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Was Columbus Inspired?

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beautiful, broad streets, the queer old Catholic Church looking so desolate in the half-buried light, together with the dead stillness of the town leave an impression on the mind, vivid, strange, dreary, and quaint, never to be dissociated with the scene.

The long train of wagons rolls slowly out and the girl looking

backward can see her whilom admirers bowing and kissing their hands to her; and last, but not least, comes the faint, dreary sound of their mellow voices, harmoniously blending in the "Spanish Serenade."

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EDITOR'S DEPARTMENT.

WAS COLUMBUS INSPIRED?

In talking with one of our well-known Elders upon the subject of inspiration and revelation, he said that they were interchangeable terms; that men who were inspired had revelation. I thought differently, and I have since learned from the words of our leaders that my view was the correct one. Poets, painters, writers, discoverers and all men and women who bring light, truth and beauty into the world are inspired of God. Revelation has not been given to man from the time of the apostasy of the Christian Church, until our Father condescended to come to earth and restore His ancient gospel through the boy-prophet, Joseph Smith. Even now, men in this Church receive revelation only for legitimate purposes; the member of the Church does not receive revelations to guide the Church, but he can receive daily inspiration and even at times revelation for the guidance of his own or his family affairs. If he holds a presiding office in any quorum of the

Priesthood, he may receive inspiration to assist him in these labors. But there is a difference in revelation and inspiration. Martin Luther was inspired to throw off the yoke of Catholicism, but he never claimed, nor did he receive, any revelation from God. Gallileo was inspired with a grand truth. So was Herchel and many others. So indeed was Columbus when he felt a persistent guiding to find the way around the earth. He had not a revelation; if he had, he would not have supposed this land to be India, for revelations are never partly true and partly false. Inspiration may come to a soul, and and it may be in part and it may be in whole. For instance, a man may feel an inspiration in his heart to write a poem, to paint a picture, or to discover a hitherto unknown truth in science; but his inspiration may and often does stop short of perfection. But when the Lord gives a revelation the "Thus saith the Lord" puts a stop to all controversy and there is never anything left half under-

stood or half explained. God is the author and the revealer of all truth, all beauty, all happiness and all good. If any man is inspired to do good, to teach truth or to evolve beauty, he does it through the influence of the Divine Spirit of inspiration. A good tree bringeth forth good fruit, and we do not gather figs of thorns and thistles. The Pilgrim Fathers were inspired; so were the framers of this Constitution. So were all those who have contributed to bring to pass liberty and peace upon this earth. We as Saints are inclined sometimes to be narrow and contracted in our views; when we are, however, we are not filled with the Spirit of the Lord. He is as broad as the arch of the everlasting heavens? Can we who are finite and full of follies afford to condemn where He does not?

In gazing back upon that momentous page of history, written all over with the name of Christopher Columbus, I bow in reverence to the great man who felt and followed the inspiration of God in coming to seek the watery highway of the earth. He knew not, he never did while living in mortality, the great mission he had performed, but up in that bright place where the spirits of the great and good of the earth are dwelling, one of the highest and noblest spirits there is that of Christopher Columbus. And so we are honoring one who deserves all honor, and paying a tribute of grateful love to the spirit of one

of God's chosen ones. All honor to brave old Christopher Columbus!

In relation to the premiums offered to those who act as agents for the JOURNAL, there still seems to be some misunderstanding of the matter, and so I wish to explain a little more about it. Any agent who has been acting for the JOURNAL, and who wishes to do so for the coming year, can do so on precisely the same terms as last year if she prefers the cash per cent. If she wishes to take premiums instead she can do that. So again if anyone, whether as agent or not, desires to become an agent, he or she can do so, taking her choice between the cash per cent. or the premiums. Likewise, any one whose name is already on the book, no matter with whom they subscribed, can become an agent if she so wishes. The premiums are matters of choice for all. Is this clear now?

THE management of Yale has decided that, this fall, all the post graduate courses with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, will be opened without distinction of sex. It is not the design to establish an annex or other rival of the colleges already existing for women, but to receive the graduates of those colleges and give them as good opportunities for the most advanced research and education as can be found in Europe. Yale is the first of the great universities of this country to make this change.