

12. Ferdinand and Isabella, informed of the return and discoveries of their admiral, awaited him at Barcelona with honour and munificence worthy of the greatness of his services. The nobility came from all the provinces to meet him. He made a triumphal entry as a prince of future kingdoms. The Europeans brought over as a living proof of the existence of new races in these newly-discovered lands, marched at the head of the procession, their bodies painted with divers colours, and adorned with gold necklaces and pearls. The animals and birds, the unknown plants, and the precious stones collected on these shores, were exhibited in golden basins, carried on the heads of servants. The eager crowd pressed close upon them, and wondrous tales were circulated about the officers and companions of Columbus. The admiral himself, mounted on a richly charger presented by the king, next appeared, accompanied by a numerous caparisoned cavalcade of courtiers and gentlemen. All eyes were directed toward the man inspired of Heaven, who first had dared lift the veil of Ocean. People sought in his face for a sign of his mission and thought they could discern one. The beauty of his features, the majesty of his countenance, the vigour of eternal youth joined to the dignity of age the combination of thought with action, of strength with experience, a thorough appreciation of his worth combined with piety, made Columbus then appear (as those relate who saw him enter Barcelona) like a hero.

"None could compare with him," they say; "all felt him to be the greatest or most fortunate of men."

Ferdinand and Isabella received him on their throne, shaded from the sun by a golden canopy. They rose up before him, as though he had been a National Hero. They then made him sit on a level with themselves, and listened to the circumstantial account of his voyage. At the end of his recital, which habitual eloquence had coloured with his exuberant imagination, the king and queen, moved to tears, fell on their knees and repeated the *Te Deum*, a thanksgiving for the greatest conquest the Almighty had yet vouchsafed to sovereigns.

~~Columbus~~^{The} Discovery of a New Lands."

2. After learning the return and discoveries of his admiral ~~Colum~~^{-bus} (Isabella and Ferdinand along with their courtiers, received him with honor.) The admiral made a triumphant entry, like a prince of a future kingdom. He had discovered new lands with inhabitants wearing gold and precious stones. The admiral was seated on a horse, surrounded by a ~~courtiers~~ courtiers. Everyone looked at the admiral, who had discovered the secrets of oceans. Columbus appeared as hero without parallel. Isabella and Ferdinand received Columbus as a national hero and had seated him on a throne. They wept upon hearing about his sea journey and thanked God for the conquests he had conferred upon them.

~~1/3 of the original passage~~