fast, did not wait, for he told the Admiral from his caravel that he had seen a large flock of birds flying westward and that he expected to sight land that night and for that reason was making such speed. A mass of dark cloud appeared to the N which is a sign that one is near land.

⚭

Wednesday 19 September

He steered his course and during the day and night he made about 25 leagues, since it was calm. He put down 22. On this day at ten o'clock a gannet came to the ship and they saw another during the afternoon; they do not usually go 20 leagues from land. There was some drizzle

without wind, which is a sure sign of land. The Admiral did not wish to delay by beating to windward in order to see if there were any land, especially as he was certain that to the N and S there were some islands, as in fact there were,¹⁹ and he was sailing between them, because his intention was to press on to the Indies, and the weather is fine, because, God willing, everything could be seen on the way back. These are his words. Here the pilots compared their reckonings: the Niña's pilot made it 440 leagues from the Canaries; the Pinta's, 420; and the Admiral's pilot, 400 exactly.

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Thursday 20 September

On this day he steered W by N and WNW because, with the prevailing calm, the winds were variable. They made about 7 or 8 leagues. Two gannets came to the ship and then another, which was a sign that they were near land, and they saw a lot of seaweed although on the previous day they had not seen any. They caught by hand a bird which was like tern; it was a river bird and not a sea bird; it had feet like a gull's. At dawn two or three small land birds came singing to the ship and then disappeared before the sun got up. Then came a gannet; it came from the WNW and was flying SE, which was an indication that it was leaving land to the WNW, because these birds sleep on land and in the morning fly out to sea to look for food and do not go further than 20 leagues.

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Friday 21 September

That day was mostly calm and later there was some wind. They made about 13 leagues during the day and night, some of it on course, some not. At dawn they found so much seaweed that the sea seemed clotted with it and it came from the W. They saw a gannet. The sea was as flat as a river and the breezes the best in the world. They saw a whale, which is a sign that they were near land because they always stay close by.

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Saturday 22 September

He steered WNW more or less, sometimes inclining one way, sometimes another. They made about 30 leagues. They saw hardly any weed. They saw some petrels and another bird. At this point the Admiral says: I was in great need of this head wind because my men were very agitated and thought that no winds blew on these seas that would get them back to Spain.²⁰ For part of the day there was no weed; then it was very thick.

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Sunday 23 September

He steered NW and at times NW by N and at others kept his course which was W, and he made about 27 leagues. They saw a pigeon and a gannet and another river bird and other white birds. There was much seaweed and they