

CHAPTER 16

THE MYSTERY OF DON TIVISCO

*I protested to Your Highnesses that all the gains from
this endeavor of mine be spent in the reconquest of Jerusalem.*

DON CRISTÓBAL COLÓN

The one word synonymous with the life of Don Cristóbal Colón is *mystery*, which is the ongoing factor that attracts historians and researchers to investigate the puzzle of his identity.

Some have claimed that Colón was a Catalanian, because the name he chose is similar to that of the noble *Colom* family of Barcelona. Others have implied he was Jewish, because he lifted sail from Spain on the same day that the *Jews* were expelled. Many accepted that he was from Genoa, because his real name had to be *Colombo*. Still others have maintained that he was Greek, because his relative *Colombo "the Younger"* was a Prince from Constantinople. These and various other nationality claims have been made over the centuries.

Realistically, Cristóbal Colón can't be from everywhere. We should also not expect him to have come from the place consistent with the fewest facts, but from the place where most facts fit. The mystery is not hidden behind the noble Catalanian name of Colom, nor do ten words that Colón used to name places in the New World settle the issue. Countless repetitions of hearsay did not reasonably establish that he was a peasant from Genoa. Mere repetition does not make a falsehood into a fact.

Only by pulling everything together can the puzzle be solved. Once all the facts are linked, only Portugal stands out as the most likely place where Colón was born. Instead of accepting far-reaching conclusions built on selected details, we have spent the last fifteen chapters examining a broad range of details in order to arrive at a solid conclusion.

Today the argument for a Portuguese-born Colón trumps all others. But there are no documents attesting to the presence of Colón in Portugal. Therefore, it is safe to conclude that Cristóbal Colón was the pseudonym of a Portuguese nobleman who moved to Spain and who wanted his past to remain a secret.

This well-orchestrated deception involved not only his immediate family, but also his in-laws and their in-laws. It involved the courts of Portugal, Spain, England and France. The waters were further muddied by countless early 16th century writers who repeated the words "Genoese" and "Colombo," but who were completely alien to the facts.

The government of Genoa – whose citizens tried to usurp the Admiral's name, coat of arms, gold, and even the glory of being his motherland, eight decades after Colón died, – established these claims through fraud, as explained in previous chapters. Many hands were involved back then in a conspiracy to jumble the facts and produce this cover-up for various ulterior motives. If there still exists a conspiracy today – to maintain the charade of the Genoese wool-weaver – who might be behind it, and why?

Who would benefit today from hiding the truth?

We feel the mystery may at last be solved by focusing on Colón's Portuguese family ties and on the history of Portugal, including two obscure 17th Century books.

Two authors, in two different kingdoms, wrote these two books, yet they used the same pseudonym of "*Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona*." Three hundred years later, these two extraordinary books were utilized to decode a secret about Admiral Cristóbal Colón.

But the subject of Colón's identity, even two hundred years after his death, was so sensitive in Portugal that King Pedro II banned one of these *Don Tivisco* books by Royal Decree. Thus, we re-enter the maze of controversy, as we turn our analysis to these mysterious books by the two Prior Don Tiviscos.

THE SECRET OF ZARCO, AND COLONA

In 1930, as controversy over Colón's nationality festered, two Portuguese researchers published an important book. Luís Guilherme Ferreira dos Santos was an investigator, archaeologist, polyglot, heraldic expert and linguist in Hebrew and Latin. Antonio Ferreira de Serpa, was a genealogist and historian. Their book was titled: *Salvador Gonçalves Zarco (Cristóbal Colón): Os livros de D. Tivisco, Confirmações Históricas*, or in plain English: *Salvador Gonçalves Zarco (Cristóbal Colón): The books of D. Tivisco, Historical Confirmations*.

These two Portuguese academics realized the two peculiar *Don Tivisco* books contained cyphered codes and put great effort into deciphering them. They came up with the interesting conclusions that Colón was a Prince from Portugal.

To put what was written to the test, we studied each theory. The factual bases were studied and conclusions double-checked. After examining Ferreira and Serpa's work, we could neither confirm nor deny it. In 1997, we gave up trying to confirm Ferreira and Serpa's claims that the last *S* of Colón's *XpoFERENS* signature was the same as *zarco* in Hebrew or Ladino (Judeo-Spanish). We set aside their investigation of the Tivisco books and continued our research into Colón's life.⁴²¹

While the years passed, one thought resurfaced persistently: If the Mr. X who assumed the identity of "Cristóbal Colón" wanted to hide his identity and lineage when he moved to Spain, why not follow the example set by his nephew, the traitor D. Lopo de Albuquerque, who chose the common and inconspicuous name of *Pedro Nunes*? Why did Colón choose to make his name stand out by writing his name in such an unconventional way – "XpoFERENS ./" – with all the extra embellishments, unless he wanted future detectives to focus on it?

If the Admiral had chosen this alias to hide from the King of Portugal or to keep the Queen of Spain in the dark about his true lineage, how did both monarchs know his true identity? Why did both crowns go to great lengths to censor and hide his Portuguese past if they didn't know him?

It is clear that King João II knew the Admiral's true identity; otherwise, he would not have married him to Filipa Moniz. Yet the king addressed him in the 1488 letter using the alias of Cristóbal Colón. This fact challenges us again with the *why* of all the mystery?

What was the real reason for the name change and the censorship of his lineage, if it was not to hide from the kings of Portugal, or from the kings of Spain? The answer must be that everyone in the know wanted to hide his identity from us: the public.

The mystery turns out to be far more complex than it appears. The Admiral had been someone very important in Portugal, as both his marriage and contacts at the court show. Why would the Portuguese and the Spanish crowns be so concerned about hiding his identity and lineage unless there were extremely important political reasons to do so?

Why would there still exist a need to hide the real name in Portugal after the exultant return in 1493, or after his death in 1506?

The name change as well as keeping his lineage secret was not his decision alone. It was required by the political and social circumstances of his parents. There was no other option available to the Admiral but to hide his lineage. Colón had no choice in the matter, but he never wanted to lose his real roots or be disinherited from them.

He fulfilled the harsh requirement imposed on him of hiding his lineage by taking on a new identity, all the while utilizing a secret signature which is a riddle all unto itself. This signature must be interpreted as an overt challenge to us. It's as if Colón is daring us to decipher it in order to unravel his mysterious identity.

Cristóbal Colón must have felt it was important for him not to be erased from history, and he must have desired to somehow convey his identity and lineage to future generations. The last words of hope on the epitaph on his tomb express exactly this desire: "I will not be confused forever."

We argue that Admiral Colón wanted his true identity revealed when enough time had passed so that his friends and family would not be in harm's way.

It took a considerable amount of work on our part to find the clues linking Colón to the royalty of Portugal through his marriage with Filipa Moniz. It was as if Portugal wanted to forget about Colón's existence by referring to the famous Admiral only as some unknown "*Colonbo Italyano*" – and even then the references were always superficially made.

Not one word was written in the Portuguese chronicles about the details of his Portuguese life, such as the ones we have painstakingly gathered and presented in this book. Yet all those Portuguese living at the court had to know these facts. Nobody marries the daughter of a Captain without people around the court knowing who he is.

Colón's true identity was important enough to the crown of Portugal, yet the Portuguese court acted as though it feared an inquisition, by censoring everything it could.

Suppose, for instance, that Prince Henry, the Navigator, had an affair with a daughter of Zarco, and that from this relationship were born several children. The "scandal" could have been a reason to hide those children, who might have been renamed Colonna, the family of Zarco's wife. The Templar Master of the Order of Christ had cultivated the reputation of being a deeply religious "Templar Monk," and a celibate knight.

Since it was written that the Templar Master, Prince Henry, "died in 1460 as a virgin," this hypothesis may seem farfetched. Yet it appears that the chroniclers lied about Prince Henry's chastity. In the Vatican Archives there is evidence that Prince Henry had at least one illegitimate daughter.⁴²² Yet the Portuguese chroniclers describe him as having died a "virgin." An illegitimate child of the great Prince Henry would have been a compelling reason to create a false trail.

But many monks, bishops, cardinals, popes, kings, and even queens had illegitimate children and did not create such an intricate conspiracy to hide their children's ancestry, as was done with the three Colón brothers.

Would the facade of Prince Henry's celibacy sufficiently explain the 500-year charade surrounding the identity of Cristóbal Colón?

All of those involved in creating and maintaining the cover-up knew the true lineage of Cristóbal Colón, and understood that the truth could not be disclosed at that time. Still, the lineage of someone as important as Cristóbal Colón, a member of the Portuguese nobility and a hero who gave Spain a whole New World, could not be left forgotten indefinitely among the dead dusty pages of history by his own countrymen. It appears that Colón was not forgotten at the Portuguese court.

We mentioned earlier that in the King's Palace of Mafra there is a painting of the immortal Cristóbal Colón; however, he is not portrayed alone (SEE FIGURE 16.1 IN THE COLOR INSERT). With Colón are depicted three of the greatest Portuguese heroes of the Age of Discovery:

- Prince Henry the Navigator in a vignette wearing a large cross of the Master of the Order of Christ, held up by Fame, blowing her trumpet and holding a crown of laurels
- Vasco da Gama, a member of the Order of Christ, pulling his sword to face Adamastor, a Greek mythological giant symbolic of the forces of nature Portuguese navigators had to overcome
- Pedro Álvares Cabral, yet another member of the Order of Christ, being pushed away from Brazil by the four winds

The fourth painted hero, CRISTÓBAL COLÓN, is naked, chained, and held powerless by a sinister being that holds a snake to his throat, controlling him, as if to keep him pacified and unable to make any declarations. The sign on his lap reads, "*A Castilla y a León Nuevo Mundo Dió Colón.*" (To Castile and Leon, a New World Gave Colón.) Was Colón also a member of the Order of Christ, like the other three Portuguese nobles with him?

Three of those painted heroes and members of the Order of Christ are undeniably Portuguese, yet the fourth, according to many, was a humble Italian wool-weaver who achieved fame while working for Spain, chasing a delusion of India. What reasons can be given for the King of Portugal to have included a hero of Spain, who all had insistently claimed was born in Italy, in such an important place as his Palace of Mafra?

What could justify including in such a place, and among such noble Portuguese, a supposed “Genoese weaver” of no credibility who, according to Portuguese chroniclers, was nothing more than a discredited, “loud mouth who expounded his idiotic fantasies” in Spain? Why not paint there instead Dias, Cão, Zarco, Velho, Corte-Real, or any other of the thousands of great Portuguese heroes deserving to be in that place?

That Colón worked on behalf of Portuguese interests is obvious from everything he did to thwart Spanish interests during the Treaty of Tordesillas. That there was censorship and high secrecy surrounding his identity and lineage is also obvious in all the documents, letters and chronicles.

But why has the secret of his identity been kept under lock and key for over 500 years?

Clearly in the case of Mafra, shown above, Colón was elevated to the same height as the other three Portuguese heroes, but only in secret: the painting was inside the royal palace, not published near and far. It is also clear that the Portuguese Royal House would have had to be in custody of Colón’s secrets from century to century. The importance of Cristóbal Colón to Portugal was still great enough to warrant such consideration, even 200 years later, when the Mafra Palace was being painted.

Also, it was around the 200th anniversary of the discovery of America that the two mysterious books appeared, each written by a different author, in a different kingdom, yet both authors wrote under the same pseudonym: **Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona**.

The two books are, *Theatro Genealogico* (by Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde) and *Pericope Genealogica* (by Jacinto de Sousa). But the pseudonym used by both authors is exactly the same, including the comma: *Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona* (SEE FIGURES 16.2).



Figure 16.2: The books of Prior Don Tivisco. Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde’s *Theatro Genealogico* is seen on the left; note the Roman numerals for the year 1112. *Pericope Genealogica*, by Jacinto de Sousa, is on the right. Both authors include a comma after “Zarco.”

Jacinto de Sousa, who wrote in Spanish, died in 1711. He was also known as Fray *Jeronymo de Sousa*. The other book was written in Portuguese, by the Freemason Manuel Carvalho e Ataíde, who died in 1720.

Manuel Carvalho e Ataíde prepared his book clandestinely. It is described as having been “printed secretly outside Portugal aboard

a foreign vessel.” Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde did not use his real name, but the pseudonym **Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona**.⁴²³

Ataíde’s book, whatever it exposed, promptly drew the attention of King Pedro II, who banned it in 1703:

*Don Pedro by Grace of God King of Portugal... being informed, that there appeared in this city, and was being sold a book, entitled Theatro Genealogico: que contiene los árboles de Costados..., Volume One, by the Prior D. Tevisco de Nazao Zarco y Colona and says was printed in Naples by Novello de Bonis in the year 1112. And because the said book... is not convenient that it spread, nor be given any credit... Lisbon August 20 of 1703.*⁴²⁴

Why would this book be thus censored by the king? Why would a Freemason need to print it secretly on a foreign vessel off the coast of Portugal? Was it the task of a Masonic lodge, or the isolated work of a single Freemason? Why should we, as did the king of Portugal, attribute any importance to these books of *Zarco, y Colona*?

Is it possible they could be linked to Cristóbal Colón?

When we discovered that Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde was a Freemason, his book became quite significant in our research, since there is evidence that Cristóbal Colón may have been a member of a secret society predating the Freemasons. Colón's portrait at the Alcazar in Seville shows him wearing a robe bearing the image of, "three pomegranates cut open and arranged in a triangle," as already shown in FIGURE 15.3A.

Being a member of a secret society also explains why Colón lived and later was buried in the Monastery of Las Cuevas, which still holds within its walls a multitude of symbols used by today's Freemasonry. Even the Virgin Mary of the same Monastery of Las Cuevas is covered in these esoteric, secret-society symbols (SEE FIGURE 16.3).



Figure 16.3: The not-so-Virgin Mary of Las Cuevas (left). As her cloak peels back, it reveals a dress covered in esoteric symbols, including the Sun and Moon (arrows), used by today's Freemasons to top their Third Degree pillars (author's photo 2011). The founder of Las Cuevas, who died in 1401, had a tomb reminiscent of a Freemason obelisk (right). His tomb includes on each side of its front design a pillar topped by the Sun and Moon – still visible – just like the Freemasons use today. The Moon on the left is mostly faded, but on the right, the circle of the Sun is still clearly visible (author's photo 2003).

Could the *Padre Prior* (Father Prior), to whom Colón entrusted himself as he signed off his letters to Gaspar Gorricio, writing, "I am at your command," have been the "Freemason" Master at the Las Cuevas Lodge?

Whatever the case, it is important to keep in mind that Cristóbal Colón was not working alone on this India project. He had lots of help inside and outside of Spain, including his right arm, friar Gaspar Gorricio, who lived in Las Cuevas. This was a covert mission with international components reaching far and wide, all the way from the Americas to the real India, where Pêro da Covilhã had been, and even to Ethiopia, where Covilhã ended up spending the last three decades of his life. Were the Kings of England and France – who wrote the letters of sponsorship that Colón presented to Queen Isabel via Doctor Villalón – part of the same, secret organization? Was the Spanish Doctor Villalón in on this conspiracy as well? Many such questions still want coherent answers.

Two hundred years after Colón's world-changing voyage, both *Tivisco* authors chose exactly the same pseudonym, right down to the comma after *Zarco*. These two authors must be in some essential way connected. Apparently, neither was working on his own authority, for one of them stated that he published, "*Com Permissão dos Superiores*" (With Permission of the Superiors), while the other did so, "*Con la facultad de los Superiores*" (By the authority of the Superiors), as can be seen in FIGURE 16.2.

The pseudonym could be broken down as follows: *Dom Tivisco desta Nação do Zarco, e um Colona*, or, "D. Tivisco of the Nation of Zarco, and a Colonna." Zarco was the name of the first captain of Funchal on the island of Madeira. His last name was later changed by the King to Camara, and Colonna, according to Jacinto de Sousa's *Pericope Genealógica*, was the family name of Zarco's wife: the noble Colonnas of Italy.

Pericope Genealógica identifies Cecilia Colonna, Zarco's mother-in-law, as the daughter of a very important Sicilian noblewoman, but it doesn't give her mother's name, reporting only that Cecilia was an illegitimate daughter of Giacomo Sciarra-Colonna. Cecilia Colonna's father, grandfather, and uncles were all Senators of Rome and Lords of Colonna, Monteporzio, Zagarolo, Gallicano or Palestina, in Italy.

Many have doubted such a Portuguese connection to the noble Colonnas, but other studies have asserted that not only Zarco's wife but also her brother – João Rodrigues de Sá, Chamberlain of King João I – was a Colonna.⁴²⁵ Thus, *Pericope Genealógica* must be accepted as correct regarding the Sá-Colonna union (SEE FIGURE 16.4.)



Figure 16.4: The lineage of Zarco's wife is explained here by one of the couple's descendants, Jacinto de Sousa. She was Constança Rodrigues de Sá, sister of João Rodrigues de Sá (o Galés). She was a descendant of the Italian Colonna family through Cecilia Colonna. Note that number 69 refers to Gayo Mario, the Roman general, trunk of the Colonna family. In number 68, Cecilia is identified as Gayo's granddaughter to the 23rd degree, and great-granddaughter of Giacomo Colonna Sciarra (1270-1329). Her birth-name, Maria Ana Cecilia, was changed to Cecilia Colonna for her confirmation, which was performed by her uncle Agapito Colonna, Bishop of Lisbon (fourth line from the bottom, on the left page).

In neither Portugal nor Italy have any contemporary documents been found relating to the marriage of Cecilia Colonna with the Portuguese Papal Ambassador, Rodrigo Anes de Sá, Governor of the Portuguese town of Gaia. The absence of contemporary documents has left some genealogists skeptical. Rodrigo Anes de Sá had children by another marriage, but this in no way precludes his also having had children with Cecilia Colonna. Some researchers have denied Sá's marriage with Colonna, based solely on the lack of significant documented evidence from the 14th century. However, the marriage is presented in several later genealogy books, and it was accepted by many reputable sources, including the Sá family itself.⁴²⁶

In 1371, Pope Gregory XI's envoy to Portugal and Castile – sent to mediate the treaty that ended yet another war between Portugal and Spain – was Agapito Colonna, Bishop of Lisbon from 1371 to 1380. The marriage of Cecilia Colonna to the Governor of the Portuguese town of Gaia, Rodrigo Anes de Sá, must have had some connection with Agapito Colonna's presence in Lisbon.

If Colonna turns out to be the key that identifies the man who called himself Cristóbal Colón in Spain, then this lack of contemporary evidence relating to the Sá-Colonna marriage should make us even more suspicious. If Cecilia Colonna was an ancestor of Cristóbal Colón, her existence might have been censored to keep secret the identity of Colón.

It is documented that the Portuguese Francisco Sá de Miranda, great-great-great-grandson of Rodrigo Anes de Sá, visited his cousin Vitória Colonna, the Marquesa of Pescara, in Italy. Both Francisco Sá de Miranda and João Rodrigues de Sá wrote about their famous Italian ancestors named Colonna:

<i>De nuestros Sás Coluneses</i>	<i>Of our Sás Coluneses</i>
<i>Gran tronco, noble columna,</i>	<i>Great trunk, noble column,</i>
<i>Gran ramo de los Meneses,</i>	<i>Great branch of the Meneses,</i>
<i>En sangre, y bienes de fortuna,</i>	<i>In blood, and goods of fortune,</i>
<i>Que es todo entre los Portugueses.</i>	<i>Which is all among the Portuguese.</i>

- FRANCISCO DE SÁ DE MIRANDA⁴²⁷

<i>Con el que Romão Columnes</i>	<i>With those Roman Columns</i>
<i>Se mezcló transversalmente,</i>	<i>Became mixed transversally,</i>
<i>Cada uno con gran primor</i>	<i>Each one with great merit</i>
<i>Fuerte, leal, sin temor</i>	<i>Strong, loyal, fearless</i>
<i>En combates, y Galés.*</i>	<i>In battles, and Galleys.</i>

- JOÃO RODRIGUES DE SÁ

Supposedly, her original name was Maria Ana Cecilia, but for her Christian confirmation it was changed to Cecilia Colonna, to honor her grandmother Cecilia, who may have descended from the Kings of Sicily, also Kings of Cyprus and Jerusalem.

There is a constant changing of names in this story. We see that "Maria Ana Cecilia" was changed to "Cecilia Colonna," that the last name "Zarco" was changed to "Camara," and that the Admiral, Mr. X, changed whatever his original name was to "Cristóbal Colón."

All these name changes underscore both the peculiar difficulty of finding documentation on Zarco's in-laws and the necessity of there having been some reason for the king to change Zarco's name. Was the change of João Gonçalves Zarco's name to João Gonçalves da Camara part of the censorship of the Colonna lineage he married into?

Were the two Don Tivisco's outing that great family secret in their books, which prompted King Pedro II to censor it?

Once again, tirelessly immersed in genealogical research, we came face-to-face with this very interesting fact: The Freemason mentioned above, Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde, was the father of the Marquis of Pombal. This is important. This Marquis of Pombal, another Freemason, whose name was Sebastião José de Carvalho, was the de facto ruler of Portugal in the mid 1700s.

* O das Galés (He of the Galleys) was the nickname of João Rodrigues de Sá, King João I's Chamberlain, son of Rodrigo Anes de Sá and Cecilia Colonna.

Yet it matters less that both the Marquis of Pombal and his father – who used the alias *Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona* – were Freemasons. The truly important breakthrough of our investigation was that these men were directly related to the Portuguese family of Cristóbal Colón.

Suddenly the work of the decoders Ferreira and Serpa took on real substance. There were simply too many coincidences.

The first step in giving due weight to these Tivisco books was to establish a link between the families of their authors and the key figures in Portuguese history, especially those connected with Cristóbal Colón.

What does the publication of these books around the 200th anniversary of Colón's First Voyage have to do with the events of 1492 as they personally involved Cristóbal Colón? The entire web of family ties among the authors of these two books and the Portuguese family of Cristóbal Colón is astounding.

TIVISCO No. 1

It is very significant that the son of Tivisco No. 1, the Marquis of Pombal, was married to *Teresa de Noronha e Bourbon Mendonça e Almada*, a direct descendant of Branca Dias Perestrelo – the latter also a descendant of the House of Burgundy as well as the House of Bourbon. The House of Bourbon hosted Bartolomé Colon in France and Branca Dias Perestrelo was sister-in-law of Cristóbal Colón.

Having found the Perestrelo lineage, we then discovered that the father of the Marquis was a descendant of Afonso Furtado de Mendonça. This Mendonça was the father-in-law of Bartolomeu Perestrelo, father-in-law of Colón, as shown in FIGURE 9.6. With our interest thus aroused, we continued investigating the genealogy and found more links to the Zarco family, thus reinforcing the Sá-Colonna connection.

Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde was also a royal descendant of Kings Alfonso IX of Castile, Afonso III of Portugal, and Ferdinand III of Castile, to name just three. But more importantly, the mother of this Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde, Leonor Maria de Ataíde, was a descendant of Vasco Martins Moniz, a relation of Isabel Moniz. Isabel Moniz was Cristóbal Colón's mother-in-law.

Thus, we can trace a direct line from the author Tivisco No. 1 to the parents of Filipa Moniz, who were the in-laws of Colón. They were all family.

Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde was married to Teresa Luisa de Mendonça y Melo. She descended from Diogo de Mendonça, another brother-in-law of Bartolomeu Perestrelo. She was also a descendant of Fernão Martins Mascarenhas, Captain of the Royal Guard of King João II and also a distant relative of Pedro Correia da Cunha, brother-in-law of Cristóbal Colón.

An even more interesting discovery is that Tivisco No. 1 was a direct descendant of Aldonça Rodrigues de Sá as well as of João Rodrigues de Sá, both in-laws to Zarco.

Being thoroughly convinced that the two men who utilized the name of Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona had to be direct descendants of Captain Zarco, we dug more extensively into all their collateral families, seeking a line between the ancestors of Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde and Captain Zarco.

We made a fantastic discovery. Tivisco No. 1 was a descendant of a certain Manuel Paim da *Camara*, and there it was... **Camara = Zarco.**

Therefore, the Freemason Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde was, in fact, a Zarco, and thus a Colonna. The genealogy explains why he chose this particular name for a book that was so extraordinary the king of Portugal quickly had it banned.

These noble descendants of the Second Captain of Funchal, and of his wife Mécia de Noronha, are of royal blood: descending from King Henrique II of Castile. Furthermore, Mécia de Noronha was a direct cousin to the children of Branca Dias Perestrelo.

TIVISCO No. 2

As already mentioned, Tivisco No. 2 was a Franciscan friar whose real name was Jacinto de Sousa. Like Cristóbal Colón, he assumed a new name (Jeronymo de Sousa) when he became a monk. We managed to find his family ties in António Caetano de Sousa's *História Genealógica da Casa Real Portuguesa*, which is as follows:⁴²⁸

André de Sousa Henriques de Carvalho was the son of António Vieira de Carvalho and Joana de Sousa Marnel. André married Doña Maria do Amaral y Aguiar, with whom he had children:

- Antonio de Sousa [de Noronha]
- Bernardo de Sousa, a friar who changed his name to Feliciano de Sousa Diniz
- **Jacinto de Sousa** [de Sequeira], also known as Fray Jeronymo de Sousa, who used the pen name of *Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona*.

Thus, friar Jeronymo descends from the Carvalho family, as did Manuel de Carvalho e Ataíde. However, this was just one link between the two, Jacinto de Sousa was not only a Carvalho, but also a Zarco and, therefore, a Colonna (SEE FIGURE 16.5).

Why are the family ties between these two men so important? In *Pericope Genealogica*, Tivisco No. 2 shows that he is a descendant of Sá and of Colonna, by making references to his relatives in Italy. Apparently, in Portugal, this information was so sanitized that these links would not have been easy to find and could easily be contradicted or censored by the king's men.

In 1692, the bicentennial of Colón's First Voyage, the lineage of Zarco was Camara, and there must have been some cohesive effort to separate Zarco from Colonna.

These Tivisco books are important documents. Remarkable efforts were made first to write and print them, then and to censor one of them.

Furthermore, both the Moniz and Perestrelo Families appear to have been censored in Portugal. Is it possible that all this has been done to conceal the parentage of one uniquely famous man? If so, why? Why would it be so important to cover up the true genealogy of "Don Cristóbal Colón"?

PRIORITIES OF THE PRIORS

After our analysis of the family ties between the two Tivisco authors, and of their relationship with the relatives of Cristóbal Colón, the work of the decoders Ferreira and Serpa seemed ever more important.

In decoding the books of Don Tivisco, authors Serpa and Ferreira explain that some secret papers with Cristóbal Colón's true genealogy had been written in Hebrew by the friar Joam Eanes de Saa (João Annes de Sá, another relative). The genealogy was then hidden in the Marian convent of Nossa Senhora dos Remédios (Our Lady of the Remedies). This convent is located close to the All-Saints Monastery, where Filipa Moniz resided, and today it is the York House Hotel.

The secret papers had been hidden inside the lining of a tapestry in the convent before the Inquisition began having suspicions about it. Then, to protect them from the Inquisition, the papers were put into a secret hole in the wall near the door of the water cistern, but they were eventually found and burned in the 17th century.

When Serpa and Ferreira pried open the secret hole in the wall, early in the 20th Century, there was nothing left except bits of paper, indicating that the hole had been used over many centuries to hide documents, but also confirming that Serpa and Ferreira had decoded some of the Don Tivisco cyphers correctly.

To secretly convey their information to future generations – in such a menacing environment – Colón's relatives decided to encode it into these two Tivisco books. Just as Colón had, the two distant relatives assumed a false identity. According to the decoders, Serpa and Ferreira, the books must be deciphered together, as a whole, for each contains only part of the secret message.

What would be so extraordinary about the life of Cristóbal Colón that he would need to hide his identity and change his name in the 15th century – whence the mystery was secretly conveyed,

hidden in a tapestry, and sought by the Inquisition – still fit to be burned 200 years later? As late as the 20th century, the mystery would still make Ricardo Beltrán y Rózpide feel threatened.

We may never know. But we may yet be able to discover Colón's true family by piecing together all the clues in the puzzle and then using DNA testing to verify our conclusion.

Because there were so many people involved in preserving this secret, Cristóbal Colón had to be the son of a very important personage in the geopolitical sphere, one who bore a colossal secret – which could not be revealed to the world in their times.

Thus, Colón's family ties needed to be hidden by the Portuguese Royal House, with the help of the Royal House of Spain. Colón was no mere, insignificant commoner. He was of such great importance that even in 1703 the king of Portugal, Pedro II, banned any information that could compromise this great mystery, saying that it was "*not convenient that it spread.*" Yet a few years later, at the Palace of Mafra, his son João V allowed Colón to be memorialized in the company of Portugal's greatest heroes.

It is a fact that the genealogy of the two Tivisco's ties them to Zarco. Admiral Colón's cryptic signature contains a semicolon, and sometimes a peculiar last S, in *FerenS*.

This theory, presented in the early 1900s and not well accepted in Portugal, says that Cristóbal Colón was a descendant of Zarco and of Sciarra-Colonna: the same family as Pope Martin V.

The King of Portugal changed the Zarco name to Camara, and it was Zarco's son, João Gonçalves da Camara II (1435–1501), Second Captain of Funchal, Madeira, who welcomed Cristóbal Colón, Admiral for Spain, in 1498, throwing him a great feast in that city, "*because Admiral Colón was there extremely well known and used to be a resident there,*" as Las Casas wrote.⁴²⁹

This welcome party must have been because João Gonçalves da Camara was not only a Zarco but also a Colon(na), descendant of Cecilia Colonna, just like the Admiral of the Indies, whose arrival the Captain of Funchal was celebrating.

In this light, everything seems to make sense, and all the pieces seem to fit neatly together. Is it not logical that a relative of the Captain of Funchal, this Cristóbal Colón, would be received with such happy celebration? Might not this "Colón," a relative of the Captain of Funchal, be designated to marry the daughter of the Captain of neighboring Porto Santo, much as the son of the Captain of Porto Santo, Bartolomeu Perestrelo II, married Guiomar Teixeira, daughter of the Captain of neighboring Machico?

Ferreira and Serpa claimed that, among the secrets revealed by the Don Tivisco books about Cristóbal Colón, there was a coded message declaring, "*the greatest Portuguese discoverer of all time was the last offspring of Henrique.*"

They believed that this *Henrique* was Prince Henry the Navigator. But since they also believed (incorrectly, it appears) that Prince Henry had no children, Ferreira and Serpa conjectured that *Henrique's* offspring in this context referred to *the Navigator's* adopted son and heir, Prince Fernando, First Duke of Beja, brother of King Afonso V. Therefore, in their scenario, Cristóbal Colón had to be a son of Prince Henry's adopted son, Don Fernando.

It was about the year 1930 when Ferreira and Serpa formulated their theory and further suggested the Admiral's signature could be secret code for *Salvador Gonçalves Zarco*. During the following half century, Mascarenhas Barreto and others, in their books, have supported this theory, thus reinforcing that Colón's true name was Salvador Zarco, who they say was born in the old town of Cuba, Alentejo, Portugal. However, none of these authors was able show any conclusive proof. Not one single document with the name Salvador Zarco has been found.

A surprising letter in the Portuguese archives states that the Portuguese-born Second Admiral of the Indies, Don Diego Colón (and Moniz), was a nephew to the Countess of Lemos, thus linking Cristóbal Colón to the Portuguese royal family.

Let us now examine a letter to João III, King of Portugal, written by his ambassador D. Duarte de Almeida (and Perestrelo), a second cousin of Don Diego Colón (and Moniz), who was himself

the Second Admiral of the Indies and the son of Cristóbal Colón. The letter was written while King Carlos V of Spain was bargaining for access to the newly discovered sea route to the Moluccas, opened up by the trans-Pacific voyage of the Portuguese Fernando Magalhães (Ferdinand Magellan). During these negotiations with Portugal, Fernando Colón played an important role as Cosmographer-Major of King Carlos V. However, his brother Don Diego Colón refused to turn over their father's notes to Carlos V. He helped Portugal instead. Here is the essential extract from this letter:

Lordship: Because I know not if it was given to Your Highness a letter of mine that I wrote indicating that they were transcribing a book of the Admiral of the Indies [Diego Colón], that his father, Don Cristóbal Colón had made, on the demarcation of the seas and lands of Your Highness with those of Spain; I write again now, and the book I have already sent to Your Highness... The Countess of Lemos ordered it to be transcribed for me, and intervened so that it not be handed to the Council of the Indies, who very persistently asked the Admiral, who is her nephew, and is very fond of her. And the book, which remains in the power of the countess so that nothing can be done with it, unless it is in service of Your Highness, has been arranged by me personally. And further, she is trying to learn from the Admiral [Don Diego Colón] what those cosmographers, who meet here, will settle upon regarding what Your Highness wrote me ... In Valladolid, 25 November.⁴³⁰

In propagating their wool-weaver hypothesis, the history books had adamantly denied that the Countess of Lemos could, by any stretch, be aunt to the Don Diego Colón that was son of a Genoese wool-weaver. They insinuated that Diego Colón was only making himself look important by claiming to be the Countess's nephew. Just as his father had falsely claimed to be a noble with a coat of arms, so too Diego Colón must have been lying when he said that the Countess of Lemos was his aunt. The history books regarded such a claim by their wool-weaver peasant as preposterous.

In this case, again, as in many of the other scenarios, common sense and facts were bypassed because they were inconsistent with the accepted thesis of a wool-weaver's son. However, had these historians looked more closely, they would have seen that it was Duarte de Almeida, and not Diego Colón, who was telling João III of Portugal that Don Diego Colón was a nephew of the Countess of Lemos.

In every kingdom, bloodlines were a matter of utmost importance in those days. Yet historians summarily rejected the possibility of any kinship link. It evidently never occurred to them that Ambassador Duarte de Almeida (Diego Colón's cousin) and King João III would have certainly known whether Cristóbal Colón's son, Diego Colón, was or was not a nephew of the Countess. Furthermore, the Countess's husband was a first cousin of King João III. It becomes clear that, if this claim had been a lie, as so many history books asserted, then neither Duarte de Almeida (and Perestrelo) nor the Countess of Lemos would have endorsed it in a statement to their King, whose cousin was married to this very same Countess of Lemos.

There is no reason whatsoever to deny what the letter says because the Countess of Lemos was truly aunt to Don Diego Colón by marriage. Don Diego Colón was married to María de Toledo y Rojas, who was not only cousin to King Fernando of Spain but also a niece of the Countess of Lemos.

Leonor Enriquez y Quiñones, grandmother of the Sixth Countess of Lemos, Beatriz de Castro Osório, was the sister of **María Enríquez de Quiñones y Toledo**, grandmother of María de Toledo y Rojas, wife of Diego Colón.

The Countess of Lemos was the aunt of Don Diego Colón's wife.

The reader will recall that the Third Duke of Bragança was imprisoned in 1483 for treason and beheaded. When this happened, the Duchess of Bragança immediately sent their three sons – D. Filipe, D. Jaime, and D. Dinis – to Queen Isabel's court in Spain. This D. Dinis is the same Dinis de Portugal, cousin to King João III, who was married to the Countess of Lemos.

XPOFERENS, A ZARCO OF CUBA?

Admiral Colón appears to have codified his last name – Colonna – in his signature by using a dot and a slash, representing a semi-COLON. Why, then, would he not also encode his first name?

Certainly if the Admiral's real first name had been Cristóbal, *Christopher* in English, there would be no reason for Fernando Colón to continue to explain that his father, "for an occult reason," had called himself *Christopher*, this reason being associated with the already planned result of Colón's mission across the Atlantic.

In this passage of his First Chapter, Fernando Colón is not explaining the last name; he is explaining his father's first name:⁴³¹

Many names could be presented as an example, that not without occult reason were given to indicate the effect that was to happen, as that which has to do with what was predicted... being his proper name Christopher, as you know, who was a member, that is of Christ... to write it in Latin, which is Christophorus Colonus, we state, that the same way that it is said that St. Christopher had that name because he carried Christ through the depth of the water... the same way the Admiral, who became Christophorus Colonus, was asking Christ for His help to favor him in the danger of his passage (SEE FIGURE 16.6).

The clear inference by the Admiral's son is that the Admiral had switched his birth name for that of Cristóbal, or Christopher in Latin. The Admiral's birth name could not have been Cristóbal. Just as the Admiral adopted the surname Colón, because *kólon* in Greek means *member*, he took on the given name of Cristóbal – not just for some "occult reason," but because "Cristóbal" described what he was about to do: "bring Christ across the waters," as did Saint Christopher.

The correct name of Saint Christopher in Latin is *Christopher*, which corresponds to the Greek *Christophoros*. This name is composed of two Greek words: *Khristos*, or "Christ," and *pherein*, meaning "transport." Fernando Colón wrote his father's name correctly, "*en la pronunciación latina, que es Christophorus Colonus*" (in the Latin pronunciation, which is Christophorus Colonus). He did not write *Christoferens*, as did his father, who always utilized this strange adaptation of "Cristóbal."

Thus, the peculiar manner in which Admiral Colón signed his name suggests he may have been trying to convey some enigmatic information by putting FERENS all in caps.

This appears to be an anagram of FERNES, short for Fernandes. Could this have been a clever trick, using the Latin verb *fero* to encode *Fernandes*? It is well known that Fernandes means "son of Fernando."

Because the first part of his name is "Christ" instantly associated with "Savior," the theory put forth in the early 1930s in Portugal claimed his true name was *Salvador*.



Figure 16.6: Cover of Fernando Colón's *Historie*, showing the last name corrupted to Colombo. On the page at the right, Fernando explains that his father could only be considered a Colombo/Colomba in the sense of the Dove of the Holy Spirit (lines 9 and 13). Fernando then gives the reasons why his father chose to call himself Cristóbal Colon. He became Cristóbal (Christopher) and began using an old surname Colón because the assumed identity declared that he was a member of Christ (arrow)

On October 12, 1492, the Admiral named the first island that he landed on *San Salvador*. The first bay where he landed is called *Fernandez Bay*. It would be reasonable to speculate that Cristóbal baptized the first island with his real given name, *Salvador*, and the bay with his family name, *Fernandez*.

If so, his original name would be **Salvador Fernandes**, cleverly disguised as “XpoFERENS,” and accessible only to those who knew Hebrew, Greek, Latin and Portuguese.

Thus, if Cristóbal was Salvador, son of Fernando, and son of a daughter of Captain Zarco, his full name would be **Salvador Fernandes Zarco**.

These were reasonable deductions, and all the investigators can do is go back to the genealogy to see if they’re borne out.

In 1988, Mascarenhas Barreto released a book supporting the idea that Cristóbal Colón was **Salvador Fernandes Zarco**, the illegitimate son of Prince Fernando, Master of the Order of Christ, a native of the ancient town of Cuba, in Portugal.

Many have jumped on the bandwagon and championed Mr. Barreto’s theory, while many others have attacked and tried to discredit it.

It is a hypothesis we initially tried to verify, but in the end we discarded it for lack of proof.

RUMORS ARE DISPELLED BY FACTS

We tried to prove this 100-year-old theory, claiming that Colón was the son of Prince Fernando and a Zarco-Colonna, by taking blood samples from two Portuguese nobles – the Duke of Bragança and the Count of Ribeira Grande – for DNA testing. These DNA tests, as already mentioned in Chapter 7, were conducted in 2003-2006 at the University of Granada.

A few similarities were found between Admiral Colón and His Lordship D. Duarte Pio, Duke of Bragança, the current head of the Portuguese Royal House. These similarities were not sufficient, though, to confirm that Cristóbal Colón was related to the Portuguese Royal House. There are 500 years separating the current Duke of Bragança and Cristóbal Colón. In five centuries, a lot could have happened to explain why the DNA did not match, such as adultery or DNA mutations. However likely these two scenarios are, from a scientific standpoint, only by doing new DNA tests with the bones of Portuguese Princes from the 1400s could we be 100% certain that Colón either was or was not a son of the said Prince Fernando. Based on the scientific evidence, we do not at this point believe that Cristóbal Colón was **Salvador Fernandes Zarco**.

The DNA tests also appear to refute one widespread theory, which states without giving any proof that João Gonçalves Zarco was a Jew. The DNA from the 13th Count of Ribeira Grande, who was a direct male descendant of Zarco, indicates a Caucasian profile. This supports his famous ancestor being a native of Europe, not the Middle East.

One surprising result of the DNA test is that both the descendant of Zarco (D. José Ribeira, Count of Ribeira Grande) and the descendant of King João I (D. Duarte Pio, Duke of Bragança) have a common male ancestor. The Y chromosome of the two houses is almost identical. This could explain why the king of Portugal gave part of the Island of Madeira to Zarco. It appears they were family.

DNA establishes ancestry, not religion. The DNA of the 13th Count of Ribeira Grande and the DNA of the 24th Duke of Bragança revealed that they had a common ancestor, and since this DNA points to the Caucasian race, we must accept that their common ancestor was a white European. Thus, João Gonçalves Zarco could not have been Jewish: he was as European as the Royal House of Portugal.

COLÓN Y PORTUGAL

D. Luis Colón, Third Admiral, died in 1572 without leaving a legitimate heir. This situation created a vacuum that sucked into it Colón candidates from all parts, all of them trying to prove they were the next in line, deserving to inherit Colón’s estates, titles, posts and monetary rewards, as already discussed in Chapter 8.

Cristóbal Colón's heir, Don Diego Colón, had quite a few children, as well as dozens of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many of whom would have had some fair claim to his legacy. No outsiders, therefore, would have needed to apply. There are many books written about the court case and the family war that was waged between the heirs for Colón's inheritance. The drama began in 1572 and lasted until 1609, nearly four decades. We will not spend time on the particulars, except to note that they involved a significant amount of fraud propagated by the Italians from Genoa, especially by Baltasar Colombo.

The winner of the stormy court case – along with Colón's inheritance and the right to be called Admiral of the Indies – supplies yet another big clue pointing to Portugal. In 1609, none of Colón's titles or goods were distributed to any Italian. None of the Italian Colombos had managed to prove their membership in the same family as Admiral Colón.

Contrary to what would be expected, the titles were awarded to a descendant of the kings of Portugal. Yes, that's right: a descendant of the Royal House of Portugal inherited all of Cristóbal Colón's titles, posts, goods, and money.

It was D. Nuno Álvares Pereira Colón y Portugal (Bragança) who became the Fourth Duke of Veragua and the Fifth Admiral of the Indies.

Does it not seem strange that a descendant of the Kings of Portugal would end up inheriting all the titles of D. Cristóbal Colón in Spain?

Can the explanation for this be that Colón was indeed a Portuguese royal, and that both the Kings of Portugal and the Kings of Spain knew it?

This certainly would explain how Cristóbal Colón's titles were passed on to D. Nuno Álvares Pereira Colón y Portugal and how, therefore, Cristóbal Colón had to have been of Portuguese royal blood. Is this not, after all, what made D. Nuno Alvares Pereira Colón y Portugal regent of Portugal from 1621 until his death?

D. Nuno's son, Álvaro Jacinto Colón y Portugal, married Catarina de Castro y Portugal, Fifth Countess of Gelves and a great-granddaughter of the aforementioned Countess of Lemos.

Whichever way one looks, the Portuguese families seem to have married strictly within familial circles. Why would Filipa Moniz's marriage to Cristóbal Colón have been any different from the others?

In this chapter we have tried to explain the plausibility of the Portuguese theory, and how this theory has grown and changed since Ferreira and Santos proposed it in the early 1900s. We have tried to prove what was provable, including potential links through DNA.

We acknowledge many shortcomings in the theory. Not one single document has been found to support the claim that there ever existed a person named Salvador Fernandes Zarco in Portugal. Neither did our DNA tests of the Duke of Bragança support this theory. In fact, the DNA seems to indicate that Colón could not have been the son of a Portuguese Prince. Though many have insisted otherwise, we believe the DNA proves that Prince Fernando was *not* Colón's father.

Deciphering coded books and delving into the mysterious Kabbalah, as Barreto did, can bring us closer to the solution. But the results of such methodology cannot be accepted as definitive proof that the puzzle has been solved.

Only a document from Colón's time, or conclusive DNA evidence from the bones of King João I, or Captain Zarco of Madeira – or from any of their close relations in the 15th Century – could provide the much desired scientific proof for this long-standing theory.

We hope these tests can someday be accomplished. Until then, we continue to gather evidence that might solve this still unyielding puzzle surrounding the identity of that Portuguese nobleman, that elusive Mr. X, who became the famous Cristóbal Colón in Spain.

CHAPTER 17

SON OF A HERMIT KING

I should be judged as a Captain who, from long ago until today, bore arms without leaving them for an hour and as knights of conquests and their customs.

DON CRISTÓBAL COLÓN

As the reader now recognizes, the life of the man who called himself *Cristóbal Colón* is like a kaleidoscope. The slightest twist of the facts presents a completely different view of Colón's true identity. The fabricated mystery, along with colossal contradictions of apparent fact, make it possible for each theory to sound credible, even as each presents a conclusion wildly different from the others. But only one answer can be correct; credibility does not necessarily constitute accuracy:

To create a false history, all that's required is for a plausible lie to be floated, intentionally or not, then picked up and repeated, as happened with the name of *Columbus*. Eventually, over the centuries, the truth fades from human memory, and the lie becomes established as fact.

Colón, being a highly visible public figure, did not hide his real name in order to hide himself. It is evident that all the secrets and lies woven around the life of Admiral Colón were devised with the object of hiding his true lineage, thus protecting not Colón's identity but that of his father. A tremendous effort went into creating this deception, and then – for centuries – into maintaining it. The key to solving this puzzle must be sought within Portugal, where the whole story began.

The Monarchs of Portugal and Spain knew perfectly well who the Admiral was, and they helped to conceal his identity. In modern terms, this would be like the FBI's Witness Protection Plan, whereby the government supplies all the props and documentation for a new identity and does everything possible to erase the original. The US Federal Witness Protection Program gives its clients completely new identities in order to protect not only their lives but also the government's case – the "truth" which they bore witness to (honestly or not). Cristóbal Colón appears to have been such a case.

All solid proof of Colón's true identity was disappeared or meticulously obfuscated. Being so well camouflaged, the famous Admiral became a chameleon in the history books, able to be colored and described to suit almost any purpose. How could filling in a perfect blank space be conclusively refuted? Prior to our investigation, it would have been impossible to show that the generally accepted history was untrue. But the old tale of a *peasant wool weaver who arrived shipwrecked in Portugal* and went on to become an immortal Admiral has now been exposed as mere legend, an implausible fantasy with absolutely no basis in fact.

All the theories presented to date have omitted important elements of Colón's life, which makes them easy to dismiss. Unlike the old theory, resting on the written word of third persons, we have focused on Admiral Colón's established actions, and on all his many Portuguese connections, which can no longer be ignored or minimized. The words "Italian" or "Genoese," written in documents and chronicles dated after 1493, do not prove that Colón was Italian or Genoese. All of these declarations took place after Colón was already living in Spain, – undercover, with a different name, and his ancestry carefully blocked out. Since he was actively hiding his true identity, even if Colón had publicly declared that he was Italian or Genoese, we couldn't take it seriously.

In all the other theories, the Portuguese life of Colón has been whitewashed or completely ignored, and his ties to Portuguese nobility denied, even by Portuguese academics. But even when it's been accepted that Admiral Colón had to be a Portuguese nobleman, as confirmed by all the clues so far presented, we cannot review the life of every Portuguese nobleman that lived in those days to see which one best fits the life and description of Colón.

The man who became *Admiral, Governor and Viceroy of the Indies* in 1493 was already an extremely important noble at Portugal's court and in Portuguese high society. After all, he married no less a figure than Filipa Moniz in 1479, long before he hit the public stage in Spain under a false name. Only someone with an extremely compelling reason to hide his past would cut himself off from his noble lineage by adopting a new name and starting a whole new family tree. As Fernando Colón states:

Nor do I believe that this occasion is less glorious to us who descend from his blood, and because I hold it in greater regard that all the glory comes to us from his person, than if you go looking for whether his father was a merchant, or if he hunted with falcons.

The History of Portugal reveals many personages who, when matched against the profile of Colón, satisfy many of the necessary features; however, all of them fall short in some important way. One, for instance, is the Galician-born Pedro Álvarez de Sotomayor, First Viscount of Tuy in Spain and First Portuguese Count of Caminha, nicknamed Pedro *Madruga*, who some Spanish writers have tried recently to fit into the skin of Colón. Madrugá, a Spanish native exiled in Portugal for supporting Queen Juana “*la Beltraneja*,” and a traitor to Queen Isabel and King Fernando, embodies some of the attributes of Admiral Colón. But too much of what is known about Madrugá's life disqualifies him. Madrugá's Portuguese wife was not Filipa Moniz, and he died in 1488, while Colón died in 1506. Furthermore, Madrugá was well known to the Spanish court, and therefore could not have hidden his treasonous identity from Queen Isabel simply by changing his name.

Others, such as Professors Charles J. Merrill and Estelle Irizarry, have tried to prove that the Admiral was actually born in Catalonia, more specifically to a noble Barcelona family named Colom. This theory, however, ignores the fact that the Catalan word *colom* means *colombo* in Italian, not *κῶλον* (*kólon*) in Greek. More fundamentally, it ignores that the name “Colón” was not the Admiral's true family name, but as we've determined had been chosen as a coded pseudonym for its meaning of “member” in Greek as well as its connection to the Admiral's ancient roots.

Another Catalanian proponent is Nito Verdera, who has long maintained that Colón was secretly a Jew from Ibiza, whose birth name was Colom. Again, this theory completely ignores the fact that both Las Casas and Fernando Colón said the discoverer had hidden his identity and changed his name to Colón. Furthermore, Mr. Verdera must completely disregard Colón's Portuguese life in order to pull off his “Ibiza Colom”; hence, this theory falls far short of answering the riddle.

The Catalanian theories show no proof that the man who married in Portugal, and was living and sailing for the kings of Portugal, was ever tied to any Catalanian family. They completely ignore the Portuguese life of Admiral Colón, with his noble and royal in-laws in Portugal, thus exhibiting the same shortcomings that the Genoese theory had. Furthermore, seeing that the Admiral invented his alias, *Colón*, to hide his true identity, he could not, at the same time, have already been named *Colom*, as the proponents of the Catalanian theory are trying to establish.

What we need to do is locate a historical person who embodies all of the aspects of Cristóbal Colón's personality and fits all the clues that were left behind. If we can find such a perfect candidate, then it's a certainty the puzzle has been solved.

The good news is that, against all odds, we have found such a perfect candidate.

AN HENRIQUES THAT WAS NOT AN HENRIQUES

A multitude of factors, many of them distilled and presented throughout this book, have brought us to the point where we are confident that we've finally solved the riddle of Colón's true identity. After two decades of investigating all the theories that have been advanced to solve this five-centuries-old puzzle, we felt a new approach was required. This new approach was simply to follow the evidence wherever it led us. The new prime suspect is presented in this chapter.

This man's life history fits all of the evidence and clues, and he had a compelling reason to conceal the identity of his father. With highly-placed friends among the courts of Europe, he provides the best explanation for the mystery surrounding Admiral Colón. He was the Royal Prince Segismundo Hen-

riques (Jagiello). After his disappearance at the Battle of Varna, Bulgaria, on November 10, 1444, King Władysław III of Poland and Hungary lived secretly in Madeira, Portugal and Segismundo Henriques was his son.

Everyone claims that the king of Poland died at the Battle of Varna, but we will show this to be untrue. The evidence of the king's survival is overwhelming, but further scientific data is available to satisfy the most stubborn of skeptics.

Although 21st century forensic science has given us some valuable clues, it has not yet confirmed the identity of the First Admiral of the Indies, according to Professor José Lorente, director of the Laboratory of Genetic Identification at the University of Granada and a leading scientist in the 2003-2006 DNA studies of Cristóbal Colón's remains.⁴³² If all the facts presented in this chapter still fail to convince the skeptics, then DNA tests will establish conclusively the answer to this intriguing puzzle in our common past.

When I began to claim that the discoverer of America was the son of the king of Poland, many historians, especially Polish ones, were quick to declare that this was impossible. Without reading my research, they declared that there was no documented evidence that King Władysław ever lived in Madeira. Yet they violated their own criteria for "documented evidence" by insisting that King Władysław died in the Battle of Varna in 1444.

However, when one presses these critics for their proof that King Władysław died at Varna, they can't produce a single piece of evidence. They don't have the body of the dead king; they don't cite any eyewitnesses to the king being killed; they never recovered any of the king's artifacts from the battlefield; and yet more tellingly, the king's brother, Casimir Jagiello, only took over the throne on June 25, 1447, almost three years after Władysław III supposedly died.

As all historians know, the first thing any kingdom did when its king died was to crown a new king. The fact that Poland remained kingless for almost three years is the best proof that nobody in Poland believed their king had died in the battle of Varna.

At first glance, the theory that Cristóbal Colón was a son of Władysław III seems far-fetched and fantastic. However, once all the evidence is presented, it shows that King Władysław III escaped the Battle of Varna and went on to live the rest of his life in Portugal – hiding under the assumed name of Henrique Alemão (Henry "the German") – and that Cristóbal Colón was his son, Segismundo Henriques.

One of the widely declared rationalizations for the critics' argument is that many imposters came forth claiming to be King Władysław III, and that Henrique Alemão was just another pretender. To support this claim, the skeptics point out that all of the several impostors who came forth claiming to be the lost King Władysław III were exposed as frauds; Henrique Alemão must have been just another of these.

But the academics who take this position are unqualified to do so because they have not researched the Portuguese evidence. Contrary to what these critics have presumed, Henrique Alemão NEVER CLAIMED to be King Władysław III. In fact, throughout his whole life in Portugal, Henrique Alemão *vehemently denied* that he was King Władysław III. Even when Polish monks, sent to the island, identified him as their king, and even when Count Rozmital identified him by his six toes, Henrique Alemão refused to acknowledge that he was the missing king of Poland. Thus, the skeptics' arguments are groundless and superficial. There is enough evidence in the Portuguese chronicles to establish that Henrique Alemão, regardless of how much he denied it, was in fact the person that many accused him of being: King Władysław III of Poland.

When the code breakers who investigated the books of *Don Tivisco* deciphered a particular phrase as meaning that Cristóbal Colón "*was the last offspring of Henrique*," they interpreted this as a reference to Henry the Navigator. However, there was another *Henrique* in Portugal at that time who better fit the bill, namely, *Henrique Alemão/Władysław III.*

Just like the mysterious Cristóbal Colón, the mysterious *Henrique Alemão's* life in Portugal was full of intrigue because he was hiding his identity. He had vanished from Varna, Bulgaria, in 1444, and he wanted to live out the rest of his life in Madeira incognito.

THE HOUSE OF JAGIEŁŁO

In 1309, two years after the Templar Knights were ordered arrested by the Vatican, the German order of Teutonic Knights finished construction of a huge fort at Malbork, Poland, which would later serve as their headquarters. Now, the designated battleground of the Teutonic Knights was the frontier between Christendom and the Orient, Christendom and Islam, Christendom and what remained of Pagan Europe. Unlike the Portuguese Templar Order of Christ, which worked in synchronicity with Portugal's kings on matters of national interest, the Teutonic Order battled instead to carve out its own kingdom, even against Christian kings.

Jagiello, the Grand Duke of Lithuania (c.1352–1434), in order to marry the young Jadwiga, Monarch of Poland, and become king of Poland, adopted Christianity and was baptized *Władysław* II of Poland. The marriage took place in Kraków, in 1386.

In 1410, Władysław II led an army of Poles, Lithuanians and others against the Teutonic Knights, defeating them at the Battle of Grunwald. Some years later, Władysław II had to choose sides in another fight, this time against the Bohemian Hussites (followers of John Huss). Prince Pedro of Portugal was helping Holy Roman Emperor Sigismund and King Eric of Pomerania battle the Hussites in 1419. The king of Poland was dissuaded from supporting the Hussites and then inducted into the Order of the Dragon, founded by Emperor Sigismund.

Władysław II died in 1434, leaving the throne to his 10-year-old son, Władysław III.

The Hussite movement had a brief comeback during King Władysław III's reign. But a new and more dangerous enemy was threatening Europe: the Muslim Ottoman Turks.

In 1440, Władysław III also became king of Hungary. With the Muslim invaders at the gates of Constantinople, 18-year-old Władysław III, persuaded by the Vatican, joined the fight against them. His first battle against the Muslims resulted in a decisive victory, leading to a 10-year truce that was signed in 1443. It has been said that his counselors, no doubt instigated by the Vatican, convinced him that the truce was not valid since the Muslim invaders could not be trusted to keep their word. However, it appears the signing of the truce was itself a cover for a new Christian attack.⁴³³

Whatever the truth, a new battle between Muslims and Christians was soon in the offing. Much has been written about this Battle of Varna, which was a disastrous turning point for European ideals in Eastern Europe, with consequences that the world is still suffering from today. It brought about the defeat of the Christian Byzantine Empire – and of Constantinople, which is still occupied today by the Muslim Turks.

When the 20-year-old Władysław arrived at the battlefield on November 10, 1444, he could not have imagined the fate that would befall upon him during this battle against the enemies of Christendom. The Europeans were far outnumbered, but at a certain point in the battle, seeing the enemy in disarray, Władysław III – with his 500 personal, armored knights – charged against Sultan Murad II, aiming to kill him and end the battle. This was the last anyone saw of Władysław III, as he disappeared into a sea of enemy soldiers.

If researching of historic events can be daunting when there exist contemporary, eyewitness accounts, imagine how difficult it can be when the sources are vague, one-sided, or written by non-witnesses.

None of the king's accompanying knights returned from battle to report the truth. Here's an example of popular legend about the king's fate:

Władysław spurred his horse towards the Sultan's tent, and as he got within striking range, his horse was felled with an axe's blow to the leg. As Władysław hit the ground, he was pounced upon and decapitated. The body was left behind and the head stuck on a spear on the field facing the Christians, next to another spear that held the manuscript with the signed truce of 1443. Władysław's head, covered in a pot of honey to preserve it, was then taken to the capital, where it was exhibited. The decapitated body was left unceremoniously on the battlefield.

This is the officially agreed-upon version, presented in history books for nearly 600 years. The first paragraph of Krystyna Łukasiewicz's article, "Deceptive Practices in Fifteenth Century Europe: The Case of Władysław III Jagiellon (Varnensis)," states that Władysław III lived in Hungary for some years, "before **dying** on November 10, 1444" – exemplifying the broad acceptance of the thesis that Władysław III died on that day.⁴³⁴

But the old adage that every story has three sides – yours, mine, and the truth – could not be more aptly applied than to the life of Władysław III Jagiełło, Grand Duke of Lithuania, King of Poland and Hungary.⁴³⁵

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY

Neither the king's body nor any traces of his armor, clothing, royal coat of arms, or his distinctive royal sword were ever found on the battlefield, despite the fact that many efforts were made to rescue these artifacts and even to find the king's burial site, in order to better understand what happened to him.

History books tell us unwaveringly that "the king was killed." But without a cadaver, the most that can be honestly and factually claimed is that, "King Władysław III went missing in the Battle of Varna, 1444."

Since those who've accepted the king's death can show no proof that he died, the best they can do is to insist that all accounts of the king's survival are deceptive mystifications, invented for some ulterior purpose. As a consequence, partisans of the king's-death hypothesis must explain away any evidence to the contrary. And there is a lot of such contradictory evidence. No solid basis exists for anyone to assert that the king died on that day. Survivors of the monumental battle attested only that they, "did not know anything of the king's fate... some say that he was killed, others think that he was taken prisoner. Some say that he was wounded in the head."⁴³⁶

Half a year after the battle, Enea Silvio Piccolomini (later Pope Pius II) could still only say that, "nothing certain was known about the king," as he wrote in a letter to the Duke of Milan on June 1, 1445. Again, on September 13, 1445, nearly one year after Władysław disappeared, there was still no undeniable proof that the king had died in battle: "I think that he has died, but it is still not certain."⁴³⁷

To make things even more complicated, soon after the battle, letters were written whose authors claimed to have proof that the king was alive. And these letters were not from just anybody, but from high officials, well placed in their society and lacking any obvious reason to lie. While this news frustrated enemies of the Jagiellonian Dynasty who wanted the king dead, no one can deny that it gave others some hope that Władysław would one day return to reclaim his crowns.

A letter written in May 1445 states, "as far as the king of Poland, we continue not knowing if he died in Bulgaria or if he was able to escape and hide towards Constantinople, as some think."⁴³⁸ Note that Constantinople is a mere 140 miles from Varna, near the shores of the Black Sea.

In the spring of 1445, Władysław's mother, Queen Zofia, was told by a Hungarian envoy, that her son was alive and well. Andreas de Pallatio, who'd participated in the battle, was still under the impression that Władysław was alive. Furthermore, the Muslims had displayed a head with blond hair, upon which "several slaves said that they had seen the King of Hungary on many occasions and that he had black hair."⁴³⁹

The Palatine of Bosnia, Stephen Vukčić, also claimed to have evidence that Władysław was alive. The Palatine of Hungary, Wawrzyniec Hederway (Hédervári) even sent a letter to Holy Roman Emperor Frederick III, declaring that he had received a letter sealed with King Władysław's royal seal, written in October 1445, one year after Władysław's disappearance.⁴⁴⁰

In that letter, Władysław declared that he was on his way to Cyprus but intended to return and that, "if he did not return to Hungary before the day of the celebration of Holy Trinity, his successor should be crowned."⁴⁴¹ This letter of October 1445 may explain why John Hunyadi was only elected regent in 1446 – after the deadline set by Władysław's letter, which the Palatine of Hungary had received.

It was not until late in 1448 that the partisans of the Habsburg Władysław V decided that King Władysław Jagiełło must be dead. Piccolomini, in his letter to the Bishop of Padua, decided that “Władysław died, punished by God.”⁴⁴²

Nevertheless, it is important to review what Jan Długosz wrote: “the King was never seen again after night stopped the fighting. No one has ever been found who saw him being captured or killed. Of the many others who never returned, definite news came of their having died or been captured, but none of the King’s fate.”⁴⁴³

King Władysław was not found anywhere on the battlefield, and it was not that easy to lose a king in battle because all looked to him for orders, and all looked out for him in the face of danger. He had vanished. Shortly after the Battle of Varna, there were rumors that the Polish king had been seen in the Holy Land, accompanied by monks from the St. Catherine Monastery.

Four years after the Battle of Varna, his contemporaries still had no proof of King Władysław’s death, but – in order to move forward – all decided to finally accept that the king must have died in the battle. This was how history books came to agree that, “Władysław, King of Poland and Hungary, Grand Duke of Lithuania, died defending Christendom against Islam in the Battle of Varna, November 10, 1444.”

Throughout the pages of the history books, only the uncertainty of the king’s fate is proven, time and time again, while not a single proof to validate the king’s supposed death is presented, other than the Muslims’ claim. Despite there being no proof, the case was closed.

The previous quotes are proof, not of the certainty of Władysław’s fate, but of its uncertainty. These letters claiming that Władysław was alive are today dismissed as false mystifications, by Krystyna Łukasiewicz and others, as if they were all part of some big conspiracy involving the Teutonic Knights. Yet not one single scientific proof has been presented to show how the letters are false, or that the Teutonic Knights actually ever referred to these letters, or made use of these letters in any way.

With such flimsy support for the king’s death, it’s fair to ask whether Władysław really did die in the Battle of Varna on November 10, 1444, as many have come to accept, or did he survive the battle, as others have claimed?

In her article, Krystyna Łukasiewicz claims all the rumors that the king survived were a deception, practiced by the enemies of the House of Habsburg, in an elaborate scheme to prevent Władysław III’s crowns from settling onto Habsburg heads.⁴⁴⁴ Author John Jefferson also appears to agree with Łukasiewicz’s conclusions.⁴⁴⁵

But, by the same token, can we be certain that those partisans of the same House of Habsburg, by accepting and proclaiming Władysław’s death, were not involved in some deception of their own?

If we base our conclusion solely on the facts, then we are forced to accept that the young king did not die, as has been claimed. The only clear facts from the day of the battle are:

- The king charged towards the Sultan with his armored knights.
- The enemy soldiers engulfed the king and his knights.
- The king disappeared, never to be seen again.
- No surviving Christian had witnessed the king’s death or capture.
- The Muslims claimed to have cut off his head, leaving the body behind.
- No Christian could identify the severed head as being that of King Władysław.
- Rumors that the king survived and was in hiding immediately began to circulate.

If these facts were all we had to go on, we could today do no more than assert that serious doubts exist as to whether the king died in battle on that day.

Thus, one could never accept that the king died unless one had absolute faith in what the Muslims claimed – it seems they themselves didn’t know the king’s face from that of any of his knights, for the severed head was of a blonde man and king’s hair was black.⁴⁴⁶

The Muslim invaders would have benefited greatly by spreading rumors – whether they were true or not – that the Christian king had tangled with them and lost his life.

The view of contemporary powerbrokers on the king's death may be safely inferred from the fact that neither Poland nor Hungary crowned a new king for a very long time. Whenever a king died, it was customary for his replacement to occupy the throne almost immediately.

Yet Poland did not crown Casimir Jagiellon until June 25, 1447: 31 months after the Battle of Varna, an unheard of interlude for an uncontested successor. Similarly, John Hunyadi was not elected regent in Hungary until 1446.

That both kingdoms ruled by King Władysław III waited so long to put his replacement on the throne can only be taken to imply a strong consensus existed – among those whose opinions mattered most – that the king had not in fact died in 1444.

Bohemian Count Leo of Rozmital claimed he identified the King of Poland in 1466, living as a hermit in Spain, by the fact this man had six toes on one foot. But Krystyna Łukasiewicz denies the hermit was King Władysław, insisting instead that he was some imposter whom the Teutonic Knights had hired to mislead Rozmital. How could the Teutonic Knights in Prussia have been able to locate a six-toed man in Spain to pull off such a deception? Such are the ridiculous explanations that have been advanced to explain away the obvious.

King Władysław's story would have ended with his presumed death at Varna, were it not for subsequent events 4000 kilometers to the west, in the territory of Portugal. There, Portuguese chroniclers recorded that King Władysław lived secretly on the Island of Madeira, under the assumed identity of Henrique Alemão (Henry the German).

But how could this be?

A KNIGHT TO REMEMBER

Portuguese chronicles declare that sometime around 1450 there arrived in Portugal an important noble, initially identified as the "Knight of Saint Catherine of Mount Sinai." This was none other than King Władysław III. According to Portuguese accounts, Władysław had been injured at Varna and managed to escape. He believed that his misfortune against the invading Muslims resulted from reneging on the oath of peace, which he had sworn to on the Holy Testament.⁴⁴⁷ They say Władysław made a covenant to repent and seek salvation for his soul, promising God to spend the rest of his life in penitence and on pilgrimages.

Władysław apparently made his way to the Holy Land and then to the Monastery of Saint Catherine on Mt. Sinai, where he was consecrated as a Knight of the Order of Saint Catherine, a necessary condition of which was being present at the monastery. Note the associations here. Saint Catherine had been sentenced to death on a wheel of knives, yet she survived – a fitting allegory for Władysław's surviving a circle of Ottoman swords.

Seven years after the Battle of Varna, the mysterious Knight of Saint Catherine sought exile in Portugal: the only kingdom that hosted the anti-Vatican Templars and actively battled Islam. He most likely arrived from the Holy Land in the company of Prester John's ambassador George, sent from the Middle East to Prince Henry, Templar Master of the Order of Christ.⁴⁴⁸ After spending some time in Portugal proper, this Knight of Saint Catherine went to North Africa as a soldier to help guard Portuguese cities there against the Muslims. Afterwards, he was granted lands in the Templar Order of Christ's own Madeira.

Despite his nameless condition, he was of such high importance that Prince Henry the Navigator granted him lands on the Island of Madeira.⁴⁴⁹ The mysterious knight received further help directly from King Afonso V of Portugal, who sent him regular supply ships to ensure he was well taken care of. King Afonso V arranged for the knight to marry a highly noble lady related to Captain Zarco, and the King of Portugal himself was best man (*padrinho*) at their wedding. Thus, the court of Portugal was clearly dealing with a very special "Knight of Saint Catherine," whom they were careful to not identify by name.

This special treatment reserved for the knight living in Madeira shows us how important it was to keep him incognito – incognito to the public, that is, but convincingly identified to King Afonso V, to the Templar Master, Henry the Navigator, and to Captain Zarco. The fact that Afonso V was best man at his wedding attests to the groom's lineage being on a par with that of the King of Portugal. King Afonso V would not have been best man at this wedding if he hadn't known exactly who the groom was. No man of unknown origin would have received such consideration for his marriage, for a land grant, and so forth.

He later became known as Henrique Alemão. It seems very likely that Władysław III chose the name *Henrique* in honor of *Prince Henrique* (Henry the Navigator).

In his *Nobiliário da Ilha da Madeira* (Nobiliary of the Island of Madeira), Henrique Henriques de Noronha (1667-1730), writes:

*Henrique Alemão came to this Island around the year 1450... It was said that he was the Prince of Poland... arrived at this Island, as we said, where he concealed who he was, and even though they came looking for him, and recognized him, he refused to admit he was the person they said he was. Finally this was proven, the referred above [that he was the *Prince of Poland*], in the year 1584, which proof and other documents I saw, and are kept by his descendants.*⁴⁵⁰

Captain Zarco of Madeira treated him with extraordinarily high honors, to wit, Henrique Alemão “had his own dining room [in Zarco's palace] and table settings all in silver like a Viceroy. He had secret dealings with the Portuguese monarch, who sent him a ship specially to bring him back to the Court.”^{451,452}

The uninhabited Madeira Islands, as well as the Azores Islands, were claimed by Prince Henry's Order of Christ early in the 1400s. Prince Henry managed them, made special knights Captains of these islands, and helped to get the islands populated. The standing rule for land grants was that settlers had to farm the land for five years before it could be permanently claimed. Because Prince Henry's and King Afonso's confirmations are from 1457, stating that Henrique Alemão had put the land to good use, Zarco had to have granted the lands in 1452, five years earlier.

Some years having passed, an Italian merchant traveling through Livonia – today's Latvia and Estonia – declared that the King of Poland was secretly living at the end of the known world, in a territory belonging to the King of Portugal. Hearing of this, according to some chronicles, Emperor Frederick III, married to the Portuguese Princess Leonor, sister of Afonso V of Portugal, sent two Polish monks, Casimir and Vitoldo, to investigate in Madeira. (Other chronicles record that it was King Casimir Jagiellon who sent the two Polish monks on this mission.)

Portuguese genealogists were unanimous in declaring that foreign monks came looking for King Władysław. When the monks arrived, Henrique Alemão was at Zarco's palace, where a celebration was taking place. After verifying Władysław's identity, the monks pleaded with Zarco to order their king's return to Poland, for he was truly their own King Władysław III, whose birthright and duty it was to reign over Poland.

His rightful throne awaited him. But the Knight of St. Catherine, alias Henrique Alemão, denied his true identity, declaring instead that the monks were mistaken and had him confused with someone else. The monks later swore on the Holy Testament that they had recognized the knight living on Madeira as King Władysław III, and that he had denied his true identity.

The king refused to continue being a king. He was now a mere knight, named Henrique Alemão. His throne remained vacant for three years, due to the uncertainty of his fate. At last his brother, Casimir, took the crown of Poland on June 25, 1447. In Poland, it must have been strongly suspected that their king still lived; otherwise, they would have filled the throne at once.

In 1580 the throne of Portugal was taken over by Felipe II, King of Spain. As Henrique Henriques de Noronha stated above, in 1584, Henrique Alemão's Portuguese descendants had proved to the Spanish court that they descended from the Kings of Poland, “which proof and other documents I saw, and are kept by his descendants.”⁴⁵³

No one knows where these documents are today. It is possible they may still be located in the personal archives of Władysław III's Portuguese descendants in Madeira – and we solicit those descendants to contact us.

Henrique Alemão arrived in Portugal just a few years after the Battle of Varna, and he went to live in Madeira sometime around 1452. A big mystery surrounded him in Madeira. The Polish monks insisted he was the King of Poland, and his descendants waited 125 years to prove their Jagiello lineage – no doubt because the new Spanish king was not privy to the family's secret ancestry. The Spanish court ultimately confirmed that the descendants of Bárbara Henriques, Henrique Alemão's daughter, were indeed of the lineage of the kings of Poland, as H. H. Noronha explained in the text shown above, saying that he'd seen *proof*. Why should we doubt H. H. Noronha?

As soon as the Knight of Saint Catherine moved to Madeira, the residents became suspicious that he was more than he wanted people to know. First of all, he was a foreigner, granted substantial lands at Madalena on which to reside, but he spent a lot of time at Funchal, where he was hosted by Captain Zarco, who had such consideration for this Knight of Saint Catherine that he served him in a separate dining room with his own silverware. In other words, the Knight of Saint Catherine was being hosted – practically as a king would be – by Captain Zarco.⁴⁵⁴

King Władysław III arrived in Portugal in early 1451. We can say this on the basis of a letter written by King Alfonso V of Aragon – to his nephew Prince Fernando and his niece Princess Leonor of Portugal, entrusting to them the noble Portuguese Pedro Afonso Barreiro, who has been for a “long time servant of the former king of Poland.” It must have been Afonso Barreiro who escorted Władysław III to Portugal.⁴⁵⁵ In April 1452, Władysław III must have already decided not to leave Portugal, and have been settled and married in Madeira, for King Alfonso V of Aragon sent the same Portuguese nobleman, Pedro Afonso Barreiro, to King Casimir of Poland because Barreiro wished to be in Casimir's service (see Appendix).⁴⁵⁶

At this juncture, Henrique Alemão/Władysław III becomes the prime suspect, “guilty” of being Cristóbal Colón's real father, and the origin of the newly invented Colón family tree.

Władysław III was hosted at the court of Portugal or at Prince Henry's court in Algarve. It is narrated that Władysław III spent time in Africa defending the Portuguese City of Ceuta from the Muslims before he went to live in Madeira and married there.

The more one learns about this Knight of Saint Catherine, the more questions about Colón's life this scenario answers. Certainly it explains all the secrecy surrounding Cristóbal Colón's true identity. After all, if King Władysław III was indeed Cristóbal Colón's father, as now appears to be the case, and Władysław insisted on not being recognized, then Cristóbal Colón could scarcely have gone about broadcasting that he was the son of King Władysław III, alias Henrique Alemão.

Here one finds the real reason for hiding the identities, the lineage, and the nationality of the Colón brothers in Spain: it was a state secret, well preserved as a favor to protect King Władysław III.

But King Władysław did not arrive in Madeira alone; he was accompanied by another Polish nobleman:

*The town of Estreyro da Calheta, whose Parrish is in the invocation of Our Lady of Grace, was founded by João de França (John of France) son of André Gonçalves, who although having a paternal last name derived from Gonçalo, a Gothic name, was a natural of the Kingdom of **Poland**, from where he came to live and marry on this Island. At the same location João de França built some good houses, next to which he erected this Temple where he rests buried in the Main Chapel. He died in the year 1511.*⁴⁵⁷

The land so granted to André Gonçalves came at the request of Henrique Alemão. How could Henrique Alemão have had such clout as to procure land grants for men in his entourage?

In fact, the 1457 letter of donation, confirmed by Prince Henry, refers to this Pole not as *André Gonçalves* but as “André Alemão,” even though André was Polish, just like Henrique Alemão.⁴⁵⁸ Note that this André Gonçalves was from Poland, yet he gave his son the last name of *France*, disguising the truth of his nationality, just as Władysław's last name of *German* obscured his real origin in

Poland/Lithuania. André Gonçalves may have been a knight who survived the Battle of Varna beside Władysław III, then ended up travelling with and finally living a mere 4 miles from his king at the same Portuguese location of Madeira.

Interestingly enough, Cristóbal Colón arrived in Spain with someone named André/Andrea, whose lineage was never revealed in the documents. Could it be that this André, sailing with Colón for Spain, was the son of the Polish *André Gonçalves*, who had grown up just a few miles from Colón in Madeira? This is a plausible solution for the identity of yet one more mysterious personage in this history.

From the 1457 land grant written by Prince Henry (see Appendix), we can make several deductions of great value to understanding King Władysław's fate in Portugal:

- First and foremost, Captain Zarco had already awarded the lands to Henrique King Władysław in 1452, because five years was the required time for land grantees to show that they had put the land to good use, in order to make the grant permanent. Otherwise, they would lose possession of the land. This means that eight years after the battle of Varna, Władysław was already living in Madeira.
- Secondly, when Władysław arrived in Madeira, he carried with him a letter from Prince Henry with instructions for Captain Zarco to grant enough lands not only for the incognito newcomer, but also for eight nobles of his entourage. The term "*lavradores*" referred to persons of high social status.⁴⁵⁹
- Thirdly, it was Władysław who requested that Prince Henry grant land between Madalena and Arco to the Polish André. This *André* is *André Gonçalves*, father of João de França, mentioned above.
- Fourthly, in 1457 Władysław travelled from Madeira to Algarve in Portugal to meet with Prince Henry, and from there to Santarém to meet with King Afonso V. The land grant was confirmed at both of these locations, thus documenting Władysław had direct contact with the two highest nobles of Portugal.
- Fifthly, in 1457 Władysław was already known by the name of Henrique Alemão.

WŁADYSŁAW'S ODYSSEY

In 1466, Count Jaroslav Lev of Rožmitál – Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece, brother of the Queen of Bohemia – went on a diplomatic tour of Western European kingdoms. The chronicle of his journey includes an account of how he met a Hermit in Iberia and recognized him as King Władysław III.⁴⁶⁰ In 1991, the Polish historian Leopold Kielanowski published his *Odyseja Władysława Warnencyka*, which appeared in Portugal under the title, *A Odisseia de Ladislau, O Varnense* (The Odyssey of Ladislau, of Varna). Kielanowski's *Odyssey* resulted from his investigation into the mysterious resident of Madalena in Madeira, known as *Henrique Alemão*. Leopold Kielanowski brought to light an important letter, which further proves that Henrique Alemão was King Władysław III. It had recently been found in the archives of the Teutonic Knights, housed today in Germany. Due to its importance, Kielanowski's *Odyssey* is cited here at some length (our translation):

I have finally in my hands the letter from Brother Floris from Lisbon that talks about Vladislaus... the said medieval text, written in gothic letters: "Laudes Jesu Christo... Feeling an obligation to humanity, for benefit of all Christianity and for the good of my own name, I send this letter." This is the introduction of Floris's letter sent from Lisbon to the Grand Master of the Order of Teutonic Knights... Floris's letter gains special significance, since, having been kept in Northern Europe and hidden for centuries in the Teutonic Knights' Archives in Königsberg, near the Polish border, it constitutes the link that joins the Portuguese legend and Polish history... Thanks to a fortunate circumstance, invaluable for Medieval Polish history, the archives of the Order of the Teutonic Knights didn't suffer the same destiny as so many other historic documents, since, after the Second World War, it was transferred from Königsberg to Göttingen. Here, thanks to the diligent assistance of Professor Karolina Lanckoronska, I succeeded in getting to the letter of Floris.

On the cover that protects this letter so valuable to me is: "Monk of the Predicant Order, Nicolau Floris to the Grand Master of the Order, Ludwig von Erlichshausen. Notice of the residing of the King of Poland and Hungary, Vladislaus, on the Portuguese islands"... I identify the key phrase of the letter: "Vladislaus, rex Poloniae et Ungariae vivit in insulis regni Portugaliae" (Władysław, King of Poland and Hungary, lives on an island of the kingdom of Portugal)... Brother Nicolao Floris, who identifies himself as a member of the Pilgrimage Order of the Predicant Rule, writes the following: "Your Lordship! I am compelled to write this letter by obligations not of a personal but of a public nature... You are a special friend of King Władysław, in another time honorable Sovereign and Lord, by the Grace of God, of the kingdoms of Poland and Hungary.

I wish to reveal the miraculous news that king Władysław actually lives on the islands of the Kingdom of Portugal and I am his companion and comrade hermit. Therefore dispel all your doubts... The matter is urgent, and because of it I came from the islands to Lisbon on a fast boat to meet with the King of Portugal, Don Afonso, and his Princes with the intent of receiving from him his good will in this matter... Give faith to this seal of Nicolao Floris, companion of the King of Poland, Władysław.⁴⁶¹

It should be noted here that in 1892, the 400th Anniversary of the Discovery, a Portuguese author named Nicolau Florentino published a book titled, *A mulher de Colombo* (The Wife of Columbus.) However, the author's true name was not Nicolau Florentino, but Antonio Maria Freitas. Again we face two interesting facts: one, the pseudonym Nicolau Florentino appears to be a reference to the monk Nicolao Floris, comrade hermit of King Władysław in Portugal; and two, Senhorinha Anes's second husband was João Rodrigues de Freitas. Thus we have a Freitas, possibly descended from Senhorinha Anes, who in 1892 still understood that King Władysław's companion in Madeira was Nicolao Floris. Antonio Maria Freitas, alias Nicolau Florentino, was writing about none other than Admiral Cristóbal Colón.

How could Antonio Maria Freitas have known about Nicolao Floris if no one had heard of this monk's connection to Władysław III until the late 1900s?

Some Polish academics have been quick to claim that Nicolao Floris's letter is a forgery. However, they have neither investigated the letter, to prove that it's a forgery, nor have they given any reason why a forged letter would be kept secret for over 500 years. Forgeries are created with an intent to be utilized in some scheme to benefit the forger, not to be kept hidden in a drawer so no one knows they exist, as happened with this letter. These Polish academics present no reason whatsoever to accept that Floris's letter is not genuine.

From Nicolao Floris's letter, it is apparent that Henrique Alemão was the Portuguese pseudonym of King Władysław Jagiello, just as the Portuguese chronicles declared. How would the Teutonic Knight have known, in 1472, that Henrique Alemão, living incognito on Madeira, was Władysław III, motivating them to forge the Nicolau Floris letter, subsequently kept secret for five centuries?

Władysław changed his name. He refused to confirm what the Polish monks discovered. He prohibited his descendants from divulging his true identity. It was only some 125 years later, when a foreign king took over Portugal's vacant throne, that Henrique Alemão's descendants confirmed the rumors and revealed their ancestor to be a Polish King, namely, Władysław III.

With so much at stake, wouldn't Władysław III's children be forced by these circumstances to follow the same protocol and keep their true identities concealed from the public, even if they were living in a foreign kingdom, such as Spain or France? They would surely have adhered to this same restriction out of respect for their father's wish to remain unknown.

This scenario explains why the Colón brothers needed to hide their princely identities from the public, while at the same time the monarchs of several kingdoms where they lived and visited were perfectly aware of who they really were. Such Jagiello princes might well title themselves *of Terra Rubra*, a veiled reference to *Red Ruthenia*, and would be helped in maintaining anonymity by the kings of Portugal and Spain, a favor granted on the basis of their high pedigree. This was clearly the

case with Henrique Alemão in Portugal, the Knight of Saint Catherine, and with the Colón brothers in Spain; all were assisted in hiding their identities by the respective courts that simultaneously treated them like royalty. The cover-up of their identities is accepted as a proven fact, and the case can now be strengthened on the basis of further circumstantial evidence.

A KNIGHT TO FORGET

Historians have mistakenly claimed that King Władysław III died at Varna in 1444, rather than saying he *disappeared*, which would have been more strictly accurate. The Polish monks swore that the Knight of Saint Catherine, known as Henrique Alemão, was King Władysław III, and they implored him to return to Poland. He refused. Władysław had renounced his earthly thrones in order to redeem himself with God.

Something very similar happened in France twenty-five years later, with Portugal's own King Afonso V, whose inability to save the Spanish throne for his wife, *la Beltraneja*, resulted in his own disillusionment with the world. He'd been deserted by the Castilians in a war he could not win; he'd been betrayed by Louis XI, King of France, who did not attack Aragon as promised; and he'd been utilized as a pawn by Louis XI to lure Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy, Afonso V's own cousin, into a deathtrap sprung by the King of France. Disillusioned by these failures, Afonso V renounced the throne of Portugal and slipped away into the French countryside, disguised, accompanied by a single servant, and bound for the Holy Land!

He wrote to his son in Portugal, João II, renouncing the throne and instructing him to crown himself king. Afonso V intended to spend the rest of his life as a pilgrim, doing pious works in the Middle East.

Unlike Władysław III, though, who could not be convinced to return to Poland, Afonso V was tracked down by the French and persuaded to return to Portugal. Even though João II had already been crowned king, he stepped down in November 1477 so his father could replace him on the Portuguese throne.

Did Afonso V come up with the idea of renouncing his throne, hiding himself in a foreign country, and taking up a religious life in the Middle East because Władysław III, whom he was hiding in his kingdom, had accomplished a very similar feat, beginning in 1444? Could he also have been planning to visit the Monastery of Saint Catherine in Sinai?

If the Polish monks identified Henrique Alemão as their king, and if the Spanish court in 1584 acknowledged that the descendants of Henrique Alemão were descendants of the Kings of Poland, then why should we dismiss these facts instead of accepting them?

In yet another text by H. H. Noronha, we read:

Henrique Alemão, Knight of Saint Catherine, whom it was said was the Prince of Poland... made a promise to go on pilgrimage through the world, and having been dubbed a Knight at Mount Sinai, came to this Island, where João Gonçalves Zarco gave him a large tract of land at this location, by a letter that Prince Henry confirmed on 29 April 1457, and King Afonso V confirmed on 18 May of the same year. I have seen these letters in the original, as well as an ancient justification of the referenced [Prince of Poland] above. He died at Cabo Girão when a rock fell onto his ship, and his bodily remains were buried at this church.⁴⁶²

The author, H. H. Noronha, claims to have seen proof of the *referenced above* – in other words, proof that *Henrique Alemão* was “the Prince of Poland,” who had made a vow to go on pilgrimage. Just like Cristóbal Colón, Henrique Alemão had a past and an identity that were steeped in mystery; Henrique Alemão was the false name of King Władysław Jagiello, who'd disappeared at Varna in 1444.

After the incident with the belligerent monks at Funchal, Władysław III went to Lisbon to meet with King Afonso V. It was claimed that a stone fell from the cliff known as Cabo Girão, landing on Władysław's ship and killing him as he was returning to his lands in Madalena. Thus, the king who'd miraculously escaped the Ottoman swords at Varna died in a freak accident, killed by a rock falling from the sky.

Could Władysław's death at Cabo Girão have been a hoax?

Madeira's Cabo Girão is one of the highest sea cliffs in the world, rising nearly 2,000 feet above the water. Any stone that fell from there could scarcely hit a ship at sea, for any vessel traveling along that coast would have to sail at a safe distance from the land to stay clear of both the shallows and the breaking waves. This account, therefore, is too fantastic to believe.

To believe a stone that fell from this cliff could hit a moving ship at sea, one would have to believe that stones can fly (SEE FIGURE 17.1).

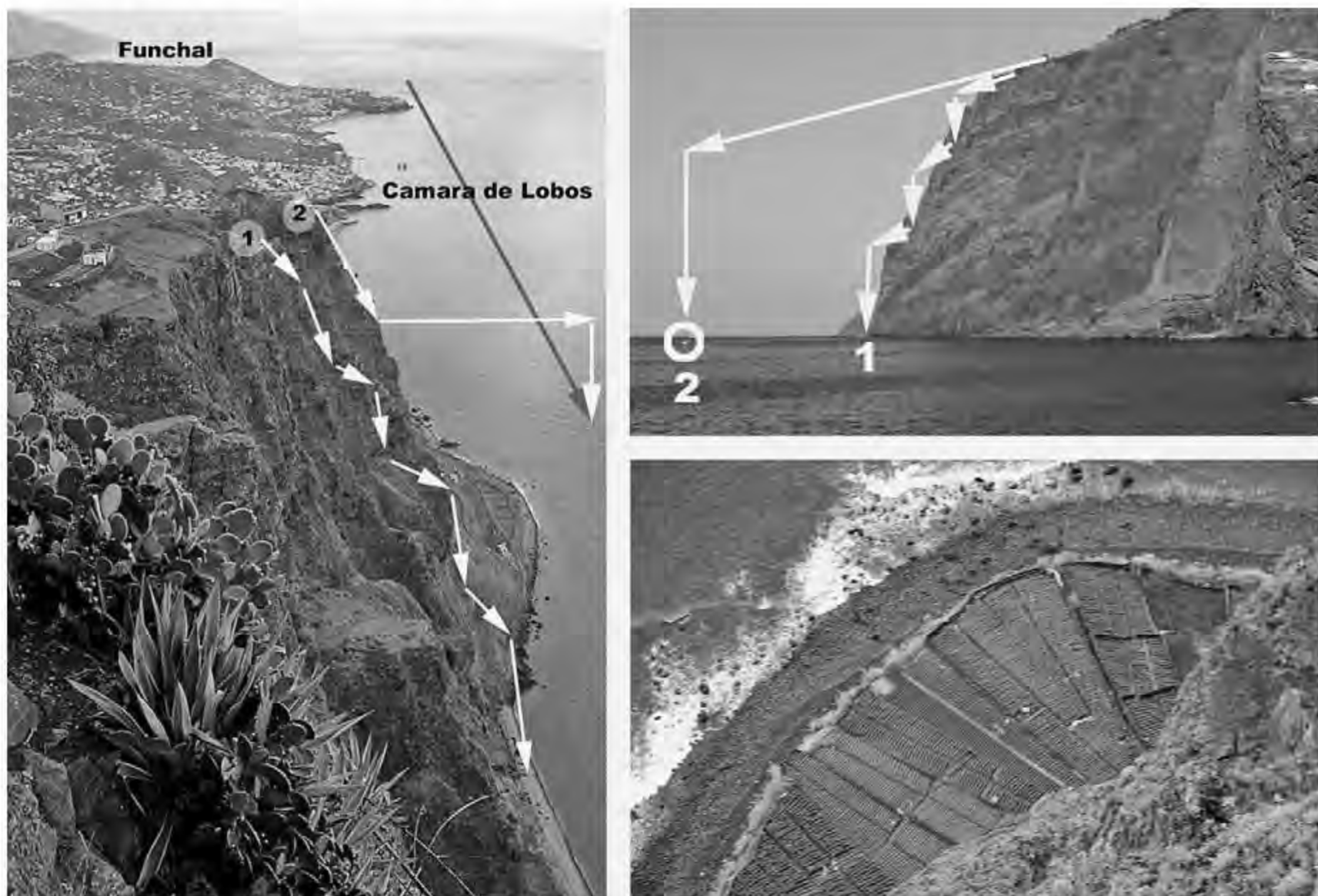


Figure 17.1: Three views of Cabo Girão, showing how the coastline juts out a considerable distance, and how the shallows near the cliff would prevent any sizeable vessel from approaching it. Arrow number 1 shows the natural trajectory of a falling stone down to the coastline, and arrow number 2 shows the path a stone would have to take to reach any ship sailing at a safe distance from the shallows (author photo 2003).

The Cabo Girão incident appears to be another charade, engineered to convince the overly inquisitive that Władysław was finally dead, thus putting to rest any hopes of his return to the throne once news of this freak accident reached Poland. Further assaults on Władysław's vow of pilgrimage would cease, and he could live out the rest of his life undisturbed.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

With Władysław III now permanently out of reach, as far as the world was concerned, historians tell us that his son, "Prince" Segismundo Henriques, boarded a ship heading for Lisbon and perished in another freak accident at sea. Segismundo Henriques supposedly died when a ship's mast broke and fell on him during the voyage to Lisbon.

Admittedly, there is always some slight possibility a ship's mast could break. But what are the odds that such freak accidents would strike down both father and son, each killed at sea with few witnesses – one by a stone, the other by a stick?

This is how Prince Segismundo Henriques (Jagiello) made his exit from Madeira – and from the history books of Portugal – en route to the Portuguese mainland, never to be heard from again.

Now, consider how the official history introduces Cristóbal Colón: swimming miles from a shipwreck off the coast of Cabo S. Vicente to arrive in Portugal from parts unknown. First we have Prince Segismundo disappearing at sea on his way to Portugal. Then we have Cristóbal Colón appearing from the sea in Portugal – as a man without a past.

Could Prince Segismundo's dying at sea have been a fabrication, devised so that, he too, like his father, could assume a new identity – that of "Cristóbal Colón," scuttling his identity as Segismundo Henriques, together with all the intrigue that was tied to his father's mysterious escape from Varna?

Accepting what the evidence proves, that Henrique Alemão was King Władysław III, compels us also to accept Władysław's determination to keep his true identity a secret from the world. Over and over he denied that he was King Władysław. Both Władysław III and Cristóbal Colón took extreme measures to hide their true identities, and both lived on the Portuguese Island of Madeira. When one looks closely, all the evidence dovetails to support our thesis that the self-exiled King of Poland, known as Henrique Alemão, was Admiral Cristóbal Colón's father. Therefore, Cristóbal Colón was in fact Segismundo Henriques.

Admiral Colón wrote in 1501:

From a very tender age I began sailing on the sea and in it I have continued until today ... and it is already 40 years that I've been in this vocation. Of all the places that have been sailed so far, to all of them I have sailed.

1501 minus forty years is 1461. Since Colón was born around 1455, as shown in DIAGRAM 1, he would have been about 6 years old – "a very tender age" – when he began to ply the waves. Furthermore, Las Casas confirms that Colón's "parents were notable people, rich at one point, whose trade, or way of life, had to be merchandising goods by sea, as Colón himself suggests in one of his letters."⁴⁶³

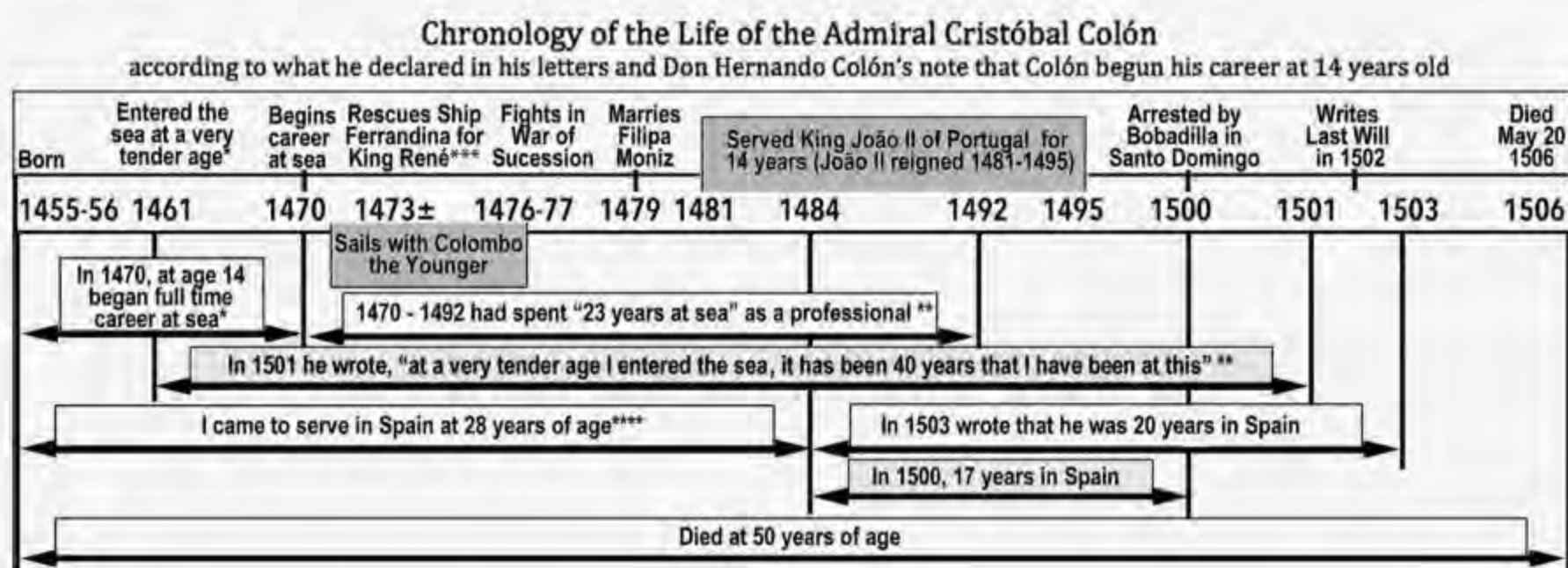


Diagram 1: By tabulating all of Colón's statements regarding his age, we determine his birthdate as 1455 or 1456. * "Entering the sea "at a tender age" is used by Colón to describe his first contact with sailing and not his first day as a working seaman. ** In two notes written 9 years apart, Colón declared that he "spent 23 years at sea" and "40 years at sea" – which doesn't make sense unless we differentiate between "entering the sea" and "being a seaman." Colón's note from December 1492 should be read as 23 years spent professionally as a "man of the sea," while the note from 1501 should be understood to include his "tender years" as well as his working years, which gives us the total of 40 years. Colón used the total of "40 years" to show his full experience with the sea, combining the "tender years" and the "professional years." *** Colón's note says that his voyage to recoup the *Ferrandina* began in Marseille, France. This implies that Colón was already integrated into the fleet of Colombo "the Younger" (George Bissipat) at that time. As part of the fleet of George Bissipat, Colón fought at Cape St. Vicente in mid 1476, on the side of Portugal against Spain. **** Writing from Jamaica on July 7, 1503, Colón declares, "I came to serve [Queen Isabel] at 28 years of age, and now I haven't a hair on my head that is not white, and my body is infirm."

It makes perfect sense that Colón would be sailing at a very tender age. Because there were no proper roads on the mountainous Island of Madeira, most inter-village travel was done by sea. Furthermore, since Henrique Alemão had his own private ships and became quite rich from selling his farmed goods, including sugar, at Funchal, it is easy to picture him, in the company of wife and children, ferrying his merchandise between Madalena and Funchal, an easy coastal voyage of about 20 kilometers.

Cristóbal Colón was born with reddish blond hair and blue eyes. Is it not plausible that the son of a Polish-Lithuanian father would have reddish blond hair and blue eyes? Those features are, after all, very common among the people in the region where Colón's father was born.

Would not the sons of a King of Poland and Lithuania have access to the courts of Portugal, Spain, England and France, as did Cristóbal Colón and his brother Bartolomé?

Emperor Frederick III, whose monks identified Władysław III on Madeira, and the Master of the Order of Teutonic Knights, who received a letter from Władysław III's companion, both kept Władysław's secret. Would not the courts of Portugal, Spain, England and France also be inclined to guard the secret, Jagiellonian identity of the brothers, out of royal courtesy?

Would not the sons of King Władysław III have received extensive schooling in all of the arts and sciences of their day, which Colón and his brothers clearly exhibited?

Would we not expect that the son of a king, like Prince Segismundo Henriques, would receive the title of *Don*, as Cristóbal Colón and his two brothers did in Spain, and have his sons made Pages to the court of Spain, as were Colón's sons, simply for showing up at Isabel's court?

Since this is a book that delves into all aspects of the life of Admiral Colón, revealing facts that can be used to solve the 500-year-old mystery of the Admiral's true identity, we must not ignore the strangest of names, "Tivisco," used as an alias by the descendants of Zarco.

The name Tivisco, used by **Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona**, reveals yet more clues. *Tivisco* is a word found in *De Origine et situ Germanorum* (*Concerning the Origin and Situation of the Germans*), written by Cornelius Tacitus in the first century. *Tivisco* derives from *Tyr/Tuisco*, a God of Norse mythology. It has several meanings, one of which is, "hidden God." Tivisco was said to be the ancestor of all the *Germanic* tribes. Was the name Tivisco chosen in 1692 as code for "the German lord hidden in Portugal"? Might not this particular Nordic word, *Tivisco*, have been selected to point those capable of understanding to a German prince, hidden in Portugal and tied to Zarco and Colona?

This god of Old Norse mythology also symbolizes sacrifice. According to legend, the gods chained the wolf *Fenris*, and twice he broke his chains. The gods sought help from the Dwarves, who made a magic fetter called *Gleipnir*, and Fenris was challenged to break it. Realizing this could be a trap, the wolf accepted the challenge, but only on condition that one of the gods put his hand into Fenris's mouth. It was the god Tivisco who accepted the challenge. Once tied, the furious Fenris bit

down and ate Tivisco's hand, which Tivisco fully expected. And so it was, through Tivisco's sacrifice, that the "bad wolf" was forever bound (SEE FIGURE 17.2).



Figure 17.2: The god Tivisco and the wolf Fenris, by John Bauer, in *Our Fathers' Godsaga*, Viktor Rydberg, 1911.

Just as Tivisco had sacrificed his right arm to tie the “bad wolf,” Cristóbal Colón sacrificed his Portuguese life – and himself – to tie the hands of the Spaniards, thus protecting Portugal’s maritime interests in Africa and India.

Given that most of Colón’s hitherto accepted history was wrong, it’s time now to revise and reinterpret our history of the Admiral’s life based, in part at least, on new evidence.

Who knows what clue may lead us finally to the truth? Let’s try looking for a nobleman who was “sacrificed” in Portugal around the time Cristóbal Colón appeared in Spain.

Nor should we doubt that Portugal would balk at sacrificing a prince for the sake of the kingdom. Recall that Prince “Saint Fernando” was sacrificed in Morocco in 1443. In a sense, Prince Pedro, Duke of Coimbra, sacrificed himself in Alfarrobeira, where he died in 1449. Likewise, Admiral Colón sacrificed his Portuguese life and identity to work clandestinely for Portugal inside the enemy’s borders.

Could the name “Tivisco” have been purposely chosen to slyly indicate a lord of Nordic origins, sacrificed to the “wolf next door,” for the sake of Portugal’s defense? If so, the pseudonym, *Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona*, would cryptically describe a *Nordic lord*, from the *nation* of *Zarco* and the lineage of *Colonna*. This could be easily interpreted to mean that *Tivisco* was *Henrique Alemão*, the onetime ruler of Poland and Lithuania.

Here is another, wonderfully revealing association for the name Tivisco (SEE FIGURE 17-3). The location which the Romans called Tivisco, as shown on Konrad Peutinger’s map, lies in territory that belonged to the Kingdom of Hungary when it was ruled by Władysław III. That former Roman *Tivisco* is now the city *Timișoara*, in present-day Romania. *Timișoara/Tivisco* was not only part of Hungary but also home to John Hunyadi, Władysław III’s most famous general, who fought with him at Varna. This relationship lends credence to our hypothesis that these two “Prior Don Tivisco’s” were collaborating on a secret directly correlated with the life of King Władysław III.

Colón’s son left another clue when he wrote about his ancestors: “They were good in virtue, but, due to the wars and rivalries in Lombardia, were reduced to great need and poverty.”⁴⁶⁴

At first glance, one would take this to indicate that Fernando Colón’s ancestors were from Lombardy, in Italy. But this would be inconsistent with the whole idea of maintaining secrecy. Reflecting on this more deeply, however, we recall that the Lombards – who gave their name to Lombardia, in Italy – were a *Germanic* tribe. The Lombards ruled Italy from 568 to 774.⁴⁶⁵ For a time, they inhabited the territory of modern Austria, north of the Danube River. King Władysław III fits these details perfectly. At the Battle of Varna, he was thrust from kingship into desperation and poverty. Later, he was relegated to the status of a hermit.

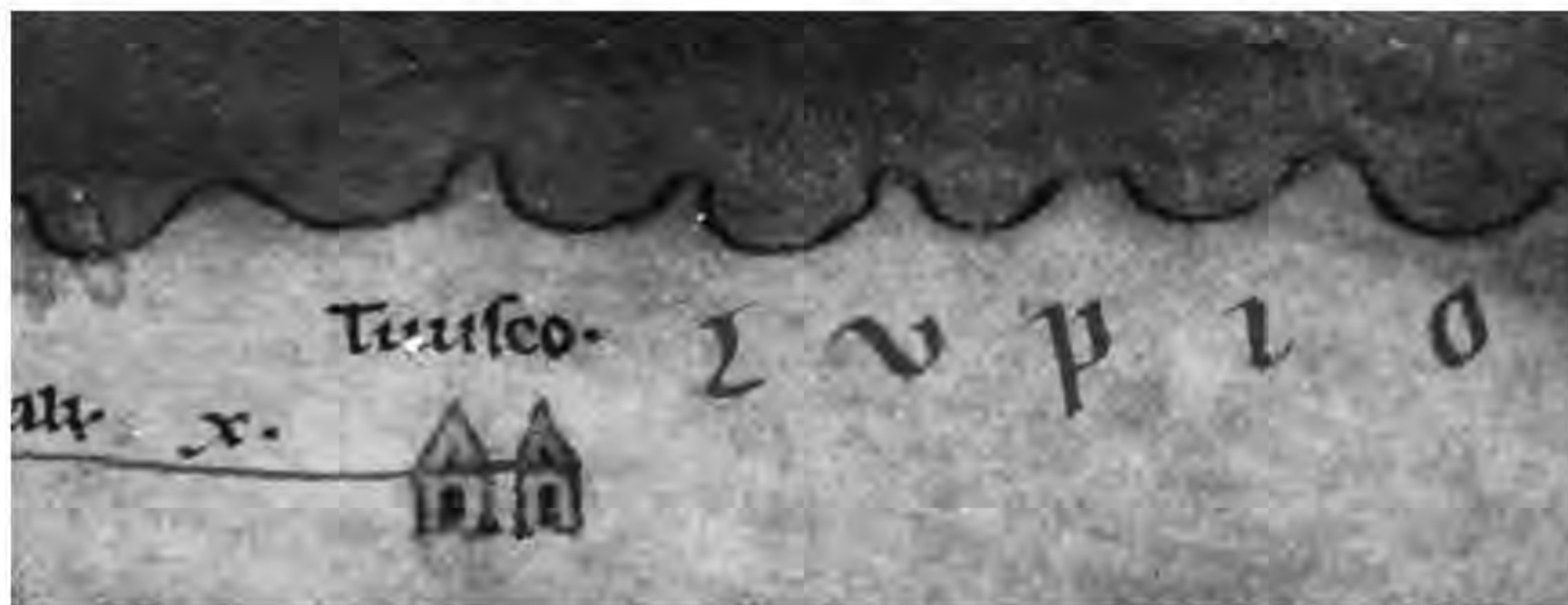


Figure 17.3: Location of the Roman town of Tivisco in the *Tabula Peutingeriana*, a map named after Konrad Peutinger, a 15th century German, and conserved at the Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Hofburg, Vienna. Tivisco’s modern name is *Timișoara*. Curiously, Konrad Peutinger is also tied to Portugal through Valentim Fernandes, a German printer for the Portuguese court, who compiled all the Portuguese discoveries for Peutinger.

Another possible connection between Colón and Jagiello is that Władysław III's father, Władysław II Jagiello, married a lady from the House of Anjou. This may explain how Cristóbal Colón found his way into the service of King René d'Anjou in the Mediterranean.

After yet another review of the facts had left us convinced that Cristóbal Colón was indeed a son of Władysław III Jagiello, the genealogy of Władysław III was scrutinized in hopes of locating some living descendant who could be tested for DNA, along with the other subjects tested at the University of Granada between 2003 and 2006. Comparing the DNA of Cristóbal Colón with that of any descendant of Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas might supply proof as to whether Cristóbal Colón was or was not Prince Segismundo Henriques, son of King Władysław III and grandson of King Władysław Jagiello, as represented in FIGURE 17.4.

- 1 – **Władysław II** Jagiello, Grand Duke of Lithuania, King of Poland (b.1351, d.1434); 1st marriage: Kraków, 1386, with Hedwige (Jadwiga) **d'Anjou**... 4th marriage: 1422, with Sophia of Halshany, daughter of Andrew of Halshany and Alexandra Drucka, mother of Władysław III.
- 1.1 – **Władysław III**, King of Lithuania, Poland and Hungary (alias Henrique Alemão); married Senhorinha Anes (de Sá Colonna?) around 1450.
- 1.1.1 – **Segismundo Henriques** (alias Cristóbal Colón).
- 1.1.2 – Bartolomeu Henriques (alias Bartolomé Colón).
- 1.1.3 – Diogo Henriques (alias Diego Colón).
- 1.1.4 – Bárbara Henriques: her descendants convinced the Spanish court in 1584 that they descended from the Kings of Poland.

Figure 17.4: Hypothetical genealogy of Władysław III (Henrique Alemão) – as the father of Cristóbal, Bartolomé and Diego Colón.

After exploring several branches descending from the Grand Dukes of Lithuania, in order to locate a male suitable for DNA testing, one descendant from a continuous male line was located in Brazil. He hails from the Sanguszko line, started by Alexander Feodorovich (Sanguszko), a first cousin of King Władysław III. Unfortunately, in 2005 Mr. Sanguszko declined to participate in the DNA tests, which may have been our only chance to solve the riddle of Colón's identity by this means.

The University of Granada's 2003-2006 attempt to find a match between Cristóbal Colón's DNA and the DNA of nearly 500 carefully chosen Colombo, Colomb and Colom subjects from France, Spain and Italy failed to produce a single positive result. Not one of those families had DNA that matched that of Admiral Cristóbal Colón (SEE FIGURE 17.5). Since – if it were true – one would expect plenty of DNA matches between the Genoese, weaver Cristoforo Colombo and the multitude of his Colombo relations in Italy, and since not one Colombo matched Admiral Colón's DNA, the "Genoese Colombo theory" may now be regarded as most improbable – thanks to 21st Century forensic science.⁴⁶⁶

Since Colón's DNA points *away* from the Italian Colombo, and *away* from the Catalan Colom families, and since no DNA match was found with the Portuguese nobles we screened, King Władysław II and Queen Sophia become our next prime candidates for testing. Utilizing modern DNA to prove Colón's descent from Duke Gediminas might not require opening Władysław II's tomb in Kraków, Poland.

Assuming we can get the required financial support and approval from the governments of the Dominican Republic, Spain and Poland, our future plan is to make a complete forensic investigation, including new DNA tests. This investigation would include the bones of Cristóbal Colón, his son Diego Colón, his grandson Luis Colón and other relatives buried in Santo Domingo, comparing them to Fernando Colón's bones buried in Seville's cathedral, as well as King Władysław II's bones in Krakow.

Testing Władysław II's bones for DNA, or testing the bones of Władysław III (Henrique Alemão) – if we ever find them – could give us a definite answer. Scientists will have to patiently explore every possible avenue until a solid link turns up connecting Admiral Cristóbal Colón with



his natural father.

Figure 17.5: Places where DNA samples were collected by Prof. José Lorente's international team to compare with Colón's DNA. The two Portuguese samples, from the Duke of Braganza and the Count of Ribeira Grande, were provided for testing by us.

ALL CLUES POINT TO JAGIEŁŁO

By now, everything points to Colón's having been the son of Władysław III. It is a tribute to the ingeniousness of this plan of concealment that, after 500 years, Colón's identity still remains uncertain. By appreciating the efforts made to conceal this identity, one can understand how important the secret must have been to those who sealed it. To that effect, the three Colón brothers are shown – in the only ancient family tree that's been found among the documentation of Admiral Colón's descendants – as having no parents, an absurdly deliberate act of censorship (SEE FIGURE 17.6).

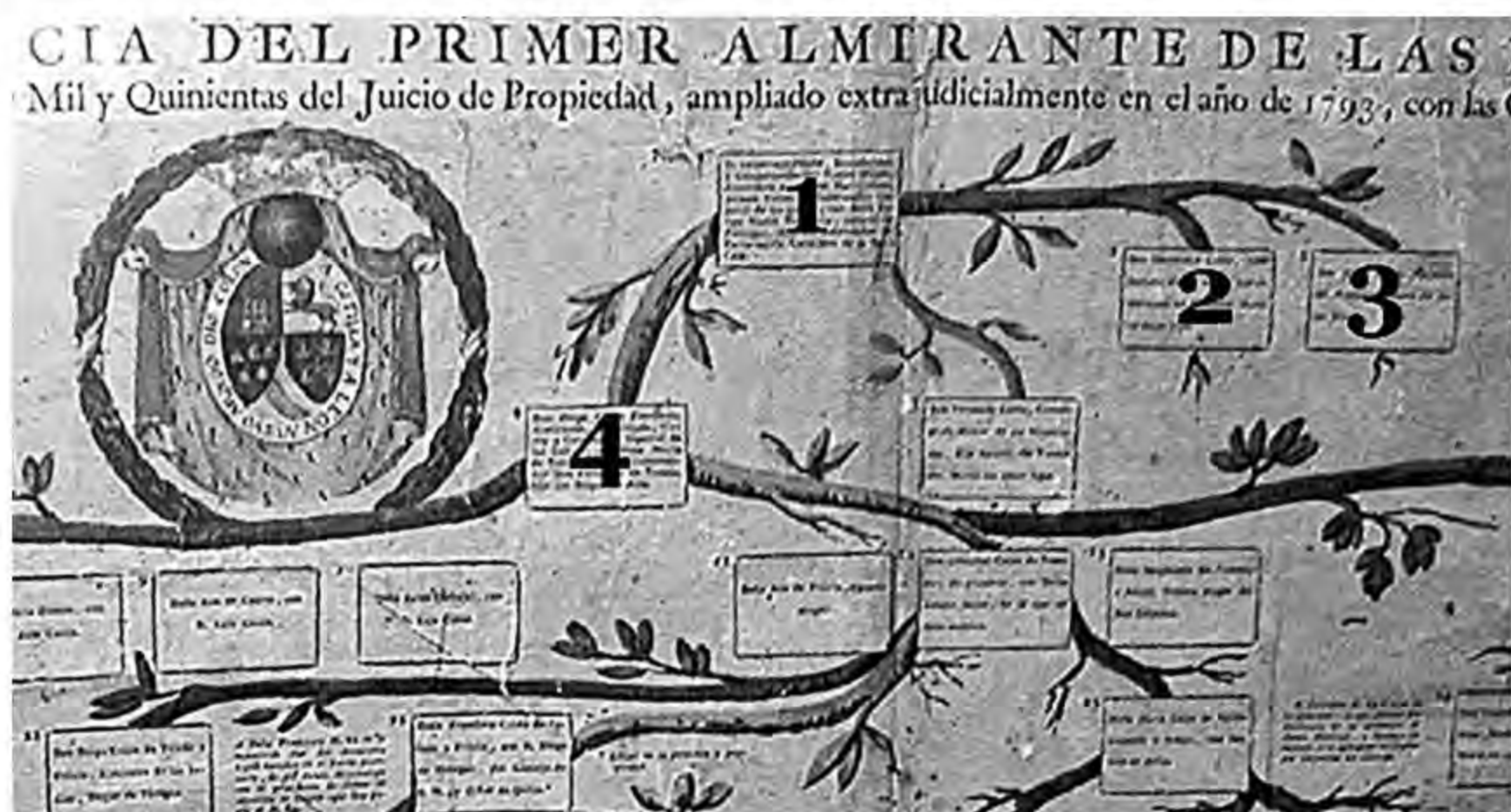


Figure 17.6: This genealogical tree, from the House of the Dukes of Veragua, currently at the Columbus Chapel in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, shows that the Colón brothers had no known parents, as of 1793. Box number 1 is the Admiral, number 2 Bartolomé Colón, and number 3 Diego Colón (the Admiral's two brothers). Number 4 is Cristóbal's Portuguese son, Diego Colón, Second Admiral and ancestor of all the Admiral's descendants living today. Thus, the Colón family tree springs into existence – from a vacuum – with the Admiral himself. How can we account for such an oddity? (Author photo 2004)

Again: if Cristóbal Colón was Prince Segismundo Henriques, why would he want to conceal his identity? The answer is: because his father, Władysław III, required it. However, in order that the lineage of someone so important would not be forever lost, esoteric clues were contrived and passed down through the centuries.

Is this not the reason why Colón was painted alongside three Portuguese heroes in the King's Palace of Mafra? Is it not why he's painted with a crown stuck up his sleeve in the *Virgen de los Navegantes*, in the Palace in Spain? These weighty clues must not be downplayed.

Despite the claims by chroniclers that the courts held little regard for Colón, the behavior of Iberian monarchs in relation to Colón – including these paintings, commissioned for two royal palaces – attest to the high regard that both courts held for the Admiral.

If it seems implausible that such elaborate efforts would be made to preserve the secret of Colón's origin, keep in mind that Władysław's Portuguese descendants only revealed this lineage to outsiders some 80 years after Colón's death, and only because a foreign king had taken over the Portuguese crown.

Henrique Alemão so fervently intended to mask his true identity as Władysław III that all of his descendants honored the charade.

Here is a list of facts consistent with our thesis that Cristóbal Colón was none other than Prince Segismundo Henriques, Portuguese son of King Władysław III:

- Admiral Colón, beginning at a tender age, was schooled in many sciences, languages, and fields of study – as would befit a prince.
- Admiral Colón lived on the Island of Madeira, exactly where Henrique Alemão had his palace.
- Admiral Colón applied many place names from Portuguese Madeira to places in the New World, as shown in Chapter 14.
- Colón knew Portuguese so well that it had to be his native tongue – the same language in which King João II wrote his secret letter to Colón.
- Colón married Filipa Moniz, who was not only an important Portuguese noblewoman but a daughter of the Captain of the neighboring Island, Porto Santo – just as Filipa's brother married a daughter of the Captain of Machico in Madeira.
- Colón had direct access to the King of Portugal, at times requested by King João II himself, long before Colón became famous on the public stage in Spain.
- Colón and his brothers bore the highest title of nobility, *Don*, and they had direct access to the kings of Spain, England and France.
- Colón's son was made a Royal Page to the court of Spain a year before Colón had done anything of value, an impossible distinction were not Colón of high birth.
- Long before 1492, Queen Isabel of Spain accepted Colón's coat of arms, which she included by royal decree in the 1493 augmented coat of arms.
- The Queen of Spain paid stipends to Colón on a regular basis for many years – long before the First Voyage – making it evident that Colón deserved such consideration.
- The Duke of Medinaceli hosted Colón at his palace for two years before Colón became famous, demonstrating that Colón already merited noble company and favors.
- The Duke of Medina Sidonia did all he could to marry his daughter to Colón's son, but he and the Admiral were thwarted by King Fernando, who forced Colón's son to marry King Fernando's cousin, an outcome strongly suggestive of Colón's high pedigree.
- The Queen of Portugal insisted that Colón go out of his way to visit her when he stopped in Portugal after his First Voyage, as if he were a dignitary held in great esteem.
- In 1487 the court of Spain called Colón “a Portuguese,” the same nationality as Prince Segismundo Henriques.
- Cristóbal Colón added to his letters a monogram in the shape of an S, the initial of Segismundo.

Up to this point, the clues appear to support our conclusion that Cristobal Colón and Segismundo Henriques are one and the same person. But there is more.

The Colón brothers, in earlier times, included in their names the origin of *Terra Rubra* (Red Land). It so happens that Poland then enclosed a region known from the Middle Ages as *Ruś Czerwona*, which in Latin was called *Ruthenia Rubra* (Red Ruthenia). By titling themselves as being “of the Red Lands,” the Colón brothers may have been referencing this *Ruthenia*, conceivably a metonym for Poland. This makes sense because Władysław III's Royal Titles were “*Vladislaus by God's grace*

king of Poland, Hungary, Dalmatia, Croatia, and lands of Kraków, Sandomierz, Sieradz, Łęczyca, Kuyavia, Supreme Prince of Lithuania, lord and heir of Pomerania and Ruthenia.”

Having thus a credible interpretation for Colón's *Terra Rubra*, let us examine some other clues. Looking at Colón's original coat of arms, printed in the color insert as FIGURE 17.7, we see five gold anchors on a blue background. As it happens, there was an ancient noble family with a coat of arms composed of a gold anchor on a blue background – the **Henriques** family, but these were not just any Henriques. The gold anchor on a blue background is specific to a **Nordic** lineage named *Eriksens*, or *Henriques* in Portugal. Coincidence? ⁴⁶⁷

The gold anchors with a blue background in Cristóbal Colón's original coat of arms are compatible with his being an **Henriques**, as in Segismundo **Henriques**. The arrangement of the anchors in an X pattern – two anchors in the upper corners, one in the center, then two again in the lower corners – called *saltire* in heraldry, is the typical style for a **Portuguese** coat of arms. In fact, the coat of arms of the Royal House of Portugal contains this five-piece saltire theme (SEE FIGURE 17.8 IN THE COLOR INSERT).

Segismundo was a Portuguese, and he was a Royal Prince with the last name of **Henriques**. His father was of Nordic origin, though he belonged to a newly created noble house in Portugal. Based on all these features, Segismundo Henriques, the future Cristóbal Colón, could easily have been awarded the coat of arms of a gold anchor on blue background, associated with the Nordic *Eriksens* and the Portuguese *Henriques*. However, instead of just one anchor, a five-anchor saltire would imitate the Royal House of Portugal – as in Colón's original coat of arms, which will be explained below.

Since it appears that we are on the right track, let's also consider one of the more basic rationalizations: physical similarities.

Other than Pedro Berruguete, whose portrait of Colón was painted before 1504, the year Berruguete died, Alejo Fernández (1475-1545) was another painter that would have seen Colón in real life (SEE FIGURE 17.9 IN THE COLOR INSERT). Both Berruguete's and Fernández's portraits coincide with the physical descriptions we have of Admiral Colón.

Since Alejo Fernández was royal painter for the Catholic Monarchs at the same time Colón frequented their court, we must give a lot of weight to this portrait, kept at the Hall of the Admirals, inside the Royal Palace in Seville.

The portrait of Henrique Alemão (Władysław III) is kept at the Sacred Art Museum in Funchal, Madeira. When we compare it with the portrait of the Admiral by Alejo Fernández, the similarities are striking. The two men look just like father and son (SEE FIGURE 17.10 IN THE COLOR INSERT).

Their features are very similar, even though the portraits were painted by different artists, separated by thousands of miles and at least 30 years. They both have whitish hair, blue eyes, and aquiline noses whose bridges are virtually identical.

However, in his portrait of Colón, Alejo Fernández left several clues on Colón's golden robe. One is the pattern of three pomegranates, used by the Freemasons today and the two branches circled by a crown, similar to the Santiago Rules Book. But a more important clue is the royal crown, partially concealed on Colón's sleeve, as seen in FIGURE 17.10. Alejo Fernández had to have taken great care to add these cryptic elements to his painting. His purpose in doing so may have been to subtly identify the subject of his portrait. We were the first to discover and report on these hidden clues, describing them in our 2006 book. ⁴⁶⁸

The Flemish artist Antonis Van Dashort Mor (called Antonio Moro in Spain) also left us a portrait of the Admiral, done at the request of Margarita of Parma, daughter of King Carlos V. Antonio Moro visited the courts of England, Portugal, Spain, the Netherlands and other countries, executing portraits of the notable nobility of his day. But his Cristóbal Colón, like the “Columbus” of many other artists, bore little resemblance to the real-life representation by Alejo Fernández, for Colón had died long before Antonio Moro was even born.

Moro, however, may have intended to convey some secret information about Colón's identity since, on one of Colón's fingers, he painted a ring with a coat of arms – offering us possibly another good clue. So what did Moro paint as Colón's family coat of arms?

According to author John Boyd Thacher, who saw the painting in 1893, Colón is wearing a ring with, “the figure of a rooster or a bird, having the significance of a family crest.”⁴⁶⁹

The owner of the painting at the time, Charles F. Gunther – a **German Freemason**, and a prominent resident of Chicago – also described it as some type of bird, which looked like a “fighting chicken.”⁴⁷⁰

Since this may have been the only time the Spanish court left a clue to the Admiral’s authentic lineage, attempts were made to locate this portrait. Months of searching and contacting anyone who might have knowledge of the painting’s whereabouts – libraries, art houses, authors and organizations – led nowhere. The last public exhibition of the portrait was in 1914, at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, in Washington, D.C., but no one there knew of its whereabouts today.⁴⁷¹

Charles Gunther’s collection of artifacts, or most of it, ended up at the Chicago Historical Society. The painting, however, is not there. Although Gunther had one living son at the time of his death in 1920, no living descendants of Mr. Gunther have been located, as of this writing.

Joanna Woodall, author of *Anthonis Mor. Art and Authority* (Waanders Publishers, 2008), was also contacted, but she was not even aware that this Moro painting existed. After months of searching, no one that we contacted knew the whereabouts of Moro’s *Cristóbal Colón*, which had to have been painted before 1578, the year of Moro’s death (FIGURE 17.11).⁴⁷²



Figure 17.11: Antonio Moro’s *Cristóbal Colón* (c. 1560) has a family crest painted on one of the rings on Colón’s fingers. We need to verify whether it resembles the ring shown at right, with the arms of Poland. If anyone knows where this painting is located, please send us an email through the contact info at www.Columbus-Book.com.

The fact that this ring bears a family coat of arms exhibiting a bird is highly relevant to our theory that Colón was Segismundo Henriques, son of King Władysław III of Poland, for such an eagle, white on a red field, is Poland’s coat of arms.

How compelling it would be if the Dukes of Veragua, descendants of the great Admiral Cristobal Colón, were found to have used an eagle as a “hidden-in-plain-sight,” secret message on their coat of arms.

This secret can still be found today inside the Columbus Chapel, inherited by descendants of the famous discoverer and transported from Llamas del Moro in Asturias to Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1909. This ancient chapel contains Admiral Colón’s Desk, thousands of documents and other artifacts – plus an extraordinary coat of arms for the Dukes of Veragua.

The coat of arms, granted by Queen Isabel to Admiral Colón in 1493, was quartered, and it bore, “below on the left side your arms that you are accustomed to having” (*bajo a la mano izquierda las armas vuestras que solíades tener*). To wit, the Admiral’s original coat of arms was placed in the lower left quarter, with the three remaining quarters occupied by a castle, a lion, and islands in the ocean, as already shown in FIGURE 6.1. These arms were slightly modified by the Admiral in 1502, to give more prominence to the five anchors, and this became the coat of arms for all the subsequent Admirals and Dukes of Veragua. However, the coat of arms transported from Spain and housed in the Columbus Chapel has superimposed on these four quarters a center oval *with an eagle*. What could this element be telling us?

This astonishing coat of arms adorns the front of the seating section where the Dukes would attend their private religious services, hidden within their private chapel (SEE FIGURE 17.12 IN THE COLOR INSERT). Is it possible that Colón's descendants were already cryptically proclaiming, with this coat of arms, that they were descendants of the Kings of Poland? If Colón was Segismundo Henriques, son of Władysław III, then this explains the use of the eagle that can still be seen there today by visitors to the Columbus Chapel at the Boalsburg Mansion.

Was the secret about his ancestry that Don Cristóbal Colón worked so hard to maintain the fact that his father was the lost King Władysław III of Poland, whose arms were an eagle?

WHERE DID THE NAME COLÓN COME FROM?

Theories, hypotheses and suspects – put forth as solutions to the enigma of Cristóbal Colón's identity – exist by the dozen: peasant weaver, Greek Prince, Catalan corsair, Majorcan, Galician, Jew, Italian, and many more. Definitive evidence that would close the case has remained elusive. However, a *very* prime suspect has now been found in Prince Segismundo Henriques, Portuguese noble, son of King Władysław of Poland, native inhabitant of Madalena, in Madeira, Portugal.

The chronicles tell us that our mysterious Knight of Saint Catherine was married to the noble Senhorinha Anes, and that King Afonso V was best man for their wedding, which makes the groom's very high rank a certainty. Senhorinha Anes was, "*daughter of an illustrious family related to Zarco. Her father was held prisoner, alongside Prince Saint Fernando*" in Morocco.

If this Senhorinha Anes was related to Zarco's family, she was most likely a Colonna, as was Zarco's wife. Our genealogical investigation, centering on this clue, found that – of the only four surviving Moroccan captives – there are two, either one of which may have been the father of Senhorinha Anes. One was *João Vasques*, *Saint Fernando's* head chef, the other *João Rodrigues*, *Saint Fernando's* chamberlain.⁴⁷³

A *João Vasques* was married to Guiomar de Sá, granddaughter of Cecilia Colonna. Although no daughter named Senhorinha Anes has yet been located in the documentation, this Guiomar de Sá did have a granddaughter named Senhorinha Anes, and a great aunt named Senhorinha Anes de Sá. Therefore, it's not beyond the realm of possibility that *João Vasques* and Guiomar de Sá also had a daughter named Senhorinha Anes, a frequently occurring name in this **Anes de Sá** family.

Rodrigo Anes de Sá and his Sicilian wife, Cecilia Colonna, are listed in some Portuguese genealogies as being Zarco's in-laws, as was noted in a previous chapter.^{474,475,476} Therefore, the *Anes* in the last name of Senhorinha *Anes*, wife of Henrique Alemão (Władysław III) implicates her as an **ANES de Sá**. They were all related, just as the alias Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao **Zarco, y Colona** insinuates, and as Dr. Leopold Kielanowski described.⁴⁷⁷

However, in all the genealogies consulted, no parents have been attributed to Henrique Alemão's wife, Senhorinha Anes, meaning that, most likely, their identities have been censored. There is an obvious need for more research in Portugal and Madeira into these families. Possible genealogies for the Senhorinha Anes who married Henrique Alemão are shown in FIGURE 17.13. These would make her out to be Senhorinha Anes de Sá **Colonna**.

It's important to note that João Rodrigues de Sá, "o Galés," son of Cecilia Colonna and brother-in-law of Zarco, was also King João I's Lord Chamberlain. His grandson, also called João Rodrigues de Sá (Colona), was King Afonso V's Lord Chamberlain. These positions tended to remain in the family, generation after generation, and this family held the post of Chamberlain for centuries.

In 1412 a Senhorinha Anes was listed as Royal Chambermaid of Portugal's Queen Leonor, Afonso V's mother. This Senhorinha Anes, *Chambermaid*, must also belong to the same family of João I's *Chamberlain*, João Rodrigues de Sá (Colona), and thus would be related to the Senhorinha Anes who married Władysław III.⁴⁷⁸

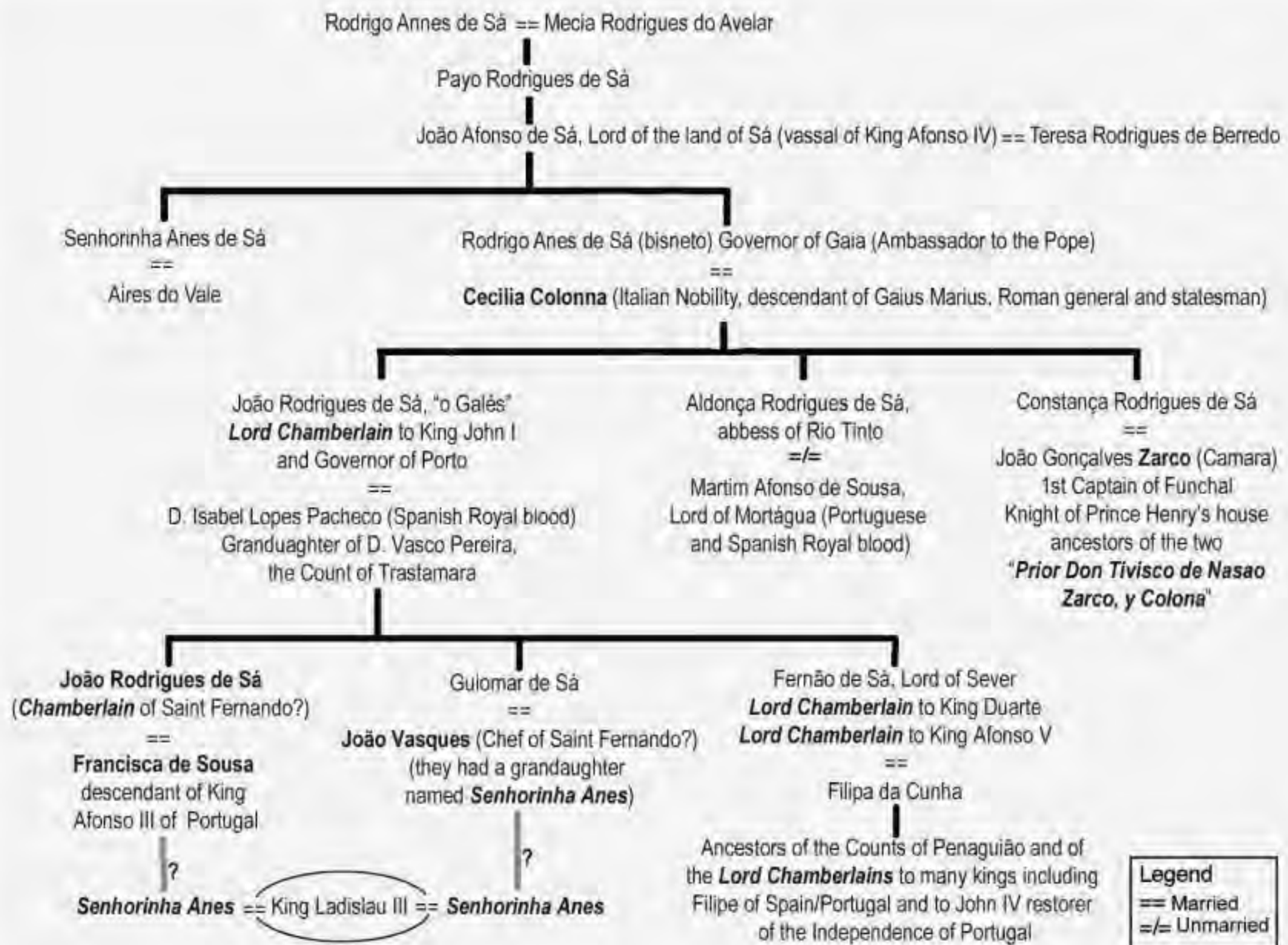


Figure 17.13A: The Colonna, Zarco and Sá family connections, according to several Portuguese genealogists and chroniclers. Note that the name Senhorinha Anes was common in this family, that it's also tied to the D. Tiviscos, and that this family held the post of Chamberlain to the king for several centuries. On the lower left are shown two sets of possible parents for King Wladyslaw's wife. João Rodrigues de Sá and Francisca de Sousa are the more likely choice because Francisca de Sousa was Portuguese Royalty. More research is needed to pin down exactly who the parents of Senhorinha Anes were. Note also that Cecilia Colonna, like all the Colonnas, would have descended from the famous Roman General *Gaio Mario*, proving that Fernando Colón was correct when he stated that Colón descended from a famous Roman General.

If Senhorinha *Anes* was a Colonna, descendant of the Cecilia Colonna mentioned by one of the Prior Don Tiviscos and others, then her son Segismundo Henriques was a Sá Colona as well, making him of Italian blood. This is how Segismundo Henriques, alias Cristóbal Colón, could be fairly described by the chroniclers as "Italian," referring to his ancestry.

A reasonable explanation as to why Cristóbal Colón would swear only "by *Saint Fernando*" is that someone from his mother's side had been very close to Prince *Saint Fernando*, even suffering with the Prince in captivity. It also explains why Colón would go out of his way in 1502 to rescue other Portuguese from the Muslims in Moroccan Arzila: to spare them the same fate his ancestor endured.

Now, one could ask: If *Don Tivisco* was a covert reference to a *hidden German Lord*, might not *Zarco y Colona* peg the wife of this German Lord as the very Senhorinha Anes who was a Colona by birth and kin to Zarco? This line of reasoning would allow us to account for the mystery as follows.

The man who assumed the new identity of Cristóbal Colón was born Prince Segismundo Henriques (de Sá Colonna Jagiello), son of the King of Poland, who'd been carefully stowed away in Madeira by the Portuguese court. All of them: Władysław III, his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and so forth have kept the truth about their royal lineage from the public right up until the present day.

Those in power knew the truth. The circle of conspirators included mainly the monarchs of Portugal and Spain, as well as several confidants, e.g., the Polish André Gonçalves, Nicolau Floris, and of course

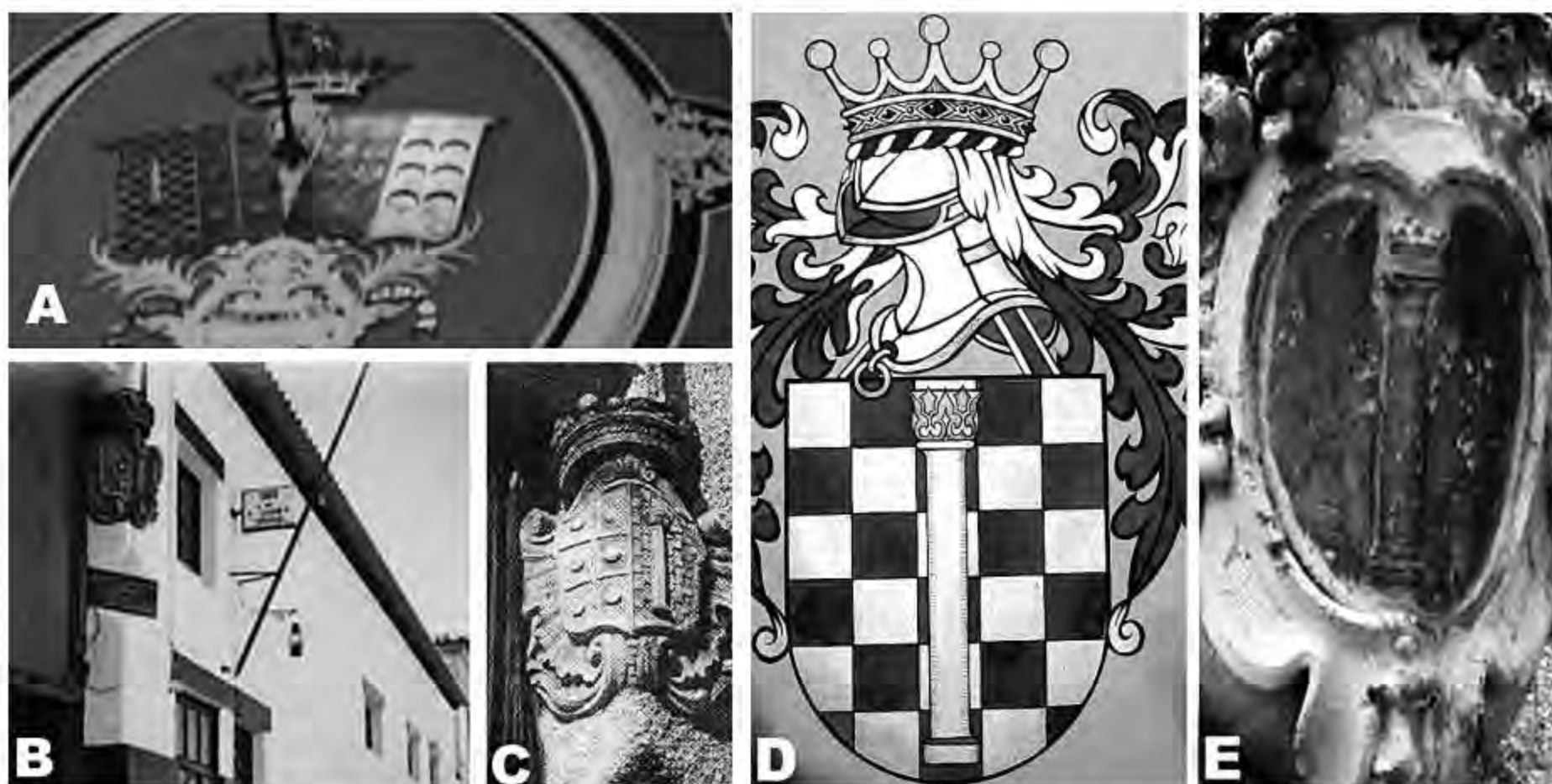


Figure 17.13B: The Sá-Colonna Coat of Arms. **FIGURE A** shows a ceiling inside the Anadia Palace in Mangualde, Portugal, with the arms from the four main branches of the Counts of Anadia, that of the family Sá being the first on the left, with a column at its center. **FIGURE B** shows a house with a coat of arms on its corner in the Portuguese town of São João de Loure. It's composed of the arms of Melo and Sá, enlarged in **FIGURE C**, where the Colonna column is clearly visible. **FIGURE D** shows the coat of arms of the Portuguese Viscount of Alverca, and **FIGURE E** the coat of arms of the Colonna family, from one of their castles in Italy.

Władysław's wife, Senhorinha Anes. Captain Zarco, Prince Henry – Templar Master from 1420 to 1460 – King Afonso V and King João II were also in on the secret, as was Prince Fernando – Duke of Beja and Templar Master of the Order of Christ and of Santiago from 1460 to 1470. Many people knew the facts, but no one talked. It was meant to remain a secret, just as Władysław III had desired it to be.

The sons of the King of Poland would be schooled – like any prince of their time, at the courts of Portugal and other European kingdoms – in the various subjects of letters, sciences, politics, history, theology and warfare. As they grew and integrated themselves into Portugal's court affairs, they would also be involved with the latest navigational technology as well as the Portuguese secret voyages, like other trusted Portuguese courtiers. Thus, Bartolomé *Henriques* (later Colón) would have been readily accepted by the King of Portugal for the position of cartographer in Lisbon.

At some point, Segismundo Henriques, as the first-born son, would have been inducted into a Portuguese Chivalric/Military order such as the Order of Santiago, and he would have served its Master, King João II. As a Member of the Order of Santiago, he would have attended Mass on a regular basis at its Monastery of Todos-os-Santos (All Saints) in Lisbon, the same place where his future wife, Filipa Moniz, resided.

The marriage may have been arranged by their parents decades earlier – to unite Madeira-born Prince Segismundo and the noble Filipa Moniz, daughter of the Capitan of Porto Santo in Madeira. This marriage, authorized by the Master of Santiago (João II), took place in 1479. After marrying, Filipa Moniz left the Monastery of Todos-os-Santos, where she'd been a *Comendadora* since 1465.⁴⁷⁹

By this marriage, Prince Segismundo, later Cristóbal Colón, became uncle to the highest nobles of the kingdom, worthy to be held in such a relationship, for as a king's son, he was of royal blood, just like the nobility whose uncle he became.

Segismundo Henriques would serve in the Portuguese fleets of the Order of Christ and the Order of Santiago, which supplied, traded with and patrolled the coast of Guinea as well as the Mediterranean – including Chios and Cyprus – as well as the North Atlantic and the Baltic. For some time,

he sailed in a standing fleet against the enemies of Christendom, with his distant cousin “Colombo the Younger,” who was himself another royal personage: Prince George Bissipat, *le Grec*. On one of these voyages, King René d’Anjou – kinsman to *Heduvige d’Anjou, Queen of Poland* and the wife of Segismundo’s grandfather, Władysław II Jagiello – asked Segismundo (later Cristóbal Colón) to rescue the *Ferrandina*, King René’s captured ship, held in Tunis.

As a nobleman of Nordic origins, and possibly fluent in Polish, Segismundo Henriques would have been uniquely well suited to join King João II and King Christian I’s 1476-1477 Portuguese-Danish secret expedition to what is now Canada.⁴⁸⁰ King Christian I ruled over Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Greenland and Sweden – former Viking lands on the Baltic, whose coastline was shared by Poland and Lithuania.

Thus privy to João II’s Portuguese state secrets, Prince Segismundo would have sat in on meetings and conferences with the King of Portugal, who, as Fernando Colón tells us, often discussed “these matters” of navigation with the Admiral, as did his brother-in-law, Pedro Correia (one of King João II’s twenty-five Royal Guards).

When Queen Isabel of Spain tried to kill King João II of Portugal in 1483 and 1484, Segismundo Henriques followed his treacherous nephews to Spain, passing himself off as one of João II’s traitors alongside his nephews. He was, in reality, a Portuguese mole on a secret mission to protect the Portuguese King’s life and territories, as well as to carve out his own kingdom in the New World.

He would eventually succeed – by taking Spain as far away as possible from Portugal’s treasured African trade routes and the real India, keeping the enemy busy in the west and fooling the Spanish into believing that he was shuttling between Europe and Asia.

As a Royal Prince, Segismundo/Colón could enter into a contract of equals with the Monarchs of Spain: *The said privileges and capitulations were made between Your Highnesses and my father, as with a prince and not your subject.*⁴⁸¹

No crowned head would sign such a contract as the *Capitulaciones de Santa Fe* with a man of ignoble rank. However, his well-planned possession of the New World miscarried because – once Spain recognized his duplicity – the contract he’d signed with the Spanish court (*Capitulaciones de Santa Fe*) became invalid.

Following the example of his nephew, D. Lopo de Albuquerque, who’d changed his name to *Pedro Nunes*, Segismundo Henriques changed his name to conform with his intended mission: *ChristoFerens Kōlon*, i.e., *Christ-Bearing Member*. The difference is that, unlike Pedro Nunes, who went into hiding to protect his life from King João II’s assassins, Segismundo Henriques became Cristóbal Colón with King João II’s full knowledge, as proven by the 1488 letter, addressed by the King to Prince Segismundo under his assumed name.

Queen Isabel thought she was hiding a Portuguese traitor in her court, and she was careful to protect him – as she believed to be in her best interest. She also knew his true identity as son of the former king of Poland, just like she understood that Pedro Nunes was in fact D. Lopo de Albuquerque, the Portuguese Count of Penamacor.

Here we encounter an unexpected consequence of the *faux*-traitor’s pseudonym. If Segismundo Henriques needed to conceal his identity as the royal son of Henrique Alemão – King of Poland in hiding – then using an assumed name would satisfy this exigency. It would have been impossible for a royal prince, such as Segismundo Henriques, not to arrive in Spain – where his father had lived as a hermit for some time – enveloped in rumors that he was the son of a king of Poland:

*At Canta-la-Piedra, Spain, the townsfolk told the knights that close to there, in the woods, lived a hermit that was rumored to be a Polish king that had battled against the pagans although he had sworn peace. Having been defeated he was now doing penitence for his sins.*⁴⁸²

By renaming himself Cristóbal Colón, Segismundo Henriques would distance himself from all of the intrigue that would have followed him from kingdom to kingdom as the rumored son of the Hermit King of Poland. The false name enabled him to preserve his father’s secret. As recorded by

none other than his son Fernando Colón:

"Consequently, it came to him on purpose, the last name of Colon, that he came to renew [from his ancestors], because in Greek it means member... and then, if we want to transform his name into Latin pronunciation, it is Christophorus Colonus."

Moreover, contrary to what has long been generally accepted, veteran Colón specialist Consuelo Varela informs us that the Spanish name Colón, in its Italian adaptation, would be *Colonna*, and never *Colombo*.⁴⁸³

As the plot progressed, once he became famous the world over as an Admiral, Governor and Viceroy named D. Cristóbal Colón, he could never again be Segismundo Henriques. With hopes that someday the truth would come to light, this epitaph was written on Colón's tomb: *"I will not be forever confused."* It was a fitting message for the grave of a prince who'd gone under lifelong cover as a pauper.

Upon arriving in Spain, Segismundo Henriques was hosted by the most noble of Spanish society because of his royal blood and because those nobles knew his real identity. Thanks to his eminent pedigree, and his knowledge of closely held Portuguese secrets, he was helped, offered money, and put in charge of a fleet that would sail to the New World. The Duke of Medina Sidonia wanted desperately to marry his daughter to Colón's son, a marriage that was thwarted by King Fernando's interference. Instead, King Fernando forced his cousin on the son of Cristóbal Colón.

He is called "Portuguese" in the only Spanish court document to ever specify his nationality, a court expense receipt from 1487. That slip of the pen would never be repeated at the Spanish court. Henceforth, he would always be loosely described as "foreigner" instead.

His brothers, also royal Princes, were welcomed and assisted in the courts of Europe. D. Bartolomé Colón visited King Henry VII of England in 1488, likely on a secret mission for King João II, to arrest the Count of Penamacor. By 1492, Bartolomé Colón was living at the court of France, no doubt alongside Prince George Bissipat's children, Bartolomé's relatives, one of whom was married to Louis de Dommartin, Lord of Fontenoy-le-Châteaux, in Lorraine, where Martin Waldseemüller worked on his famous world map.

The Second Admiral's Chamberlain, and later Fernando Colón's servant, was Juan Antonio from Fontenoy-le-Châteaux. The reader will recall that George Bissipat was a corsair nicknamed "Colombo the Younger." Bissipat had a son named **Juan** and a daughter named **Antoinette**. It is not farfetched to speculate this corsair "Colombo the Younger" had a descendant named Juan Antonio who adopted the same nickname, "Colombo." He too must have been a man of the sea who went to live in Spain with his famous Colón relations. There Juan Antonio took command of a ship on Colón's Third Voyage – the records of which do indeed make occasional references to a Captain named Juan Antonio *Colombo*.

Cristóbal Colón presented letters to Dr. Villalón from the Kings of Portugal, England and France. Bartolomé Colón's itinerary could well account for where these letters came from. No doubt bearing letters of introduction from King João II of Portugal when Bartolomé Colón went to France and England, he'd be on a secret mission to obtain those two letters of sponsorship for his brother to present at the Spanish court.

Segismundo Henriques's sons, Don Diego Colón and Don Fernando Colón, were made Royal Pages of the Spanish court – in Diego's case, several months before the First Voyage – because they were in fact royal princes just like the Spanish royalty they served.

Cristóbal Colón was granted the right to use the title *Don* because, as Royal Prince Segismundo, he had the birthright to such a title. On these same grounds, he was justified in requesting that he be not just Governor and Admiral but also Viceroy (Vice-King) of the new lands he took possession of. The Spanish monarchs granted these requests because Colón was negotiating with the Spanish court as an equal, being himself a royal prince.

Helping to understand the Admiral's status as an equal among royalty are the words of Las Casas, who stated that Colón's contract with Queen Isabel, the *Capitulaciones de Santa Fe*, which granted him these titles and posts, was one **"between a Sovereign and a non-subject,"** which intimates that

Colón held special, “independent” status. In other words, this was a contract between equals, both of whom had their own negotiators, and not between a crown and its subject. Cristóbal Colón, never naturalized in Spain, was referred to as an “*extranjero*” – a foreigner – yet he held the highest of all posts, such as Viceroy, not even available to nobles of the kingdom. Colón – and other Portuguese royals, including D. Alvaro de Bragança – were not naturalized prior to receiving their posts because, as royalty, they didn’t need to be.

However, Colón’s brother Diego was naturalized because Castilian law required naturalization for ecclesiastical posts, and Diego, with the aid of Cristóbal, was attempting to receive a bishopric. Being a royal prince, Cristóbal Colón could legally alter his own coat of arms *motu proprio*, by his own authority, as he did in 1502, changing the differentiating colors granted him by Queen Isabel to the same colors as Queen Isabel’s own coat of arms, without anyone contesting his use of the Spanish royal colors. He had sufficient authority to legitimize his own illegitimate son, Fernando.

Another circumstance consistent with the posited identity between Segismundo Henriques and Cristóbal Colón is that Colón became involved with a lady from Córdoba whose name was Beatriz *Henríquez*, mother of D. Fernando Colón. Thus, an Henriques bonded intimately with another Henriques, manifesting a practice common at the time.

D. Fernando Colón gave us more clues in his memoir when he wrote that Cristóbal Colón sailed for a long time with a relative named “Colombo the Younger.” As explained earlier, this Colombo was actually a noble Byzantine Prince exiled in France after the fall of Constantinople.

In order to prove that Admiral Cristóbal Colón and Prince Segismundo Henriques (Colona/Jagiello) were one and the same person, we must show that the Portuguese son of King Władysław III was a relation of this “Colombo the Younger.” To do so would require demonstrating that King Władysław III of Poland was related to the Byzantine Emperors and thus to “Colombo the Younger,” as claimed in Fernando Colón’s memoir. This was in fact true. Władysław III was related to “Colombo the Younger” through the marriage of Queen Maria Laskarina, Byzantine Princess and ancestor of King Władysław.

Having proven that Segismundo Henriques was a relative of Colombo the Younger, we tackle another clue left us by Fernando Colón, his assertion that Cristóbal Colón was a descendant of the Kings of Jerusalem. For Segismundo Henriques to fit the profile of Cristóbal Colón, we must show that he descended from the kings of Jerusalem. Again, this information pans out. King Władysław III descended from King Baldwin II, a king of Jerusalem during the 1100s. Both of these lineages are shown in FIGURE 17.14.

Las Casas wrote that Colón’s “parents were notable people, at one time rich,” and Fernando Colón tells us further that, “*the Admiral came from illustrious blood, although his parents, through bad fortune, came to have great necessity and poverty*” because of war. Segismundo’s father, Władysław III, was truly of illustrious blood and had in fact met with bad fortune in the Battle of Varna, eventually becoming a “poor penitent hermit” (*pobre penitente hermitano*). Thus, Władysław III’s life as the powerful King of Lithuania, Poland and Hungary stand in contrast to his Portuguese life as the hermit Henrique Alemão, just as Fernando Colón wrote in his memoir.

Both Las Casas and Don Fernando further declared that Colón’s father made his living through the “trafficking of goods by sea,” which fits Henrique Alemão perfectly. That was how he became very rich in Madeira: by sailing his goods from Madalena to sell at Funchal.

It is important to understand that, just as Portugal and Spain were enemies, the House of Habsburg and the House of Jagiello were also political foes that had several contentions over territorial crowns, such as Hungary, Bohemia, and even Poland itself. Władysław III struggled against the House of Habsburg for the crown of Hungary, which he won. In 1526, Emperor Ferdinand I, Carlos V’s brother, usurped the kingdoms of Bohemia and Hungary, following a break in the Jagiello male line. Letting the world find out that there was actually a Jagiello male alive, heir to the King of Poland, could jeopardize those crowns usurped by the House of Habsburg. It would have been foolish on Carlos V’s part to let the world discover that Władysław III had grandchildren alive in Spain, Portugal and the New World.

HOW WŁADYSŁAW III DESCENDS FROM THE EMPERORS OF BYZANTIUM

1. Alexius III Komnenos Angelos, Byzantine Emperor
2. Anna Komnene Angelina *m/w* Theodorus I Komnenos Lascaris, Emperor of Nicea
3. **Maria Laskarina** *m/w* **Bela IV**, King of Hungary from 1235 to 1270
4. Constanza of Hungary *m/w* Leo Danilovitsch, King of Halicz (Galicia)
5. Jurij I Lvovitsch, King of Halicz (Galicia)
6. Anastasia de Galicia *m/w* Alexander I Michailovitsch, Grand-Duke of Tver
7. Julianna Alexandrovna Twerska *m/w* Olgierd, Grand-Duke of Lithuania
8. Władysław II Jagiełło, King of Poland
9. Władysław III Jagiełło, King of Poland (alias Enrique Alemão, in Portugal)
10. Thus, Segismundo Henriques de Sá Colonna (alias Cristóbal Colón, in Spain) is a relative of Colombo the Younger.

HOW WŁADYSŁAW III DESCENDS FROM THE KINGS OF JERUSALEM

1. Baldwin II, **King of Jerusalem** from 1118 to 1131
2. Alice of Jerusalem, Regent of Antioquia
3. Constança d' Hauteville, Princess of Antioquia
4. Inés of Antioquia
5. André II, King of Hungary
6. **Bela IV**, King of Hungary from 1235 to 1270 *m/w* **Maria Laskarina**
7. Constanza of Hungary
8. Jurij I Lvovitsch, King of Halicz (Galicia)
9. Anastasia of Galicia
10. Juliana Alexandrovna of Tver
11. Władysław II Jagiełło, King of Poland
12. Władysław III Jagiełło, King of Poland (alias Enrique Alemão, in Portugal)
13. Thus, Segismundo Henriques Jagiełło (alias Cristóbal Colón, in Spain) descended from the kings of Jerusalem.

Figure 17.14: The kings of Poland were descendants of both King Baldwin II of Jerusalem and the Byzantine emperors, just as Fernando Colón declared in his memoirs.

These dynastic wars could have been the reason that King Carlos V forbade Fernando Colón to expose his royal pedigree, for Carlos V's brother, Ferdinand I, Holy Roman Emperor, was then the King of Hungary.⁴⁸⁴

This also explains why the Portuguese-born Diego Colón, Second Admiral of the Indies, would continue helping Portugal against Carlos V, by hiding his father's notes from Carlos V. Turning these Polish-Portuguese princes into "discredited, wool-weaving paupers" would help the Habsburgs maintain control over certain contested kingdoms. What if Hungary had sought Don Diego Colón (Jagiełło), Władysław III's grandson and rightful heir, as their king? Had it become publicly known that Władysław III left a male heir who discovered the New World, Carlos V could have faced a major challenge to his retention of those crowns.

There is evidence that the Złoty Stok gold mine, controlled by the Fugger family, financed Carlos V of Spain. Some have further claimed that gold from the Złoty Stok was used to finance Cristóbal Colón's voyage to America. This has not been confirmed through documentation. But if it could be proven, it would add one more fact to the linkages between Colón and Poland.

Although Cristóbal Colón was arrested and sent back to Spain in chains for deceiving the Spanish kings about India, and even though Colón killed and mistreated dozens of Spanish noblemen in the new colony of Santo Domingo, he was not beheaded but immediately released by Queen Isabel upon reaching Spain.

Queen Isabel even apologized to Colón for his arrest and for the bad treatment he received. Since he was in fact Prince Segismundo, Colón was a very noble and important person, deserving of such

extraordinary consideration. It's been insinuated by some historians that all the allowances Colón enjoyed were granted only after his "discovery" of the New World. But this is not true. Twenty years earlier, Colón was already important enough in Portugal to marry a lady of high nobility and to have regular conferences with King João II. Very many events and circumstances in this man's life point to that of a highly important figure in Portugal.

To keep his identity secret, the Portuguese chroniclers censored, modified and fabricated their story, making him out to be an "*Italian Colombo*" whom everyone "*affirmed was a Genoese... a poor ignorant show-off braggart who spent his time promoting and barking his fantasies in Spain.*"

The Portuguese chroniclers went to the extremes of portraying him as "*a liar and impolite with King João II of Portugal in front of all the court*" – an ignoramus, a boastful peasant unworthy of further consideration by the Portuguese, who should remain forgotten by the world. Yet, this was the same Portuguese nobleman whom the king of Portugal considered, "*an industrious genius in his service and highly necessary to the crown of Portugal.*"

Anyone who examines King João II's letter, presented in Chapter 11, will sense the affection and high esteem this king showed to the discoverer. One must also consider the writings of Colón himself, in which he evidences deep regard for Portugal and its king, and one must take into account the respect he garnered in Spain at the highest levels, from kings to scholars. The facts show not only the Portuguese chroniclers but also many others were intentionally misrepresenting the Admiral. They lied about his name by calling him *Colombo/Colomba*, when he actually called himself *Colón*. They lied about the hatred that supposedly existed between King João II and Colón. They lied about his nationality, and they lied about his voyage being the fantasy of an ignoramus. All this was done to protect the great masquerade Colón accomplished on Portugal's behalf, which would have been compromised had his true identity leaked out.

The 2003-2006 forensic investigation at the University of Granada further showed that Colón's bones had been *defleshed*, a process of removing everything from the bones of a corpse. This procedure was reserved for only the highest elites of those times. It is clear that no wool-weaver could ever have passed for a prince – but a prince could have been made to pass for a wool-weaver, as the reader can now realize.⁴⁸⁵

With nearly 500 negative DNA results, why would anyone still insist that Cristóbal Colón was a Colombo from Genoa? Rather, it must finally be acknowledged that some of the Genoese documentation, immersed in doubts from the very beginning, was forged in the service of a hoax that came to be more broadly accepted than many in recent centuries could rival.

To the many clues supporting our thesis that Colón was the son of King Władysław, let us now add another. Admiral Colón's original coat of arms, kept at his son's palace in Santo Domingo, as shown in Chapter 6, suggests that Colón was an Henriques as well as a Jagiello. In heraldic language, the cross and the anchor are interchangeable. The heraldic anchor consists of a cross standing over a crescent – an appropriate symbol for the son of man who nearly lost his life fighting the Muslim crescent for the Christian cross.

In order to disguise a coat of arms that contained a cross or an anchor, without sacrificing its original meaning, either could be replaced by the other. King Władysław II's Jagiellonian family coat of arms had a gold cross on a blue background. Thus, King Władysław III – by simply changing his gold cross to a gold anchor – became an Henriques, yet the gold anchor obscurely retained its significance as a gold cross in this new coat of arms.

The arms of Colón's corsair relative "Colombo the Younger" also presented a gold cross on a blue background, but here the cross formed part of an anchor by riding atop the crescent, with the crescent lying sideways, its ends pointing upwards like a pair of horns (SEE FIGURE 17.15 IN THE COLOR INSERT). The blue-and-gold theme is a constant in the arms of these three personages: Colón, Władysław and Bissipat.

Cristóbal Colón's original coat of arms consisted of five gold anchors on a blue background. Colón's five gold anchors in the saltire arrangement, as shown in FIGURE 17.15 of the color insert, would thus combine three heraldic associations:

- an **Henriques** by the gold-anchor-on-blue-background,
- a **Jagiellonian** by substituting the cross for the anchor
- and **Portuguese royalty** by the saltire pattern

Furthermore, we have a possible connection to the House of Burgundy on the lower half of Colón's shield, as shown in FIGURE 17.16 IN THE COLOR INSERT. The gold, blue and red on Colón's original coat of arms represents one quarter of the ancient coat of arms of the dukes of Burgundy. If Segismundo Henriques was grandson of Francisca de Sousa, then he had Portuguese royal blood, and thus the colors of Burgundy were justified, as they were for King Ferdinand I, Holy Roman Emperor and King of Hungary (SEE FIGURE 17.16E IN THE COLOR INSERT). But Colón's connection to the House of Burgundy could be still closer, as we'll explain below.

What if that secret "family crest" painted on Cristóbal Colón's ring by Antonio Moro turns out to be *an eagle*, arms of the Royal House of Poland, as seen in FIGURE 17.17? This would constitute yet another indisputable link.



Figure 17.17: The eagle (A) is the royal arms of the King of Poland, from the Duke of Burgundy's *Toison d'Or* (Order of the Golden Fleece). A coin from Wladyslaw II's reign (B) shows several coats of arms from the regions he ruled over. Statue of Cristóbal Colón, holding a Christian standard (C), and King Jagiello II crossing two swords (D) are both in New York City's Central Park. One day we may prove scientifically that they were grandfather and grandson.

There is yet additional, suggestive evidence. Oviedo, a contemporary of Admiral Colón, described him as follows: "hair very reddish blonde and the face long and somewhat fiery red and freckled." The son, Fernando Colón, confirms that his father had, "*the nose aquiline [beak-like] his eyes were blue, his skin color was white, lit up with fiery red [from the sun], in his youth he had reddish blond hair but at thirty years old it was already turning to white.*"

Finally, when we look at the painting, *Encounter of San Joaquin and Santa Ana* (FIGURE 17.9 IN THE COLOR INSERT), commissioned by Henrique Alemão, in which Henrique Alemão is portrayed with his wife, Senhorinha Anes, one notes his whitish hair and blue eyes. This 15th Century painting proves that Henrique Alemão was neither destitute nor spending all of his time as a hermit. In fact, he is nobly adorned with pearls and jewels, and although he carries on his waist the pouch of a pilgrim, it is paired with a dagger, symbolizing his royal origins.⁴⁸⁶

In Martin Waldseemüller's *Carta Marina Map*, drawn in 1516, we read that Colón was "a Captain of Portugal." Waldseemüller wrote that he'd created this new map as a correction to his previous two maps, drawn in 1507 and in 1513, whose "Genoese" he corrected to, "a Captain of Portugal." Waldseemüller worked for the descendants of the Portuguese Count of Monsanto, as already explained – Monsanto married into *Colombo the Younger's* family – and Waldseemüller must have been in on many Portuguese secrets.⁴⁸⁷ For example, he showed the location of the cross pillars, placed by Portuguese sailors, as well as place names along the African coast, none of which was yet public knowledge.

At a time when the whole world was blindly affirming Colón to be a *Genoese* named *Colombo*, Waldseemüller identified Colón as Portuguese – like the painting in Portuguese Mafra, which depicted Colón in the company of three other *Portuguese* heroes. Why?

While the Portuguese chroniclers were writing that the Admiral was “*Colombo*” and “*a rude Italian boaster and silly dreamer who knew nothing about nothing*,” the King of Portugal was having Colón’s portrait secretly painted at his palace alongside the greatest Portuguese heroes of the Age of Discovery, and Colón was being called “*portugués*,” not “*italiano*,” at the court of Spain and by Waldseemüller.

If we have connected all of the dots correctly, then here is yet more proof that Admiral Colón was Segismundo. Cristobal Colón normally added a large monogram to his letters, as seen in FIGURE 17.18. This initial looks like an *S*, the initial letter of the name Segismundo.



Figure 17.18: This monogram, taken from the Admiral’s letters, looks a lot like an *S*, the initial letter of Segismundo (COMPARE WITH FIGURE 7.1).

Have we not seen enough evidence already to accept that Colón was both a high-ranking Portuguese nobleman and a son of the King of Poland and Hungary? What if he used the pseudonym Cristóbal (Christopher) because his grandfather was a native of Vilnius, Lithuania?

THE SAINT CHRISTOPHERS

The Admiral chose the pseudonym Cristóbal, after Saint Christopher. Fernando Colón wrote that this was done, “for occult reasons.” A common element among the places connected with Admiral Colón is the image of St. Christopher (SEE FIGURE 17.19 IN THE COLOR INSERT). Juan de la Cosa’s map, drawn in 1500, depicts the Admiral himself as St. Christopher, and at the Portuguese village of Cuba, an enormous fresco was recently discovered of St. Christopher, thus suggesting that Cuba may have had more influence on the Admiral’s life than has hitherto been apparent. Furthermore, in the Monastery of Las Cuevas, which the Admiral used as his headquarters in Spain, in which he lived and was later buried, there is another fresco of St. Christopher.

Interestingly enough, the coat of arms of the city of Vilnius, where King Władysław II Jagiello was born, has been St. Christopher since the year 1330. Władysław II ruled Vilnius and Lithuania from 1377 to 1434, and his son, Władysław III, from 1434 to 1444. Could part of the occult reason for choosing “Christopher” as his first name be that St. Christopher was the symbol of his grandfather’s homeland, where the great patriarch Jagiello, the Grand Duke of Lithuania, was born? It appears that a stunning preponderance of details and coincidences in Cristóbal Colón’s life corroborate his identity as the King of Poland’s son, the **hidden** Prince Segismundo.

In this argument, there is no need to manufacture or manipulate the facts to fit the theory because the multitude of facts presented in this argument *are* the facts of history. By way of contrast, which of all the other theories – advancing, say, a Galician nobleman like Pedro Madruga, a Catalan already named Colom from birth, some crypto-Jew from Ibiza, a wool-weaver from Genoa, or any of the other usual suspects presented up to now – could marshal evidence comparable to the tracing of a bloodline not only to the Byzantine Palaeologi but also to the kings of Jerusalem?

LIFE IS A DREAM

Since it is important to keep in mind that some had to know the truth about Admiral Colón, and since all possible clues should be given sufficient study to establish or disqualify their validity, we turn now to an interesting Spanish-language play titled *La vida es sueño* (*Life is a Dream*), by Pedro Calderón de la Barca, published circa 1635.

This philosophical allegory focused on – *surprise of surprises!!!* – Segismundo, the hidden Prince of Poland. Its central theme was the conflict between free will and fate. The whole scheme reminded us of Segismundo Henriques’s life as a hidden Prince of Poland living in Madeira, who was denied

the crown of Poland. Like the Segismundo in Madeira, the Segismundo in the play was denied ascension to the throne of Poland by his father, and even though Calderón de la Barca set his play in Poland, the correlations were too conspicuous to overlook.

In Pedro Calderón de la Barca's play, the ruling king of Poland – because an oracle had prophesied his son, Prince Segismundo, would bring disaster to the country – secretly imprisoned Segismundo in a stone tower in the mountains on his birth. Lying to his subjects that the boy had died soon after childbirth, the king succeeded in keeping Prince Segismundo hidden until he grew to be a man.

This story is very similar to that of Segismundo Henriques, son of King Władysław III of Poland, who kept his son's royal identity a secret from the public. Both, the real Segismundo, born in Madeira, and the Segismundo in Calderón de la Barca's play are kept hidden from society by their fathers, both of whom were kings of Poland. It is almost impossible for Pedro Calderón de la Barca not to have based his drama on the real-life figures living in Portuguese Madeira, for their names, their titles, and the broad outline of their lives, simply bear too many resemblances to be coincidental. Thus, Calderón de la Barca's play supplies yet one more compelling indication that we are on the right trail.

Now let's take a closer look at what Fernando Colón wrote (and Las Casas elsewhere confirmed). Part of it was already presented in Chapter 7.⁴⁸⁸

*Some wanted that I occupy myself in declaring and saying how the Admiral came from illustrious blood although his parents, through bad fortune, had come to have great need and poverty, and [some wanted] that I should show how he descended from that Colon [Gaius Marius], of whom Cornelius Tacitus, in the beginning of the twelfth book of his work, says that he took King Mitridates prisoner to Rome, for which, it is said that to Colon [Gaius Marius] were given the town and the Consular dignities and the Eagles [standard of a Roman legion] and the tribunal or Consular tent.**

Although others wished Fernando Colón would come right out and declare this "truth," Fernando refused to affirm it, because Fernando knew that the secret must be kept.

Fernando Colón's account matches very closely one given in 1712 – by António Carvalho da Costa – regarding the ancestor of D. Rodrigo Anes de Sá Almeida e Menezes, the Portuguese Marquis of Fontes. Carvalho da Costa wrote that Anes de Sá descended from "*Gaius Marius, splendor of the Roman military*," through Marius's granddaughter to the 23rd degree, Cecilia Colonna.⁴⁸⁹ In another genealogy – written not long afterwards by Gerolamo Colonna, Patriarch of Venice in 1743 – the same Roman General *Colonna*,** Gaius Marius, was presented as an ancestor of the Italian Colonna family. That gives us three sources linking Segismundo Henriques/Cristóbal Colón to both the Colonna and the Anes de Sá families, via the Roman Gaius Marius.

All of these accounts concur perfectly on Admiral Colón's being the son of King Władysław III – who suffered *bad fortune* in battle – and on the Admiral's being descended from Gaius Marius, whose family was called Colonna in Colón's time as it is today.

A fourth important authentication came out of the blue in the form of an email sent by a Lithuanian reader, who alerted us to the fact that Władysław III's great-grandfather, Gediminas, had a coat of arms with "columns" on it, and that Duke Gediminas traced his lineage back to Gaius Marius of the Roman Empire! Amazingly, at the same time that Fernando Colón and Las Casas acknowledged that Cristóbal Colón descended from the famous Roman General – progenitor of the Colonna family – Lithuanian and Polish writers, including the Lithuanian chronicler Albertas Goštautas, recorded that the Dukes of Lithuania (and hence King Władysław III) descended from this very same Roman General.⁴⁹⁰

Even the Pope himself, Martin V – in a letter dated June 1424 – wrote to King Władysław II (Jagiello), Władysław III's father, that the Pope and Władysław were related through the Roman House of Colonna:

* We think Fernando and Las Casas made a citation mistake here since this chapter from Cornelius Tacitus is not about Gaius Marius. Gaius Marius only confronted King Mitridates and did not actually arrest him.

** The word *colonna* is Latin form of the Italian *colonna* meaning column.

*We also [Władysław II and Pope Martin V], with our own family of Colonna, from whom we were carnally born, are bound by the bond of kinship. For, as we have received it from the ancients, regarding our primitive origins, it has been handed down from ancient times via the hands of our own that we are from the Roman Colonna.*⁴⁹¹

Pope Martin V's birth name was Otto Colonna, and he affirmed that Władysław II was his relative because he was also a Colonna. Now we understand why Cristóbal Colón believed himself to be descended from the famous Roman general, ancestor of the Calonna family, whence the pseudonym **Colón** was derived. Not only Pope Martin V but also Polish and Lithuanian chroniclers attested that the Jagiellonian dynasty – and thus Segimundo Henriques, alias Cristóbal Colón – were scions of the Colonna line, founded by the celebrated Roman general and senator.⁴⁹² Amongst the many books Cristóbal Colón owned was Plutarch's *Parallel Lives* in which there is a section about this Gaius Marius as well.⁴⁹³

It is now apparent why Władysław III would be offered a Portuguese bride from the Colonna family. They were distant relatives, for Władysław III was also a Colonna on his father's side.

In one of the Admiral's letters, he wrote, *"I am not the first Admiral in my family."* He did not, however, specify whether this admiral (or admirals) belonged to his immediate family or whether at least one ancestral admiral had lived in the 1500 years since Gaius Marius's time. But in all of Colón's collateral, noble and royal lines – spread out all over Europe – surely another Admiral must have existed. At the very least, there was the aforementioned corsair, "Colombo the Younger," vice-Admiral in France.

Everything presented so far fits together, and supports the conclusion put forth in this chapter: Prince Segismundo Henriques (Colonna), son of King Władysław III, became known to the world not under his birth name but as Admiral D. Cristóbal Colón.

King Władysław III, therefore, survived the Battle of Varna. Some years later, he went on to live and marry in Madeira, where he had children, one of whom, Segismundo, became Cristóbal Colón in Spain. The shrouded king's daughter, Barbara Henriques, stayed in Portugal and left a long line of descendants, still thriving today. Some writings indicate that Władysław III had more children with his wife, Senhorinha Anes; hence – perhaps – Cristóbal's two brothers, Bartolomé and Diego. But Senhorinha Anes remarried and had more children with João Rodrigues de Freitas, so Bartolomé and Diego could have resulted from this later marriage. If so, they would have been half-brothers to Cristóbal. The DNA tests done by Prof. José Lorente showed that Cristóbal and Diego had the same mother. With the information presently available, we cannot be certain whether they were full-brothers or half-brothers of Cristóbal Colón. In either case, though, we're convinced the preeminent "discoverer's" long-mystified identity has at last been conclusively determined.

Two final leads remain to be presented. King Władysław III built a church on his lands at Madeira (SEE FIGURE 17.20). He was buried there. Reports exist that King Władysław's chapel was washed into the sea by a mudslide; however, this was not entirely true. Part of the chapel remained intact, and inside of it we made a breathtaking discovery. Amidst the altar decorations that Władysław III commissioned, there is a golden bird with outspread wings. Now, the phoenix is a wonderfully appropriate symbol for the life of Władysław III, who, like the mythical Egyptian bird, died under fire and then miraculously reemerged among the living. But this particular phoenix bears an intriguing resemblance to the heraldic eagle of Poland (SEE FIGURE 17.21 IN THE COLOR INSERT). Someday we hope to revisit this church with a scientific team, including archeologists, and search for King Władysław's bones.

When Władysław III escaped the Battle at Varna, he must have gone under some kind of disguise, perhaps a monk's robe. He would have had to ditch all vestiges of his kingly identity – including his peculiarly distinctive sword. Kielanowski informs us that Władysław's sword – with a white eagle, bearing a cross on its chest, engraved on the handle of bone – was found in the 1800s, buried about five kilometers from the battlefield at Varna.⁴⁹⁴ How Władysław's sword wound up buried several miles from the last place surviving witnesses saw him alive is anybody's guess. But if the king had in fact been captured or killed, his sword would almost certainly have fallen into Turkish hands. They would have kept it as a priceless trophy of war and proudly displayed it.



Figure 17.20: The Church of Madalena, built by Władysław III in the 1400s at Madalena do Mar, on Madeira Island – as it looked in its earlier state.

According to the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, when Michael Stourdza, Prince of Moldavia, gifted the sword to Nicholas I of Russia, he included a note, stating this was King Władysław III's sword, recovered from Varna. We see this as yet one more proof that King Władysław did not die at Varna, (SEE FIGURE 17.22 IN THE COLOR INSERT).⁴⁹⁵

THE LAST OFFSPRING OF HENRIQUE

According to the secret revealed in the books of *Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona*, Cristóbal Colón *was the last offspring of Henrique* – which we might interpret as referring to **Henrique Alemão** (Władysław III).

Recently, interesting clues have surfaced that suggest Władysław III's wife was actually the illegitimate daughter of Prince Henry the Navigator, Templar Master and Lord of the Island of Madeira. We speculate that Senhorinha Anes was the issue of Prince Henry's affair with a descendant of Cecilia Colonna. If this turns out to be true, it would conform with the House of Burgundy colors in Colón's original coat of arms, and it would unpeel another layer from the occulted identity of Cristóbal Colón.

This lineage would make Colón the son, not only of a king widely believed to have died at Varna, but also the grandson of a prince widely believed to have died a virgin.

In the previous chapter, we conjectured that Prince Henry the Navigator may have had an affair with a daughter of Zarco. It's reported there is evidence in the Vatican archives that Prince Henry had an illegitimate daughter. Apparently Cardinal Garampi, Prefect of the Vatican Archives, made a note about a letter Prince Henry sent to the Pope requesting favors for Prince Henry's "natural daughter." Finding this letter will take some hands-on research at the Vatican.

Our latest research is beginning to suggest that Prince Henry's putative daughter was the Senhorinha Anes who married King Władysław III. As we've seen, members of the Sá-Colonna family served as Chamberlains of King João I of Portugal. Thus it's plausible that King João I's son, Prince Henry, might have been intimate with a female from this Sá-Colonna family.

While researching the possibility that Prince Henry was the father of King Władysław III's wife, we came across a website that we mention here, not to establish anything as scientific fact, but to demonstrate that at least one other analysis has arrived at the same result: Henry Avíz, otherwise known as Prince Henry the Navigator, is shown as King Władysław III's father-in-law.⁴⁹⁶ Therefore, Senhorinha Anes may have been Prince Henry's daughter. A lot more research will be needed to confirm this. But, as they say, where there's smoke, there's fire; it appears we may be on the verge of solving still another mystery.

The chronicles relate that Senhorinha Anes's father was a great noble from Algarve who was held prisoner with Saint Fernando in Morocco. Prince Henry was Lord of Algarve, and he was a captive in Morocco with his brother Saint Fernando. Fernando was left behind as a hostage so that Prince Henry could go free to Portugal. Here again, all of this fits the thesis of Prince Henry being Senhorinha's father.

The authors of the chronicles knew who Senhorinha Anes's father was, but they never revealed his name. Their reticence is another element consistent with the Prince Henry hypothesis.

Obviously, more research is needed to figure out who Senhorinha's parents were. But it wouldn't be at all surprising for the King of Lithuania and Poland to have been so elegantly married – to no less a figure than the daughter of a Prince in Portugal – and to have had the King of Portugal, natural cousin of the bride, as best man at their wedding. If it turns out that Segismundo Henriques, better known as Cristóbal Colón, was in fact the grandson of Prince Henry, Templar Master of the Portuguese **Order of Christ**, then it's even more understandable why Admiral Colón chose to call himself **Christ-Going Member**.

As all the evidence in this chapter shows, we feel the puzzle of Colón's true identity is finally pieced together, even with his mother's parents still unknown. In order to definitively prove, once and for all, that Admiral Cristóbal Colón was the noble Portuguese Segismundo Henriques, son of King Władysław III, it would be sufficient to test the DNA in the bones of any of the following: Admiral Colón, his brothers or his son – at the Cathedral in Santo Domingo – or Fernando Colón – at the Cathedral in Seville – and see if they match the DNA in the bones of Władysław III's father, King Władysław II – at the Wawel Cathedral in Kraków, Poland.

The Admiral's son, Fernando Colón, wrote in his *Historie* that Admiral Colón had *wanted that his homeland and origins be less certain and recognized* and that his chosen *name and last name were not without mystery*.

Many able investigators have done everything they could to penetrate the impenetrable cloud of lies, diversionary tactics, cryptic clues and bewildering controversies that have enveloped Cristóbal Colón's mysterious identity for over half a millennium. More than two decades after entering this labyrinth, we believe the mystery is finally solved.

We are hopeful that eventual DNA testing and forensic science will put any lingering doubts to rest.

Non confundar in aeternam!

EPILOGUE

*In quibus omnibus interfui.**

(In all of this I took part.)

DON CRISTÓBAL COLÓN

Here then is a man whose identity was hidden at the highest state levels, who travelled the world, met with kings, married, had children, captained a fleet, governed a New World, and obtained an eminence that few other historical figures could approach. Yet the truth about his origins was so well and meticulously censored that it's taken over 500 years to prove that the world has been lied to about who he really was.

It was almost a perfect crime. The clues were always there, but their essence would have been lost to us forever were it not for a handful of meddlesome skeptics who – with stubborn persistence, across the centuries – loved logic more than myth. How could an alien wool weaver ever marry a Portuguese noblewoman of the Order of Santiago? How could a common mariner ever guide a fleet through the vast, uncharted seas? And how could anyone who – as legend would have it – didn't know Asia from America ever find his way back home across the broad Atlantic?

A lie can be accepted, or it can be disowned. But at the end of the day, the truth just is what it is. When the chips are down, reality is non-negotiable. The biography of this Admiral – who wrapped his true name and lineage in a cocoon of beguilement – was, for the most part written by third parties, colored by rumor and based on theories which, as is now clear, could not accommodate proven fact.

It was contended that his nationality was Genoese, but the documents on which this contention rested were either doubtful and misinterpreted or plainly falsified. These documents had never been seriously investigated or subjected to the rigors of modern scientific analysis. Not only that, but in no way do the Genoese documents fit those events of the Admiral's life that took place in Portugal and Spain. Because of this mismatch, an endless succession of rather unconvincing stories about Colón's life were propagated worldwide, but they always and absolutely passed over the Portuguese dimension of his life. The reason for this is that the original plan intended for it to be so. The conspirators understood that only Colón's Portuguese birth and upbringing could betray his secret identity; therefore, they made certain all records of his Portuguese life were either confounded or completely erased. How did they manage it?

Simple. They conjured up an imaginary shipwreck to account for Colón's arrival in Portugal at the moment when it was necessary to place him there. This killed two birds with one stone:

First, it expunged his Portuguese life up to that time.

Second, it eliminated any need to explain where he was born. When he swam ashore, practically naked, God only knew where he'd actually come from.

The name he used in his Spanish life, and the name his descendants passed on from the 1400s to the present day, is *Colón* – whose root meaning is “member” – and not the wrongly attributed *Colombo*, which means “pigeon” or “dove.” From this simple mix-up, mistranslation, or intentional fraud – of substituting Colombo/Columbus for Colón – there followed a whole self-propagating historical delusion that led many good people to an erroneous belief.

His nationality of origin was never authentically confirmed. We are confident that we've unmasked the peasant wool-weaver from Italy as an imposter, propagated by history books as the man who became Cristóbal Colón, and that we've at last pieced together and interpreted the clues in such a manner as to establish beyond any doubt the immortal “discoverer's” genuine status and extraction.

* *Interfui*, from the Latin *intervenire*: to take part in. John Boyd Thacher, *Christopher Columbus: His Life, His Work, His Remains: As Revealed by Original Printed and Manuscript Records*. New York and London, G. P. Putman & Sons, 1903-4, page 482.

The case for a Portuguese-Polish nobleman has been solidly documented in the pages of this book. The new evidence we've assembled – including both his constant Portuguese tendencies of speech and action, and his Portuguese family ties – have made the claim he was a Genoese weaver altogether untenable.

In Portugal – where the future Admiral spent his youth, acquired a superb education, and married a woman of extraordinary status – his identity would have been no secret. In Spain, the court most certainly knew who his parents were, for no such titles as *Admiral* or *Viceroy* would have been granted to a man of undetermined lineage. In fact, King Fernando married Cristóbal Colón's son, the Portuguese Diego Colón, to King Fernando's own cousin. For a peasant to attain such honor is the stuff of fairy tales.

If Colón was actually the son of King Władysław III, who insisted on remaining hidden in Madeira – as we're convinced, – then all the royal courts he dealt with would have understood this, and participated in the conspiracy to keep the Colón brothers' lineage a top secret.

Admiral Colón had this secret constantly in mind – as did his brothers, his nephews, and his in-laws in Portugal, not to mention his sons and grandchildren in Spain.

The crowns of both kingdoms controlled the writers and record-keepers, whose official story is the one that we've been fed.

For example, modern historians have commonly cited four Portuguese chroniclers in support of their thesis that Colón could not have been Portuguese, and must therefore have been an "Italian Colombo." First, they tell us that Rui de Pina (1440–1521), an important eyewitness and the first Portuguese to write about the Admiral, called him "Colonbo Italiano" in his chronicle, circa 1504.⁴⁹⁷ Second, they cite Garcia de Resende (1470–1536), who was personal page and private secretary of King João II; third, João de Barros (1496–1570), author of *Décadas da Ásia* (Decades of Asia); and finally Damião de Góis (1502–1574), Keeper of the Royal Archives from 1548. Each of these last three also declared the discoverer to be Italian.

However, all historians have ignored two important points regarding the four Portuguese chroniclers. First of all, the Admiral's name was Colón – not Colombo. Clearly, since King João II wrote, "Xpoval *Colón*" in his 1488 letter, and since the Pope consistently wrote *Colón* in all his letters of 1493, then we have good cause to regard Pina's writing of *Colonbo* in 1504 as an intentional corruption of the truth. Second, Garcia de Resende, João de Barros and Damião de Góis did not *author* any writings about the Admiral, as many suppose, but merely *copied* Rui de Pina's text. In fact, Garcia de Resende – writing 30 years after Rui de Pina – copied Rui de Pina's text *word for word*, which is consistent with his sticking to an official-story line, the only kind Resende would have been allowed to write.

This fact alone proves that censorship was in effect in Portugal. Garcia de Resende spent 24 hours a day with King João II, as he himself conceded, even sometimes sleeping in the same room as the king. Resende *had* to understand the Admiral's role in Portugal, for he witnessed all the meetings and conversations that took place between Colón and João II.

If any of these four chroniclers could have recorded the Admiral's true identity and purpose, it would have been Garcia de Resende. Why, then, did Resende not faithfully write his own, truthful account, from his own point of view? Why did Resende, instead, just obtusely copy Rui de Pina? The only reasonable answer is that the record he left us did not flow freely and naturally from his own perceptions: it was dictated to him.

The new pseudonym of *Colonbo*, forced on Rui de Pina, put the finishing touch on this cover-up process. It made little difference what false name and nationality they gave to the Admiral, as long as no scent of Portuguese nobility seeped out. Either Colón or Colonbo would suffice.

As for Pina's *Italian* attribution, it's a distortion of Colón's true ancestry, to be sure – but it's also technically true because Colón's Portuguese ancestors descended from the Italian Colonna family, just as it now appears that his father, Władysław III, did too.

Cristóbal Colón was one of the great navigators of the Age of Discovery. He was also a consummate deceiver. So well did he combine his role as a double agent – executing an extremely audacious,

undercover mission in Spain – with his carefully planned, hermetic rupture from family and roots in Portugal that it's taken half a millennium to construct an authoritative biography.

Instead, an “official tale” was propagated – and almost universally accepted – despite the fact that it never made any sense. The very biographers who promoted the Genoese hypothesis admitted their doubts, acknowledging the lack of documentation, the gaps and contradictions. All things considered, though, this was the best they could do, what we had to accept. Troubling as the data were, they investigated and re-investigated – but always far away from Portugal, where the lie was invented, and where the truth still lies buried today.

However, a hero of this magnitude could not be callously dismissed from the hearts and minds of his family, his friends and his nation. Shortly after Admiral Colón's death, the Portuguese D. Lourenço de Almeida (nephew of the same Prior of Crato who'd hosted Colón at Vale do Paraíso in 1493) re-named the newly discovered city of *Colaum* to *Colombo*, as the commercial capital and largest city of Sri Lanka is still known today. This is no coincidence. It was done to memorialize a family member who'd been uniquely instrumental in safeguarding the regions of the true India for Portugal.

Being that Colón and Colombo are both fictitious names, they more readily became interchangeable and synonymous than might have otherwise been the case. One false name may cover the truth as well as another, and the existence of *more* than one – by muddying the waters – would tend to favor the preservation of secrecy.

But the secret of Colón's Portuguese identity remained in the consciousness of the “enlightened,” including the great Portuguese poet Luis de Camões, who wrote the following, Tenth Verse of his 1572 *Lusiadas*. After describing all the places that the Portuguese discovered in the East, Camões, turning to the discovery of America, writes as follows:

Mas he tambem razão, que no Ponente (But its is also reason that at the West)
D'hum Lusitano hum feito inda vejais, (From a Lusitanian an achievement you still see)
Que de seu Rei mostrando-se agravado, (That, pretending to be aggravated by his King,)
Caminho ha-de fazer nunca cuidado. (A route he would take never before calculated.)⁴⁹⁸

History gives the honor of sailing west for the first time to Don Cristóbal Colón. Camões's *Lusitanian* (Portuguese) who feigned being aggravated by his king can only be a reference to Cristóbal Colón, who went to Spain, saying that he hated Portugal and its king, João II, and who later sailed to the West on a route “**never before navigated.**”

Because *Colombo* was not a Portuguese name, and since Rui de Pina claimed Colombo was Italian, why would the Portuguese academies ever question this? Who except for the Italians would know whether or not an imaginary *Genoese Colombo* was in fact one of their own?

In the vacuum of the silence left behind, the Italians took the likeness of his name and transformed the noble Colón into a commoner – Colombo – and then proudly declared that the Admiral, famous in Spain but never literate in Italian, was one of their own countrymen.

By never coming out with the truth – or contesting the Italian nonsense – Portugal was left out of the story.

In his authentic Last Will and Testament, the Admiral instructed his heir to look after his mistress, Beatriz Enriquez, whom Colón had never married because that would have involved yet more people, necessitating more lies and greater risk that the truth might yet escape.

To marry in Spain, Colón would have had to disclose his true lineage to more people. However, this was for Admiral Colón a cause of remorse. Note the instructions to his son Don Diego, Second Admiral:

I order you to keep entrusted Beatriz Enriquez, mother of Don Fernando my son, that you provide for her so that she can live honorably, as a person to whom I owe a great deal. And this shall be done to clear my conscience, because this weighs heavy on my soul. The reason for it is not permissible to be written here.

One must appreciate that Colón was keenly aware the secret of his identity had to be kept for a long time after his death. His words, “it is not permissible to write here,” bear this out. Certainly the Admiral was not trying to hide the fact that he had an illegitimate son; everyone knew that Fernando was his son, and everyone knew who Fernando’s mother was. Clearly, there was something much more serious that Colón had not written here; indeed, revealing it would have jeopardized his occulted identity.

There are many reasons to believe that a secret plan was formulated during Colón’s lifetime, the purpose of which was to pass down the secret information about his ancestry, from generation to generation, with the hope that at some future time the identity of his father could be revealed.

This information was maintained secret amongst a privileged few, and it was painstakingly encoded with the hopes that someday, someone with a sleuthful spirit would be curious and determined enough to eventually decode the puzzle.

Now, Colón had two distant relatives. One was a Freemason, whose son, also a Freemason, took over the reins of Portugal. The other was a retired theologian, Inquisitor of the Holy Office and examiner of the ecclesiastic assembly, who’d held several other religious positions and prelatures. Each, under the identical pseudonym of *Prior Don Tivisco de Nasao Zarco, y Colona*, compiled a book containing veiled clues that pointed to the royal lineage and true origins of Admiral Cristóbal Colón.

However, King Pedro of Portugal, fearing the consequences of exposure, banned the Portuguese book. Curiously though, at the same time, a ceiling mural in the Mafra Palace was being painted. In it, next to three other great Portuguese heroes, Admiral Colón was exalted, albeit somewhat enigmatically – still enchained by the forces that had controlled his life and destiny.

After being forced to deny his identity, his name, his family, and his beloved homeland, the Admiral remained permanently *confused* with somebody else.

All over the world, and for far too long, *Columbus* has replaced *Colón*, in both the name and images that portray him (see Figure 18.1). The name *Columbus* and the popularly identifiable face associated with it are forgeries.



Figure 18.1: The face of the fraud. This portrait, by the Italian painter Sebastiano del Piombo, was long passed off as the image of Cristóbal Colón. In fact, it is nothing more than the image of an imaginary, dark-haired commoner posing as *Colombo*. It bears no resemblance to the noble, blond-haired Admiral of Spain, whose portrait was done by Pedro Berruguete and Alejo Fernández, court painters to the Catholic Monarchs. The two painters would have seen Cristóbal Colón at the court. They may have even painted Colón in person, since Berruguete died in 1504, Alejo began working at the court in 1505, and the Admiral died in 1506. Aware of the fraud perpetrated by the Italians, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, owner of the painting, now simply describes it as, “Portrait of a man.”

Nevertheless, discreetly, within the royal circles, a respectful tribute to his greatness, his sacrifice, and his nobility continued to be expressed through such means as the ceiling mural in Mafra and another portrait (lost for a century now) that includes a ring with royal heraldry and another with a crown half concealed on one of his sleeves.

We are today arriving at the revelation of a truth that may not be pleasant for some. The authentic character of João II's double agent may provoke nostalgia for that lost and ignorant Italian upstart immortalized as "Colombo," the eccentric braggadocio who, when kicked and rejected like an insufferable cur, went barking his fantasies to Spain, as Rui de Pina would have us believe, an example followed by other Portuguese chroniclers.

Notwithstanding 500 years of Conventional Baloney, all the facts now point to an eminent nobleman who was highly cultured and deeply committed to his spy mission. He lied continuously to Spain. He never faltered as a loyal servant to his sovereign, João II. He killed and maimed when necessary to deceive his royal sponsors. And he was so expert in everything he put his mind to that, for all of five centuries, he took the world for a ride.

A very great number of facts in this book have proven categorically that Cristóbal Colón could not have been a commoner. They have implicated him as a Portuguese nobleman of royal lineage. These facts have demonstrated that, while playing the role of a secret agent in Spain, he utilized a name that by no stretch of the imagination could have been the name he was born under.

João II – perhaps the greatest unsung king in Portuguese history – and D. Cristóbal Colón inaugurated this deception together in 1484, and many others conspired scrupulously to maintain it right down until today. But the jig is up. Henceforth, it's no longer tenable to assert that Colón made a journey without knowing where he was going, that the ship *Santa Maria* sank, or that storms magically appeared at the last minute to guide him into Lisbon, Portugal. Neither should the spurious latitudes Colón provided be taken at their face value. Nor should any discerning person any longer believe in a world of navigation immersed in darkness, whose pilots were incapable of gauging their whereabouts by that same North Star that pilots can still guide their craft by today.

The non-negotiable reality now stands. The key to unlocking the mystery had always been the missing dimension of the Admiral's Portuguese life – left out not by mistake but to deceive the world. Anybody wishing to prove otherwise must prove that Colón was not Portuguese, as all of the following facts about his life suggest. Cristóbal Colón:

1. spoke Portuguese as his mother tongue.
2. gave Portuguese names to over 80 places in the New World.
3. lived on the island of Madeira, and on the Portuguese mainland.
4. married the daughter of the Captain of Porto Santo, in Madeira.
5. was uncle and cousin (by marriage) to the highest nobles of the Kingdom of Portugal.
6. was able to regularly attend Mass at the elite Monastery of All-Saints of the Order of Santiago.
7. had the Master of Santiago, King João II, authorize his marriage.
8. had a brother, Bartolomé, who became a cartographer in Lisbon when that science was highly classified.
9. had the King of Portugal regularly meet with him and discuss Portugal's navigational secrets.
10. sailed all the Portuguese Atlantic routes – from the Azores, to Madeira, to Guinea, to Cape Verde.
11. was sent by King João II to secretly sail what is now the Canadian coast with the Danes.
12. was allowed to sail to the Castle of S. Jorge da Mina, highly protected by King João II.
13. was sent secret letters written in Portuguese by King João II, in which he is named the King's "special friend."
14. frequently praised Portugal and the exploits of the Portuguese kings.
15. had the King of Portugal continuously share with him scientific secrets of Portuguese navigation while living in Spain.
16. kept the Portuguese discovery of Brazil and the Cape of Good Hope a secret from Spain.
17. was so well known in Portugal that many Portuguese nobles recognized him, even while he was using a false name.
18. took Spanish ships to secretly aid distressed Portuguese soldiers in Arzila.

19. had upon his original coat of arms five elements arranged in the same pattern as the arms of the Royal House of Portugal.
20. always swore on oath by the Portuguese Prince “Saint Fernando.
21. held as highly significant the Cult of the Holy Spirit, promulgated by the Portuguese Templar Order of Christ.
22. had his wife, sister-in-law and brother-in-law buried at the elite Convent of Carmo in Lisbon.
23. sailed for Portuguese ports six times during his four voyages, between 1493 and 1502.
24. Was recognized, welcomed and aided in Santa Maria, Azores by the Lieutenant, João da Castanheira.
25. was welcomed and thrown a parade in Funchal, Madeira, by Captain João Gonçalves da Camara.
26. was welcomed and thrown a parade in Lisbon by the Captain of João II’s patrol ship on March 4, 1493.
27. had Queen Leonor of Portugal insist that he not leave Portugal without going to visit her, in March 1493.
28. had Portuguese who were employed by the King of Portugal working alongside him and helping him in Spain.
29. had Italians who held special privileges from the King of Portugal helping him in Spain.
30. settled in Seville, the territory of a Duke who was a friend of the King of Portugal.
31. took the news of the discovery to the King of Portugal before he took it to any another king.
32. used his lies to the Catholic Monarchs only to aid the Kingdom of Portugal.
33. had his son, Diego Colón, continue helping the Kingdom of Portugal against King Charles V.
34. had Toscanelli imply in his letter that Colón was a *Portuguese*.
35. was called “Portuguese” in the official record of Queen Isabel’s court, the only nationality the court of Spain ever specified in reference to him.
36. and finally, called Portugal “**my homeland**” in his letter to the Spanish Sovereigns on March 4, 1493.

The evidence for a Portuguese Colón is irrefutable. From now on, it will no longer make any sense to ask whether Cristóbal Colón was Portuguese or not. Most of the above points are consistent with no nationality *but* Portuguese, and therefore the Admiral had to have been a loyal native of Portugal. Anyone claiming otherwise must first prove how he could *not* have been Portuguese.

CONCLUSION

Since this book has been written with truth as its compass, and aimed at the mark of dispelling all possible doubts, we have diligently navigated our course by the most uncompromising scientific methods. The only issue of significance that still remains to be proven is the exact lineage of Admiral Cristóbal Colón. No doubt this will eventually be resolved through future DNA studies.

Thanks to DNA tests already conducted at the University of Granada, led by Prof. José Lorente, Director of the Laboratory of Genetic Identification of Granada, we have evidence that Colón was definitely *not* a Colombo.

Both His Royal Highness, D. Duarte, Duke of Braganza, descendant of King João I and head of the Royal House of Portugal, and the Lord José Ribeira, Count of Ribeira Grande, descendant of the illustrious João Gonçalves Zarco, First Captain of Madeira, graciously agreed to our request to take part in the 2003-2006 tests to compare their DNA with the DNA of D. Cristóbal Colón.

On behalf of all those who seek historical truth, we greatly appreciate their decision and cannot thank them both enough for their collaboration.

The DNA analysis of some 477 subjects named Colombo and Colom – from Italy, France and Spain (including Catalonia) – concluded in 2006, failed to prove any relationship between these Colombo/Colom families with Admiral Cristóbal Colón’s DNA. This makes it virtually impossible that Admiral Colón originated in any of those lands.

These 477 negative results ought to be taken as conclusive, state-of-the-art proof that the Admiral was not a Colombo. Certainly, if he were a Colombo, as many have supposed for centuries, the DNA should have revealed that. Not finding a single DNA match in Genoa, where we were told the highest probability of a match existed, further strengthens this verification that Colón's history was falsified.

Some similarities were found with the DNA of the Duke of Braganza, but a one-hundred-percent certainty is not possible at this time.

We are hopeful that new clues will continue to surface in Portugal so that we can obtain more details about the lineage of Senhorinha Anes as well as the location of the private archive with the papers of João da Nova.

We believe we have solved this 500-year-old riddle and that Cristóbal Colón was in reality Prince Segismundo Henriques de Sá Colonna Jagiello.

We are confident that DNA will eventually prove our theory correct and we are gathering information relating to descendants of Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas to include in a DNA study, if and when we can find the financing and approvals for it.

We hope to eventually perform comprehensive forensic studies on the bones of the Colón family, which include Cristóbal Colón, his brother Bartolomé Colón, his son Diego Colón, his grandson Luis Colón, and other family members who are buried in Santo Domingo. A proper investigation of Cristóbal Colón's remains will tell us many things, including his age at death.

The scientific community is called upon to request that the government of the Dominican Republic allow forensic and DNA study of the bones inside the Santo Domingo Cathedral as well as those inside the Faro de Colón. A thorough forensic investigation of their skeletons could pinpoint their lineage once and for all.

The world deserves to learn the truth about this uniquely illustrious man, his brothers and his descendants, who have been entrapped in mystery for way too long.

* * *

The exchange of ideas and information from others around the world is greatly welcomed, and we are confident that one day soon the true name of the First Admiral of the Indies, his true lineage and the true place of his birth will be settled.

Those interested in sharing new clues and discoveries or participating in the discussion surrounding the mysterious Admiral may visit our website at www.columbus-book.com. There you will find our email address and the link to our blog where you can post your comments.

Our honest intentions are to follow all positive DNA results – from noble family to noble family – in search of Colón's lineage until the true parents of this most famous of all orphans are ascertained.

This mysterious nobleman – forced to renounce his homeland, his parents, and even his real name – went down in history as a commoner, yet those who watched over him pleaded, for his sake, on silent, enduring stone with the epitaph:

In te, Domine, speravi, non confundar in aeternum.

In you, Lord, I hope to not be forever confused.

Tempus pro veritate!

APPENDIX

There are things that cannot be written down.

DON CRISTÓBAL COLÓN

In order to convince the Spanish court that its ships had reached India, Cristóbal Colón forced all persons on the Cuba voyage to swear an oath falsely claiming that the island of Cuba was a continent that continued all the way west until it reached Spain. Note the date of June 12, 1494, which was during the height of the negotiations for the TREATY OF TORDESILLAS, which was ratified by Spain on July 2, 1494.

Report of sworn oath, as to how Cuba was a continent, which the Admiral compelled those sailors that accompanied him swear to.

June 12, 1494, on the caravel *Niña*, which was named *Santa Clara*, Thursday, 12 of June, year of the nativity of Our Lord 1494, the very magnificent Lord Don Cristóbal Colón, Admiral of the Ocean Sea, Viceroy and perpetual Governor of San Salvador Island and all other islands and mainland of the Indies discovered and to be discovered for the King and Queen, our Lords, and the Captain General of the Sea, ordered me, Fernán Péres de Luna, notary public of Isabela City, on behalf of Your Highnesses, that, because he had left that city of Isabela with three caravels to discover the mainland of the Indies, though he had already discovered part of it during the first voyage that to these parts he made last year of our Lord 1493, and had not been able to tell for certain, because, although he sailed a long way off its coast, he failed to find people on its coast that could give a correct account of it. Because they were all naked, people without assets of their own, nor do they trade, or go out of their homes, nor do others come to them, as they themselves made it known. And because of this, he did not declare affirmatively that it was the mainland, except that he said it hesitantly, and named it Juana in memory of Prince Don Juan, Our Lord. And now he left the said city of Isabela on the 24 of April [1494], and came to navigate the parts of Juana that are closer to Isabela Island, the which is shaped like a slice from east to west, and the tip that is at the east, closer to Isabela, is twenty-two leagues away, and he followed its coast to the west, along the south side to go to a big island the Indians call Jamaica, the which he found after having travelled a long way and he named that island Santiago. And he sailed its whole coast, from east to west, and then returned to the mainland, that is called Juana, to the place he had departed from and followed its west coast for many days, to which he said that, by his navigation, it surpassed 335 leagues, from the time he began sailing it until now. In the said voyage, I recognized this often and he declared that this was a continent, by its shape, and the news that about it he had, and the name of the people and of the provinces, especially Mango Province. And now, after having discovered infinite islands, so many that no one has been able to count them all, having arrived here to a town, he took some Indians, who told him that the coast of this land extends westward more than twenty days travel, nor [did they] know where it ended.

He determined to sail a bit further, so that all those on these ships, amongst which are masters of navigational charts, and very good pilots, the most famous that he was able to choose from the large fleet that he brought from Castile, so that they would see how this land is huge and how, from here onwards, its coast heads south. Thus, as I was saying, he travelled four days further, so that they would all be certain that it was a continent. Because all these islands and lands have no inhabitants on the coast, except naked people, who live from fish and never venture inland, and have no idea what the world is like four leagues away from their homes, and they think there is nothing in the world except islands.¹⁸ They are people, who do not have any laws or cults, nor do they know what might be, except being born ... nor have any policy by which they can know the world.

And because, after the voyage finished, so that nobody have any cause, through malice or vindictiveness, to diminish things that deserve high praise, the said Lord Admiral requested me, the said notary, as above-mentioned, on the part of Your Highnesses, that I personally, with good witnesses, go to each of the said three caravels and require its masters and company, and all others who are there, that they publicly say whether they had any doubt that this land was the continent at the beginning of the Indies, and the end for whoever to these parts wishes to come from Spain by land. And that, if any doubt or any information anyone had about this, that he begged that they tell him, because he would remove all doubt and would make them see that it is true and that this is the continent.

And in this way I complied, and I required publicly here, on this caravel *Niña*, of the master and crew, persons that I will name below, each one by their name and where his residence is. The same way, of the other two caravels aforementioned, I required the masters and their crews to swear, and thus I declared to them in front of the witnesses named below.

All was done in the way that the said Lord Admiral had requested of me and I required it of them and put a **penalty of ten thousand maravedis for every time afterwards that each one ever says the contrary of what they now say, plus they shall have their tongues cut off.**

And for a shipboy, or a person of such rank, he shall get **one hundred lashes and his tongue cut out.**

And all of them were this way required to swear, in all the said three caravels, every one each at a time, with much diligence.

The pilots and masters and sailors looked on their sea charts, and thought, and said the following:

Francisco Niño, resident of Moguer, pilot of the caravel *Niña*, said that, by the oath that he swore, that he never heard nor saw an island that could have 335 leagues on a coast running from west to east and still not ended. And that he now saw that the land turned south southwest and southwest and west and certainly he did not have any doubt that it was the mainland, instead he affirms it and defends that it is a continent and not an island. And that, before many more leagues are sailed along the said coast, regions shall be found where the people have politics and they know about the world, etc.

Item, Alonso Medel, a resident of Palos, master of the caravel *Niña*, said that by the oath that he had made that he never heard nor saw an island that could have 335 leagues on a coast from west to east and not yet finished, and saw the coast now starting to go south southwest and southwest and west and that certainly he had no doubt it was the mainland, instead he affirmed and defended that is the continent and not an island, and that, before many more leagues of sailing its coast, there would be found lands where people deal in politics of knowledge and who know about the world, etc.

Item, **Juan de la Cosa**, a resident of Puerto de Santa María, master of making sea charts, mariner of the said caravel *Niña*, said that by the oath that he had sworn that he never heard or saw an island which could have 335 leagues in a west to east coastline and still not finished and that he saw now how the mainland turned south southwest and southwest and west and that he certainly had no doubts that it was the continent. Instead, he would argue and defend that it is the continent and not an island, and that before many more leagues are travelled along the said coast, lands shall be found where people deal in politics of knowledge and who know about the world, etc. (. . .)

Item, all sailors and apprentices and others, who were on the said caravel *Niña*, who understood anything about the sea, all declared in unison and every one for himself publicly, that by the oath that they had sworn, that this was the mainland (. . .)

Witnesses who were present and saw all swear in unison, and each by himself, the abovementioned, and in the manner above described, Pedro de Terreros, butler of the said Lord Admiral, and Íñigo Lopes de Cúñiga, carver, servants of the said Lord Admiral, and Diego Tristán, resident of Seville and Francisco Morales, resident of Seville, etc. (. . .) by virtue of an order that the said Lord Admiral had given to me, the said Diego de Peñalosa, signed in his name, so that I could transcribe from the said records and protocols any document, that from me be duly requested, by the said order I was required by the said Lord Admiral to look at the records and protocols of the said Fernán Pères de Luna, in which I would find this said sworn oath that here in this document is declared (. . .) And

I, Diego de Peñalosa, aforesaid notary, by virtue of power that I have by the said order from the said Lord Admiral, to be able to copy any notarized documents that in my possession may be, which had come before the said Fernán Pérez de Luna, deceased notary, may God have him, I did transcribe it and copied anew and authenticated it with my signature and with my seal in witness of the truth. Diego de Peñalosa. (*Cartas de particulares a Colón y Relaciones coetáneas*, Recopilación y edición de Juan Gil y Consuelo Varela, Alianza Editorial, S. A., Madrid, 1984, pages 216-223)

Münzer's reporting of his audience with Queen Isabel and King Fernando, January 24, 1495, after having spent many days visiting King João II of Portugal.

Eight days we remained in Madrid waiting. On January 24, 1495, we were admitted to the royal chamber, where we saw the King enter to the public hearing to the right of the Queen... Having gone to the throne, the King and Queen, they sat and they called us. First I kissed their hands, and then, kneeling on a gold colored cushion, I gave a short speech, there improvised, which was as follows:

"Most sacred and very powerful monarchs: The greatness of the deeds that your majesties have performed is known throughout the world, and duly admired... For this reason, and with the support of our most serene King Maximilian, and the other nobles of Germany, who placed upon my shoulders this mission, I left with my entourage from the ends of Germany, went into Spain, to be able to see with my own eyes what I knew only through hearing... we entered Seville, where we were introduced to a new and wonderful exhibition. We saw some new men, unknown in our century, brought here from the Indies, discovered under your patronage. Oh marvelous and amazing deed unknown to many! Again, leaving Seville we arrived at the court of the King of Portugal, where we were **informed by His Royal Majesty** about matters of Ethiopia and the southern lands. Through Santiago and Salamanca, we returned to Toledo.

And only the desire to see the authors of such great feats has made us come to Madrid to visit Your Majesties. We came, again I repeat, overcoming the mountains... Now, I say to the kings through whom the Lord's hand revived the nations, subjugated the kingdoms and found new men...

I believe that nothing is lacking to Your Majesties, except for adding to your triumphs the recovery of the Lord's tomb in Jerusalem.

[Kings] Luis and Richard [Lionheart], one King of France and the other of England, many years ago tried this same enterprise, sailing to Alexandria with the fleet they had prepared. But the **Calabrian Joaquin, [de Fiore]**, man of God, preached that the hour had not yet arrived and those kings had to return home without receiving the glory and with great detriment and havoc to their own soldiers. To you [Isabel and Fernando] is reserved this victory. This triumph of yours [the New World] shall be crowned by those trophies [of Jerusalem]. And you very well can do it. And to no one but you is reserved this chance and opportunity. The [Mediterranean] coasts of Africa tremble in front of your weapons and are ready to submit to your scepter. There will, therefore, be no enemy at your back. Spain flourishes in great peace and there is no reason to fear internal riots. Sicily, Sardinia and Majorca, rich islands, will provide you all sorts of supplies. Rhodes will supply to you its highly skilled soldiers. The Germans and Hungarians will contain the Turks at their borders so that they do not help Saladin. It will be easy, therefore, for you to rescue the Lord's tomb from the jaws of the enemies of God and fill it with trophies. What else?

...Oh Lord, let your German servants go in peace, for we have seen the saviors of all Spain! We have seen the luminaries that have discovered the unknown Indian races that you wish merged in the union of our faith. Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to men of good will! I said. (*Viaje por España y Portugal*, Jerónimo Münzer, Ediciones Polifemo, Madrid, 1991- pages 265-271.)

Letter from Paolo Dal Pozzo Toscanelli to Cristóbal Colón.

I have received your letters with the things you sent me, and with them I received great favor. I notice your splendid and lofty desire to sail to the regions of the east by those of the west, as is shown by the chart which I send you, which would be better shown in the shape of a round sphere. It will please me greatly, should it be understood; and that not only is the said voyage possible, but it is sure and certain, and of honor and countless gain, and of the greatest renown among all Christians.

But you will not be able to understand it thoroughly except with experience or discussion, as I have had most fully, and good and true information from mighty men and of great learning, who have come from the said regions here to the Court of Rome. And from other merchants who have long trafficked in those parts, men of great authority.

So that when the said journey occurs, it will be to powerful kingdoms and most noble cities and provinces, most rich in all manner of things in great abundance and very necessary to us, and also in all kinds of spices in great quantity, and jewels in the largest abundance.

It will also be to the said kings and princes, who are very desirous, more than we are, to have dealings and communication with Christians from our parts, for a great number of them are Christians. And also to have communication and dealings with the learned men and of genius from here, as well in religion as in all the other sciences, because of the great reputation of the empires and administrations of these our parts. For all the said things and many others which might be mentioned, I am not amazed that you, who art of great spirit, and the whole nation of the Portuguese, who have always been men noble in all great undertakings, should be seen with heart inflamed and full of desire to put into execution the said journey. (*Toscanelli and Columbus*, Henry Vignaud, First Secretary of the United States Embassy at Paris, etc., London, Sands & Co, 1902, pages 322-324.)

Confirmation of Land Grant by Prince Henry confirming the land grant to Henrique Alemão, 29, April 1457

(Published in *Monumenta Henricina*, Volume XIII, Comissão Executiva das Comemorações do Quinto Centenário da Morte do Infante D. Henrique, Coimbra, Portugal. 1972, p. 100.)

Eu, o jffante dom Amrrique, rregedor e gouernador da hordem de Nosso Senhor Ihesu Christo, duque de Viseu e senhor de Coujlhãa, faço saber a vos, Joham Gomçalluez Zarco, meu cavalleiro e do meu comsselho e capitam por mjm na minha ilha da Madeira, na parte do Fumchall, e a outros quaaesquer que depois vos forem por mjm na dita mjnha ilha que, peramte mim, pareçeo Amrrique, allemam, cavalleiro de santa Caterina, e me mostrou hũa mjnha carta, per a quall vos mamdaua que vos lhe deseess terra na Ribeira da Madanella, que lhe a elle e a sete ou oito lauradores abastassem pera laurar e fazer vinhas, ortas, casas, açucaraaes e hũu oratorio segundo mais compridamente na dita carta faz meemçam. A qual terra me disse que lhe vos deres e demarquarees, per estas comfromtações que se seguem, a saber: o ditto lugar da Madanella, como diz des a Ribeira Seca que vem des o Calhaao, atrauesando ho caminho ataa Outeiro do Penado, e dally como vay ataa pomta das Capellas, que entra demtro no mar. O quall lugar e terra todo jaz cercado de mar, da rrocha e tambem a outra terra dallem da Ribeira que jaz em cima da serra, amtre a Madanella e o Arco, que ora heu, per seu prazimemto, dey a Amdre, allemam. A quall terra me o ditto Amrrique fez çerto que tijnha aproueitada, pedijmdome que, por ho [amor] de Deus e por merçee que, porquamto de nos numqua ouuera carta de como lhe a dita terra e lugar era dado, per bem da dita mjnha carta, que eu lhe comfirmasse esta que elle ficaua, pollas ditas demarquações ssuso comtheudas.

E eu, vendo em como rrequere justo, pello de Deus, desy, queremdolhe fazer graça e merçee, lhe comfirmo a dita terra e lugar, a elle e a todos seus herdeiros e soçessores, que esmoutem e laurem e aproueitem o dito lugar e terra, aquillo que aproueitado nam for ataa çimquo annos primeiros segujntes e, de hy em diamte, traguam todo aproueitado em cada hũu anno, em guisa que sempre seja melhorado e nam peiorado.

E, empero que todo seja aproueitado, se esteuerem çjmquo annos por aproueitar, mamdo que as possaaes dar de sesmaria a quem as aproueite, aquelles que assy aproueitados nom forem, segumdo a hordenamça que mando ter nessa jlha de como se ajom de dar de sesmaria as que assy ficarem os dittos çjmquo annos por aproueitar, rressalluamdo a pomta que he des ho oratorio ata as capellas, que a mjm praz que fique pera seus gaados. E, posto que a nam aproueite mais do que he mamd[da]o, que se lhe nom dee de sesmaria.

E com comdiçom que das ditas terras e lugar com pague senam o dizimo de todo o que Deus der em elle, salluamte paaos de teixo, veiros, kannas e quaaesquer timtas que hy ouuer e gomas que todo seja pera mjm, e com comdiçom que em a dita terra e lugar nom faça fornos nem moinhos nem emgenhos dagoa salluo fornalhas e moo de braço, em que cozam e moyam pera suas casas, e mais nom; e com comdiçom que, se per a dita terra e lugar forem algũus camjnhos ou forem neçessarios de se fazerem, pera seruidom dos moradores da dita jlha ou doutros allgũuns, que elle os dee ou quem depois elle esto soçeder. A quall terra e lugar lhe heu confirmo, como ditto he, per as ditas demarcações e com as clausullas e comdições suso ditas, a elle e a todollos seus herdeiros e soçessores que depois elle vierem, e que elles os possam dar, doar, vender e escambar o que lhe prouuer e por bem teuerem, como cousas suas proprias e verdadeiras possissões, com as clausullas e comdições suso ditas, sem nêhũu em ello ter de ver. E, por firmeza dello, lhe mandei dar esta mjnha carta, signada per mjm e asseellada do meu seello.

Feita em minha villa, vjmte e noue dias dabrill. Joham Gorizio a fez. Anno do Senhor de mjll e quatroçemtos e çjmquoemta e sete.

Letter from King D. Afonso V confirming the land grant 28, May 1457

(Published in *Monumenta Henricina*, Volume XIII, Comissão Executiva das Comemorações do Quinto Centenário da Morte do Infante D. Henrique, Coimbra, Portugal. 1972, p. 100.)

Dom Affonso, etc.

A quantos esta carta virem fazemos saber que Amrrique, allemam, caualeiro de Samta Caterina, mostrou peramte nos hũua carta do jffamte dom Amrrique, meu mujto prezado e amado tio, da quall o theor, de verbo a verbo, tall he.

(Segue-se a transcrição da carta henriquina acima citada)

Pedijmdonos o ditto Amrrique que lhe confirmassemos a dita carta do ditto meu tio. E nos, visto seu rrequerimemto; teemos por bem e confirmamoslha assi e tam compridamente como em ella he contheudo. E porem mandamos ao dito Joham Gomçalluez Zarco, capitam da dita jlha da Madeira por o ditto meu tio, e a outros quaesquer jujzes ejustiças, ofiçiaaes e pessoas a que o conhecimento desto perteemçer eesta nossa carta de confirmaçom for mostrada, que lha cumprom e guardem e façom comprijr e guardar como nella he comteudo, sem poerdessobre ello nehũu embargo nem duujda allgũua. E all nom façades.

Dada em Samtarem, xvij dias do mes de mayo. Affomssso Pirez a fez. Anno de Nosso Senhor Ihesu Christo de mjll e quatroçemtos e çjmquoemta e sete.

February, 1451

Letter from King Alfonso V of Aragon to the Princess D. Leonor of Portugal and to Prince D. Fernando, begging them to take in their service the Portuguese Pedro Afonso Barreiro, who had been for a long time at the service of the king of Poland.

(Published in *Monumenta Henricina*, Volume XI, Comissão Executiva das Comemorações do Quinto Centenário da Morte do Infante D. Henrique, Coimbra, Portugal. 1970, p. 20-21.)

Nos, don Alfonso, por gracia de Dios rrey dAragon e de las dos Sicilias, etc. A vos, jllustrissima-infanta dona Eleonor de Portugal, nuestra muy caraa e nuy amnada sobryna, embiamos muchosaludar, como aquela que mucho amamos e pora quien queriamos Dios diesse tanta salut, honra e Buena ven-

tura quanta vos mesma deseades. Jllustrissima jnfanta, nuestra muy cara e muy amada sobjna. Pedro Alfonso Barrero, portugues, esstado mucho tempo servidor del jllustrissimo rrey de Plollonia quondam, el qual, depresente, se torna en esas partes. E por que desea mucho star en vuestro seruicio, vos rogamosmuy affectuosamente que, tomando el dicho Pedro Alfonso, por amor e contemplacionnuestra, en vuestro servicio, lo querays hauer por encojendado, como aquel que es hambrevirtuosos e mrece seyer le fecha honra; de lo qual nos fareys complacencia muy singular. Si denuestros rreynos e tierras vos placieran algunas cosas, embiat nos las a desir, que de Buenavoluntat las compljremos. E sea, jllustrissima jnfanta, nuestra muy cara e muy amada sobrna, laSancta Trjnitat en vvestra guarda.

Dada en la Torre dOctauo, a Viiiijº dias del mes de febrero del anyo M. cccc. Ljº. Rex AlfonsusA la jllustrissima dona Elionor, jnfanta de Purtugal nuestra muy cara e muy amada sobrnaAl muy jllustre don Fwernando, jnfante de Purtugal, nuestro muy caro e miuy amado sobrjno.

25 April 1452

Letter from King Afonso V of Aragon recommending Pedro Barreiro, vassal of the King of Portugal, to King Casimir of Poland because he desires to be at Casimir's service.

(Published in *Monumenta Henricina*, Volume XI, Comissão Executiva das Comemorações do Quinto Centenário da Morte do Infante D. Henrique, Coimbra, Portugal. 1970, p. 167.)

Serenissimo principi Cassimiro, regi Pollonje, amico nostro carissimo. Alfonsus, ect. Accedit ad presentiam serenitatis vestre vir nobilis, dilectus er devotus noster Petrus Barreros, portugalensis, qui jn servicijs vestris summopere esse cupit. Cumque is sit quem, tum proptereius virtutes, tum contemplacione serenissimj regis Portugalie, sobrinj nostril carissimj, cuiusvassallus est, carissimum habemus cupiamusque eundem per vos beniuole tractaj; vosaffectuosissime precamur vt, nostril contemplacione et amore, eundem Petrum Barrerosvauorabiliter recommissum habere velitis, de quo bnobis jn jnmensum complacebitis, offerentes nos pro vobis simjlia et maiora, suis loco et casu, facturos.

Datum jn castello nouo ciuitatis nostre Neapolis, die xxb aprilis, anno Mº. ccccº. Lijº. RexAlfonsusSerenissimo principi Cassimiro, regi Pollonie, amico nostro carissimo.

Text where Don Fernando declares his ancient ancestor to be a Roman General.

Historie, Chapter I (View the complete *Historie* online: <https://archive.org/stream/historiedelsdfer00coln#page/n47/mode/2up>

... l'Ammiraglio procedette di sangue illustre, ancorché i suoi padri per malvagità della fortuna fossero venuti a grande necessità e bisogno, e che avessi mostrato come procedevano da quel COLONE di cui Cornelio Tacito nel principio del duodecimo libro della sua opera dice che condusse prigionie in Roma il re Mitridate, per lo che dice che a COLONE furono date dal Popolo Romano la dignità consolari, e le aquile, e tribunale, o tenda consolare ... per conseguente gli venne a proposito il cognome di COLON, ch'ei ritornò a rinovare ... ritornando alle qualità, & persone de' suoi genitori, dico, che, quantunque essi fossero buoni in virtù, essendo per cagione delle guerre, & partialità della Lombardia ridotti a bisogno, & povertà, non trovo, come vinessero, & habitassero: avvenga che lo stesso Ammiraglio in una lettera dica, che il suo trafico, e de suo maggiori su sempre per mare.

Las Casas confirms Admiral Colón's ancestor was Captain of the Romans:

(Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas, *Historia de las Indias*, Marqués de la Fuensanta del Valle y don José Sancho Rayón, Imprenta de Miguel Ginesta, Madrid 1875. P. 42.)

Sus padres fueron personas notables, en algún tiempo ricos, cuyo trato ó manera de vivir debió ser por mercaderías por la mar, según él mismo da á entender en una carta suya; otro tiempo debieron ser pobres por las guerras y parcialidades que siemprehubo y nunca faltan, por la mayor parte, en Lombardía. El linaje de suyo dicen que fué generoso y muy antiguo, procedido aquel COLON de

quien Cornelio Tácito trata en el lib. XII al principio, diciendo que trujo á Roma preso á Mitrídates, por lo cual le fueron dadas insignias consulares y otros privilegios por el pueblo romano en agradecimiento de sus servicios. Y es de saber, que antiguamente el primer sobrenombre de su linaje, dicen, que fué COLON , después, el tiempo andando, se llamaron Colombos los sucesores del susodicho COLON romano ó Capitán de los romanos; y deseos Colombos [o Velho e o Moço] hace mención Antonio Sabelico en el lib. VIII de la década 10. folio 168, donde trata de dos ilustres varones genoveses que se llamaban Colombos [o Velho e o Moço], como abajo se dirá . . . Pero este ilustre hombre, dejado el apellido introducido por la costumbre, quiso llamarse COLON, restituyéndose al vocablo antiguo, no tanto acaso, según es de creer, cuanto ppr voluntad divina que para obrar lo que su nombre y sobrenombre significaba lo elegia.



Figure 6.1: The 1493 Royal Decree of the Arms of Colón is shown at left and center and redrawn on the right. The fourth quarter shows his original arms, which already included the five gold anchors. (Image from *Revista de la Federación Española de Genealogía y Heráldica*, Cuadernos de Ayala 26 - Abril 2006. *El escudo de armas de Cristóbal Colón. Estudio de un acrecentamiento heráldico*, by Dr. D. Félix Martínez Llorente of Valladolid University. p. 9-25)

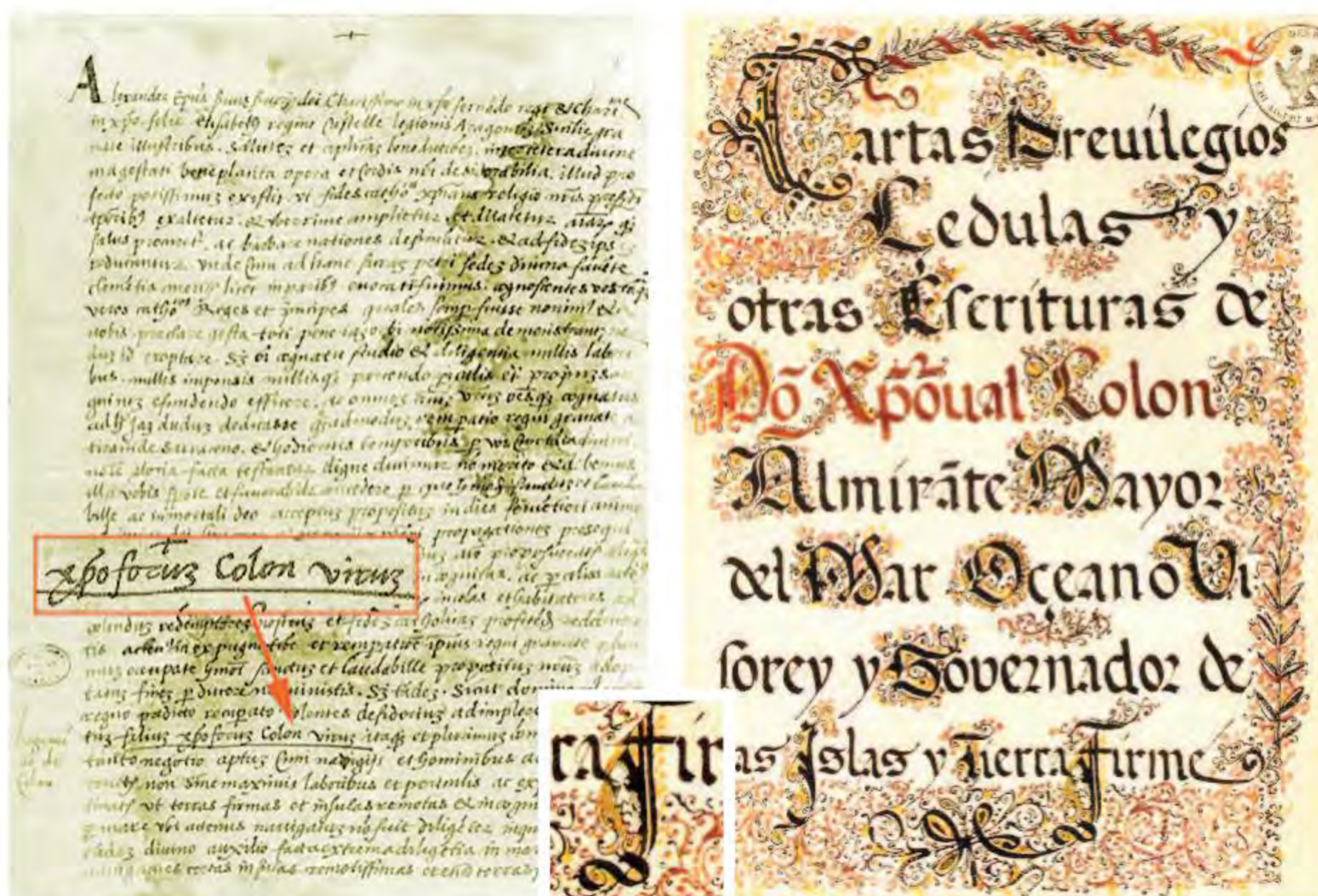


Figure 7.2: At left is a Latin letter from Pope Alexander VI, inserted into the Admiral's Book of Privileges, the discoverer's last name is written by the Pope always **Colon** in Latin never **Columbus**. At right is cover page from Colón's Book of Privileges. Note the blond haired face peeking from behind the F of Firme (inset).



Figure 14.1: Censorship or ignorance? Wrong coat of arms is shown in La Rábida in Palos (left, author photo 1998), and in Thacher's book (center). On the right is the correct coat of arms from Colón's 1502 Book of Privileges. Thacher's caption wrongly claimed, as did hundreds of other biographers, that Colón modified the arms in 1502 to add the five anchors. The five anchors were already in use before 1493, as Queen Isabel's grant in Figure 6.1 proves. Colón modified the coat of arms in 1502 to make the anchors stand out more by moving the lower part to the point of the shield and changed the colors of the castle and lion to those of Queen Isabel's own Royal House of Castile and Leon.



Figure 16.1: The Mafra Palace ceiling shows Colón on the left lower corner chained by his wrists and ankles with two cherubs holding a sign with "A Castilla y a León Nuevo Mundo Dió Colón". Top left is Prince Henry the Navigator in a vignette wearing a cross of the Master of the Order of Christ, held up by Fame, blowing her trumpet and holding a crown of laurels. Vasco da Gama is pulling his sword to face Adamastor and Pedro Álvares Cabral is being challenged by the four winds, (author's photo 2010).



Figure 17.7: The original coat of arms of Cristóbal Colón (left) is kept in Diego Colón's palace in Santo Domingo (author photo 2001) Admiral Colón's coat of arms (center) as displayed in the Hall of the Admirals, inside the Alcazar (Palace) in Seville (author photo 2002). Image at right shows the Eriksen's coat of arms (arrow) in a 14th Century tapestry kept in a Wienhausen monastery, Lower Saxony, Germany (image courtesy of David F. Silva). Comparing the shield on the left to the shield in the center, it is apparent that Admiral Colón modified the fourth quarter, containing his original arms, as shown in Figure 6.1, so that the anchors become more prominent and the element with the gold field, blue band and red chief becomes less prominent.

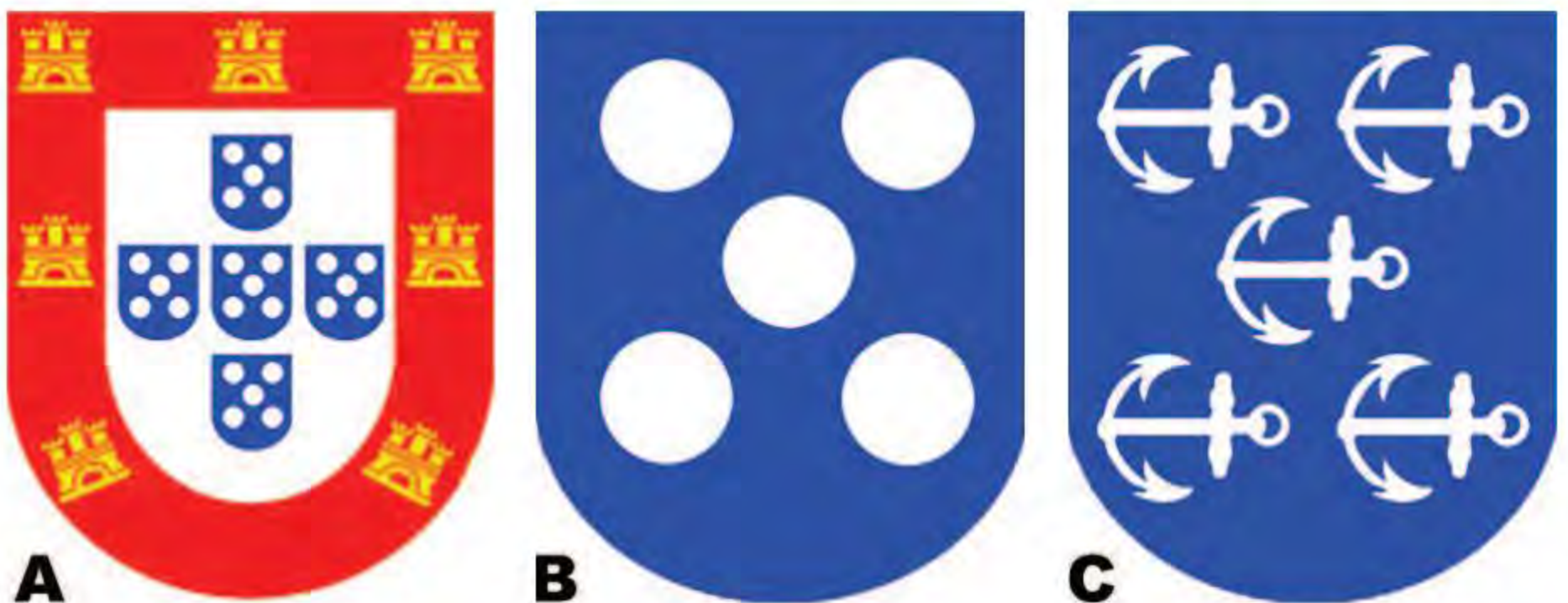


Figure 17.8: The arms of the Kings of Portugal (A) include five shields placed in a cross pattern and a red border with seven gold castles. Each shield contains five silver bezants (circles) placed in a saltire, or X pattern, (B). Admiral Colón's original coat of arms also contains five elements, the anchors, placed in the same pattern as the Portuguese royal house (C), only in gold instead of silver. The five pieces in saltire is most common in the Portuguese coats of arms.



Figure 17.9: Pre-1504 painting of Cristóbal Colón by Pedro Berruguete at left and Fernández's painting at right. Both portraits exactly correspond to the description that Fernando Colón made of his father, "reddish blonde hair that turned white early on, blue eyes, light skin that got sunburned easily and an eagle-like nose." Berruguete and Fernández both worked at the Spanish court while the discoverer was alive and must have painted these portraits from real life. If anyone knows where to locate Berruguete's painting today, please contact us via www.Columbus-Book.com

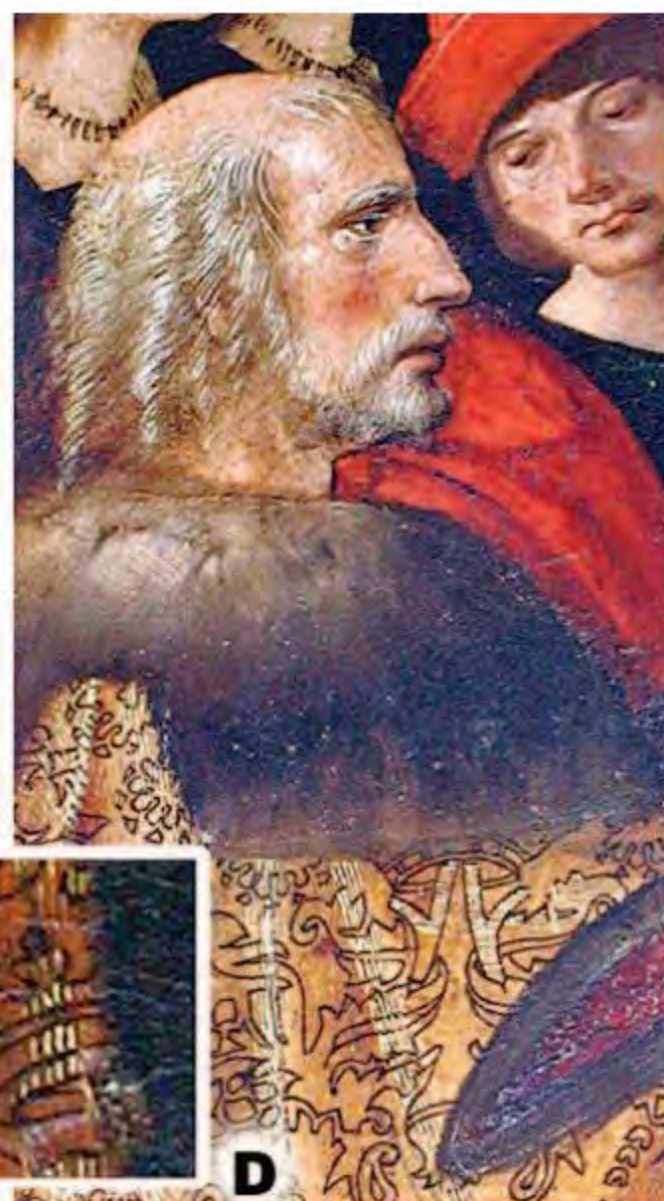
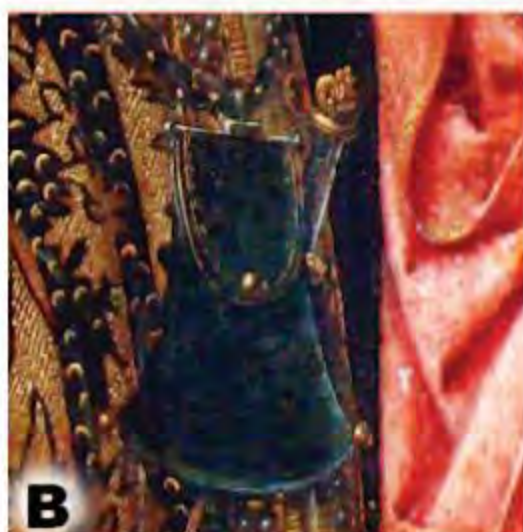


Figure 17.10: Painting of Henrique Alemão and Senhorinha Annes (A) from Museu de Arte Sacra, Funchal, Madeira and detail of the pilgrim's pouch and royal dagger (B). Henrique Alemão's face (C) and Colón's face (D) have the same features looking like father and son. Note that they both wear expensive golden robes and "the pilgrim" wears pearls and jewels. The inset (E) is a close-up of Colón's sleeve showing the royal crown clandestinely painted by Alejo Fernández, (Author photos 2002).



Figure 17.12: The coat of arms housed in the family's private chapel, photographed by the author in 2004 at the Columbus Chapel in Boalsburg, PA, includes an eagle (A) like the Polish eagle (B), taken from a 16th century tapestry and appears to have a large S on its chest.



Figure 17.15: The Byzantine Prince George Bissipat, known as "Colombo the Younger," had a coat of arms composed of a blue field with a cross of gold flanked by two stars of David of the same color with a silver crescent at the bottom (A). A blue field with a gold cross (B) represents the arms of the Jagiellon dynasty, King Ladislaus's personal insignia. The coat of arms with a gold anchor on a blue field (C) belongs to the Nordic Eriksens known as Henriques in Portugal. Because in heraldry the anchor represents a cross placed over a crescent, as seen in Bissipat's shield, it has the same heraldic meaning as the cross. Thus shield C, carries the same heraldic meaning as in shield A and B. Theoretically, shield D, composed of 5 Jagiellon crosses put in saltire, is the same as shield E, which makes up half of Admiral Colón's original coat of arms.

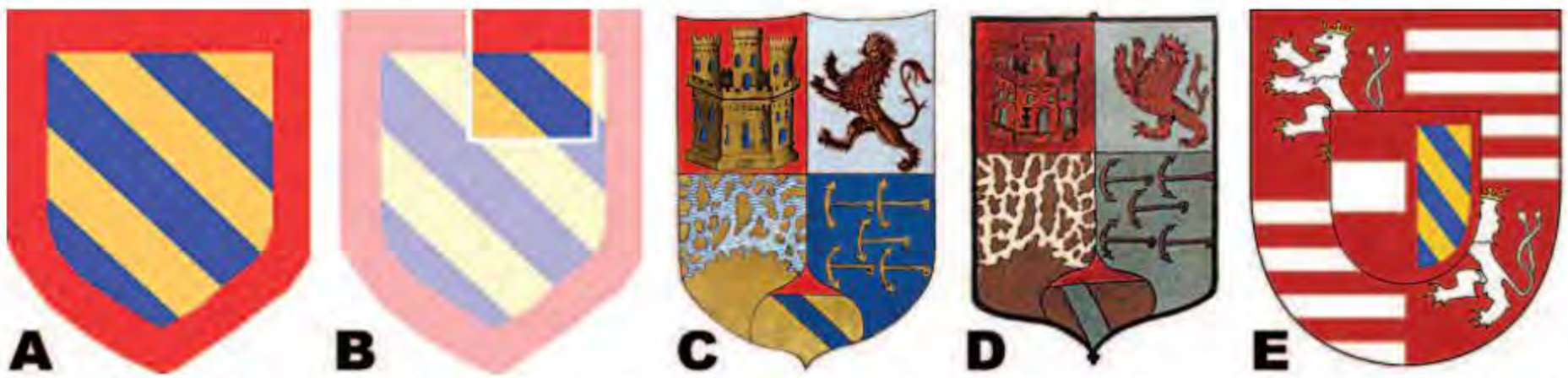


Figure 17.16: The ancient coat of arms of the Dukes of Burgundy (A), when quartered, as shown in (B), give us the lower half of Colón's original coat of arms from Santo Domingo, (see Figure 17.7 above) and Figure 6.1. Also shown here in C and D are the shields taken from Colón's own 1502 Book of Privileges, which he modified to emphasize the anchors. Carlos V's brother, Ferdinand I, King of Bohemia, Hungary and Croatia also had on his coat of arms the colors of Burgundy, his ancient lineage (E). Colón's House of Burgundy element may be a clue pointing to Francisca de Sousa, descendant of the Royal House of Portugal as Colón's grandmother or to Prince Henry "the Navigator" as his grandfather.



Figure 17.19: The Admiral chose his first name from the giant Saint Christopher who carried Jesus across the river, and the Admiral himself is depicted as St. Christopher in Juan de La Cosa's map in 1500 (A). This is probably the earliest of all portraits of Colón and one can still see the blonde hair on it, (see Figure 17-19A below). This giant 15-foot-tall St. Christopher (B) is located inside a chapel of the old Convent of Carmo in Cuba, Portugal, giving more credence to the Admiral's connections to that town. This photo of St. Christopher (C), was taken by the author inside the Las Cuevas Monastery, where the Admiral had his headquarters, where his right-hand man lived, and where he, himself lived for several years and was later buried. The coat of arms of Vilnius, the place of Jagiełło's birth, is also a St. Christopher (D) and the possible "occult reason" the Admiral chose this particular name.



Figure 17.19A: Detail of Juan de La Cosa's Colón, faded by time, but the blonde hair is still visible as well as his light colored eyes.



Figure 17.21: By the Altar of the Church of Madalena, built by Władysław III in the mid 1400s, is a golden Phoenix that looks like an eagle. The Phoenix is a bird that dies in flames and is reborn from its own ashes. There can be little doubt that the chosen form for this Phoenix was intentionally sculpted to resemble the coat of arms of Poland. (Author Photo, 2012).



Figure 17.22: Polish royal eagle carved on the bone handle of Władysław's sword, circled on the left and enlarged above. Sword is exhibited at The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg (Wladislaw's Sword. Inv. no. VO-1470). Photographs © The State Hermitage Museum. Photo by Konstantin Sinyavsky.



Painting by Alejo Fernndez showing the Virgin looking towards the figure on the left (her right side) thus the most prominent figure in the painting aside from the Virgin herself. We have no doubt that this painting commissioned for the altar of the House of India Trade, which was headed in part by D. Alvaro de (Portugal) Bragana whose son married Coln's granddaughter, depicts the famous navigator wearing the golden robes, (Author photos 2002).

NOTES

- 1 Martín Fernández de Navarrete, *Colección de los viajes y descubrimientos que hicieron por mar los españoles* (Buenos Aires: Editorial Guaranía, 1945-46). (First Edition printed in Madrid, 1825) Tomo I, 272.
- 2 Augusto Mascarenhas Barreto, *O Português Cristóvão Colombo, Agente Secreto do Rei D. João II*. Ed. Referendo (Portugal), 1988.
- 3 See the Discovery Channel's documentary "Columbus: Secrets from the Grave," August 1, 2004, 10:00 p.m.
- 4 *La Caída de Cristóbal Colón, El juicio de Bobadilla*, Edición y transcripción de Isabel Aguirre, Marcial Pons Historia, Madrid, 2006.
- 5 Antonio Rumeu de Armas, *El «Portugués» Cristóbal Colón en Castilla*. Ediciones Cultura Hispánica del Instituto De Cooperación Iberoamericana, Madrid 1982
- 6 "Relação" entre D. João II e Colombo debatida em Cuba, Por Maria Manuela Mendonça, presidente Academia Portuguesa de História, Diário do Alentejo <http://da.ambaal.pt/agenda/?id=691>
- 7 *Claudius Ptolemy, The Geography*, Edward Luther Stevenson, Dover Publications, Inc, New York, 1991, facsimile reproduction of the 1482 edition.
- 8 April 16th, 2015. USA: RUINS OF VIKING SETTLEMENT DISCOVERED NEAR HUDSON RIVER – Stony Point, NY| A team of landscaping workers, proceeding to an excavation near the banks of the Hudson river, has discovered the archeological remains of a Norse village dating from the 9th or 10th Century AD. <http://worldnewsdailyreport.com/usa-ruins-of-viking-settlement-discovered-near-hudson-river/>
- 9 Miles Davidson, *Columbus Then and Now: A Life Reexamined*, U. of Oklahoma Press, 1997.
- 10 *Cristóbal Colón, Textos y documentos completos*, Edición de Consuelo Varela, Nuevas Cartas: Edición de Juan Gil, Alianza Universidad, Madrid, 1997
- 11 *Esmeraldo de Situ Orbis de Duarte Pacheco Pereira*, Joaquim Barradas de Carvalho, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Serviço de Educação, Lisboa, 1991.
- 12 See letter from King of Portugal addressed to "Xpovam Colón, our special friend Seville" in Chapter 11.
- 13 Garcia de Resende, *Vida e feytos d' el-rey Dom João II*
- 14 Morais do Rosário, *Genoveses na história de Portugal*, Oficinas Gráficas da Minerva do Comércio, Lisboa, 1977, page 22.
- 15 Morais do Rosário, *Genoveses na história de Portugal*, Oficinas Gráficas da Minerva do Comércio, Lisboa, 1977, pages 14-17.
- 16 Morais do Rosário, *Genoveses na história de Portugal*, Oficinas Gráficas da Minerva do Comércio, Lisboa, 1977, page 30.
- 17 Morais do Rosário, *Genoveses na história de Portugal*, Oficinas Gráficas da Minerva do Comércio, Lisboa, 1977, page 20.
- 18 Carlos Selvagem, *Portugal Militar*. Compendio de história militar e naval de Portugal, desde as origens do Estado portugalense até o fim de Bragança, Imprensa Nacional, Lisboa, 1931, page 109.
- 19 «Arquivo da Torre do Tombo, em Lisboa, e a sua assinatura nele perfeitamente legível é: Manuel Pezagno». Morais do Rosário, *Genoveses na história de Portugal*, Oficinas Gráficas de la Minerva do Comércio, Lisboa, 1977.
- 20 Morais do Rosário, *Genoveses na história de Portugal*, Oficinas Gráficas da Minerva do Comércio, Lisboa, 1977, pages 37-41.
- 21 Oliveira Martins 1891, *Os Filhos de D. João I*, reimpresso por Guimarães Editores, Lisboa, 1993.
- 22 Cristóvão de Mendonça was the Portuguese Captain of Hormuz who discovered Australia in 1521. His father was brother to of Bartolomeu Perestrelo's third wife. – Peter Trickett, *Beyond Capricorn: How Portuguese Adventurers Secretly Discovered and Mapped Australia 250 Years Before Captain Cook*, East Street Publications (2007)
- 23 Oliveira Martins 1891, *Os Filhos de D. João I*, reimpresso por Guimarães Editores, Lisboa, 1993.
- 24 Jaime Cortesão, *Obras Completas de Jaime Cortesão. A Expansão dos Portugueses no Período Henriquino*, Portugália Editora, Lisboa, 1965, pages 148-149.
- 25 *Congresso Internacional Bartolomeu Dias e a Sua Época: Actas*, D. João II e a Política Quatrocentista, Publicado pela Universidade do Porto, Comissão Nacional Para As Comemorações dos Descobrimentos Portugueses, Porto 1989, Volume I, page 90.
- 26 Peter Russell, *Prince Henry «the Navigator»: A Life*, Yale University Press, New Haven and London, 2000, page 126.
- 27 *Cristóbal Colón, Textos y documentos completos*, Edición de Consuelo Varela, Nuevas Cartas: Edición de Juan Gil, Alianza Universidad, Madrid, 1997, pg. 495.
- 28 Jan Dlugosz, *Annales seu cronicae inditi Regni Poloniae*, IM Publications, 1997, p. 442
- 29 D. António Caetano de Sousa, *História Genealógica Da Casa Real Portuguesa*, Coimbra, Atlântida – Libreria Editora, Lda, 1946, Tomo II, Livro III, pages 40, 41.
- 30 *Merchants & scholars: essays in the history of exploration and trade*, James Ford Bell Collection, James Ford Bell, John Parker, University of Minnesota Press, 1965, pg 17
- 31 Joaquim Barradas de Carvalho, *Esmeraldo de Situ Orbis de Duarte Pacheco Pereira*, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Serviço de Educação, Lisboa, 1991, page 291.
- 32 D. Fernando Colón, *Historia del Almirante*. Capítulo LXXXIX, Cómo el Almirante salió de la Española, siguiendo su viaje, y descubrió las islas Guanajas.
- 33 Henry Vignaud, *Toscanelli and Columbus*, First Secretary of the United States Embassy at Paris; Vice-President of the Society of Americanists of Paris, etc., London, Sands & Co, 1902, pgs 305-310
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- 178 "Figura célebre da História Humanidade, Cristóvão Colombo continua a ser uma personagem semilendária sobre quem muito se especula e pouco se sabe quanto às suas origens. Apresentado como um mercador genovês de origens humildes, foi, sem dúvida, casado com Filipa Moniz, filha de Bartolomeu Perestrelo, capitão da ilha de Porto Santo e membro da nobreza da Casa de Viseu. As regras do tempo mostram-nos que um plebeu nunca se casava com uma nobre, pelo que a origem de Colombo é assaz duvidosa. Muitos autores têm defendido que era português e apontam algumas provas interessantes, que não são suficientemente evidentes, mas que permitem a sobrevivência da tese como hipótese plausível. O próprio Colombo encarregou-se de deixar pistas enigmáticas sobre si e este não é o espaço adequado para discutir a sua identidade. Importa registar que era um homem próximo da Casa de Viseu, que viveu na ilha de Porto Santo e que estava a par das navegações até ao golfo da Guiné." História da Expansão e do Império Português, Professor João Paulo Oliveira e Costa, [doutor em História e Professor Catedrático da Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa] A Esfera dos Livros, 2014.
- 179 "O filho de Cristóvão Colón casou com uma prima do Rei D. Fernando de Castela. A neta de Cristóvão Colón (Isabel Colón) casou com Jorge Alberto de Portugal y Melo, 1º Conde de Gelves, trineto do Rei D. João I... Qualquer historiador lúcido, face ao conhecimento das relações sociais que vigoravam na época, jamais poderá duvidar do dado, para mim mais de que adquirido,

- de que C (ristóvão) C (olón) tinha que ser alguém com **ascendência elevada**." (Drº João Abel da Fonseca, Vice-Secretário-Geral da Academia de Marinha e Secretário da Classe de História Marítima, Académico Correspondente da Academia Portuguesa da História, Vice-Presidente da Secção de História da Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa e Presidente do Conselho Superior do Instituto de Cultura Europeia e Atlântica)
- 180 Henry Vignaud, Proof that Columbus was Born in 1451, a New Document, The American Historical Review, Volume 12, 1907.
 - 181 Raccolta di documenti e studi pubblicati dalla R. Commissione Colombiana pel quarto centenario dalla scoperta dell'America, Ministero della pubblica istruzione, Roma 1892-1894.
<http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000004987&page=1>
 - 182 "Ele próprio o disse francamente, quando a Municipalidade lhe pediu a sua opinião, ao oferecer-lhe o primeiro exemplar da edição, com muitas honrarias... Deviam ter-se eliminado esses documentos como **nulos**. Mas, quando se dão fotografias de documentos contidos em protocolos que se indicam, e toda a gente pode ir verificar, não há o direito de os confundir com os outros que **nada valem**... " Aqui temos, pois, o que dizia Altolaguirre y Duvalé do "livro magnífico da Città di Génova". Segundo as próprias palavras deste eminente Colombista espanhol, reproduziram-se documentos verdadeiros e (muitos) **falsos** em tão gabado livro, tomando-se, portanto, necessário ali distinguir o trigo do joio. Alexandre Gaspar da Naia, In Perpetuam Rei Memoriam, Revista de História Nº 25, Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, 1956, p. 114.
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