

The Old World Meets the New World

By Kathy Warnes

<http://historybecauseitshere.weebly.com>

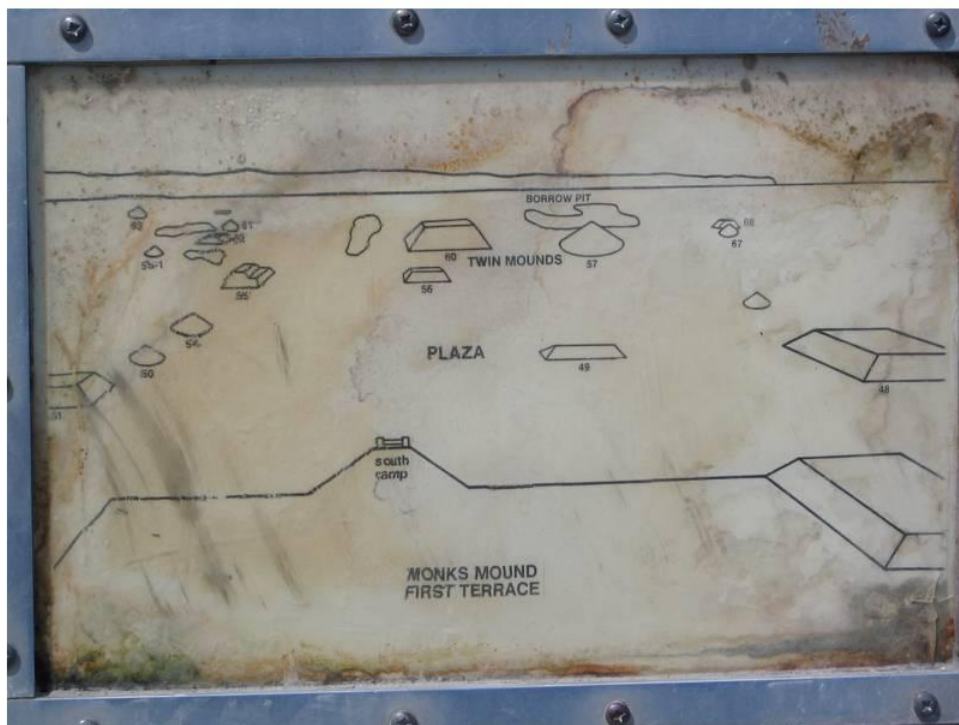
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The New World is Already Civilized

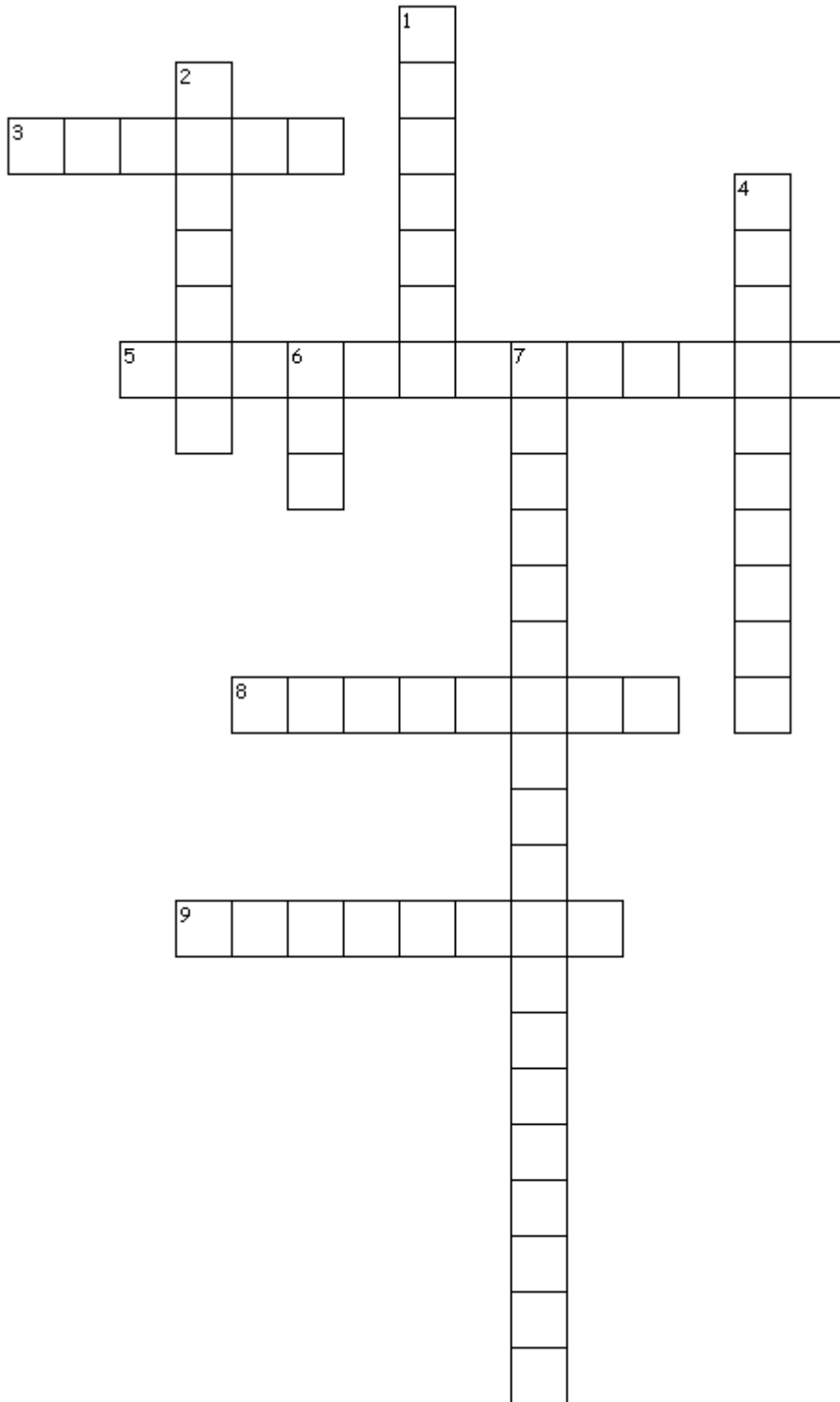
- The Vikings had been there, done that, and the Native Americans were doing!
- Most historians agree that the Vikings arrived somewhere along the coast of North America during the Tenth Century.
- Vikings were farmers as well as seafarers and the primary reason for their explorations was to locate new farm lands and a new world to settle in to escape some of the problems of the old.
- Around the same time the Vikings were exploring in the New World, the Mississippian Native American civilization reached its peak, about 300 years before Columbus. The central city of their civilization, Cahokia, was located near present day Collinsville, Illinois, across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, Missouri.
- The Aztecs, Mayans, and Incas had developed civilizations in Central and South America before Columbus.
- The Mississippian Indians established extensive trade networks that reached from New Orleans as far north as the Great Lakes. They were farmers and environmentalists.
- Scholars speculate that the Mississippian civilization declined because of unabated population growth, unregulated urbanism, and in-breeding.
- Woodland Indians also had established themselves in other parts of North America. The Indians of the Iroquois Confederacy or Six Nations, developed a governmental system that framers of the United States Constitution would later use as a model.

The New World is Already Civilized



Map of Cahokia- Wikimedia Commons

The New World is Already Civilized!



Across

3. Aztecs and Incas and these peoples developed civilizations before Columbus.
5. This civilization peaked 300 years before Columbus
8. Scholars speculate that Mississippian civilization declined because of this.
9. Vikings explored to locate this

Down

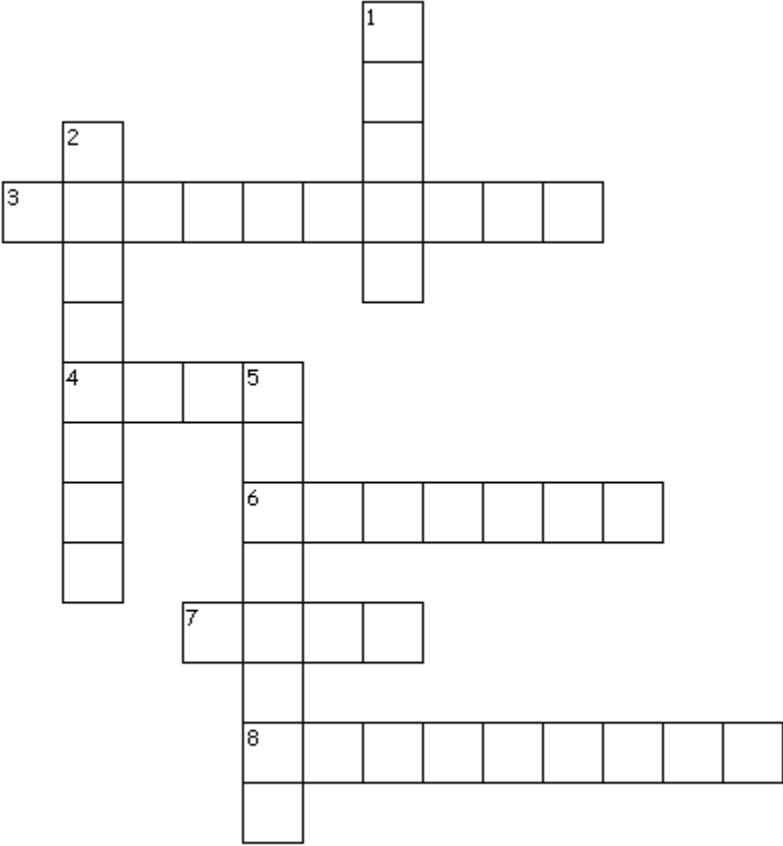
1. They entered North America during the Tenth Century
2. This city was the center of the Mississippian civilization
4. Mississippian Indians developed trade networks reaching these.
6. Cahokia was located across the Mississippi River from -----nt Louis.
7. This supposedly provided the model for the U.S. Constitution

European vs. Native American World

Views

- Europeans and Indians held drastically different views of nature and the place of humans in the natural world.
- Europeans believed that the Bible gave them permission to subdue and rule nature and natural creatures. They considered nature a savage beast that needed to be tamed and since Native Americans lived in harmony with nature, they considered the Native Americans “savages” who needed to be civilized.
- Europeans believed in the private ownership of land, while Native Americans believed that land belong to the entire tribe or in communal ownership.
- Native Americans had already developed their own religions and rituals, but they were vastly different from the European religious beliefs.
- The Europeans brought technology in the form of guns and manufactured goods to the new world and they also brought diseases that decimated Indians populations. Europeans encouraged Indian dependence on these innovations.
- Many Europeans came to the new world with a greed for gold, land, and other riches, a lust for power, and a determination to convert the Native peoples.

European vs. Native American World Views



Across

3. Europeans brought this to the New World.
4. Many Europeans came to the New World looking for_____.
6. Europeans called Native Americans _____.
7. Native Americans believed in communal ownership of this commodity.
8. These people and Natives had different views of nature.

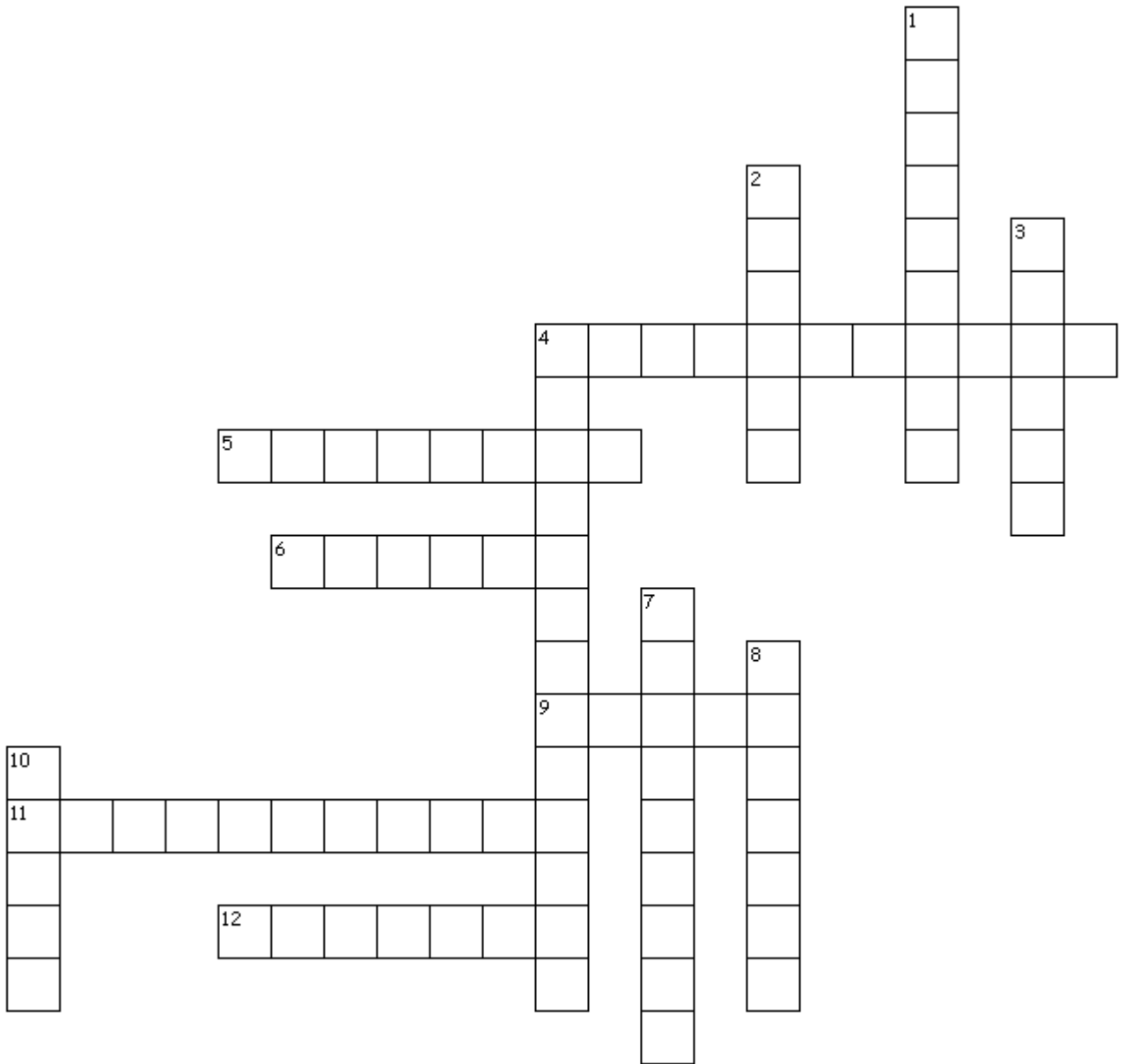
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1. Europeans believed this gave them permission to subdue nature.
2. Native Americans had their own_____.
5. Europeans also brought_____to the New World.

Why Did Europeans Leave Europe?

- There had been a renewal of European trade and commerce in the 500 years between Leif Ericsson and Columbus.
- The Roman Catholic Church which united Medieval Europe and the civilization of Islam encouraged trade between Europe and China and India especially the spice and silk trades.
- Intellectual and cultural shifts inspired by the invention of the printing press created a more literate population and sparked interest in exploration.
- Advances in navigation and naval architecture helped Europeans explore more extensively. The compass, the caravel and gunpowder gave the Europeans the technological might to meet the new world.
- The Portuguese mariners like Prince Henry the navigator, Bartolomeu Dias, and Vasco da Gama, led the exploration of Africa and the Mediterranean and India.
- They came to America for glory, adventure, status, power, and profit.

Why Did the Europeans Leave Europe?



Across

4. Portuguese navigator.
5. This church united Medieval Europe.
6. Europeans came to America for___.
9. Christopher Columbus came from___.
11. Columbus landed on_____
12. Technological innovation.

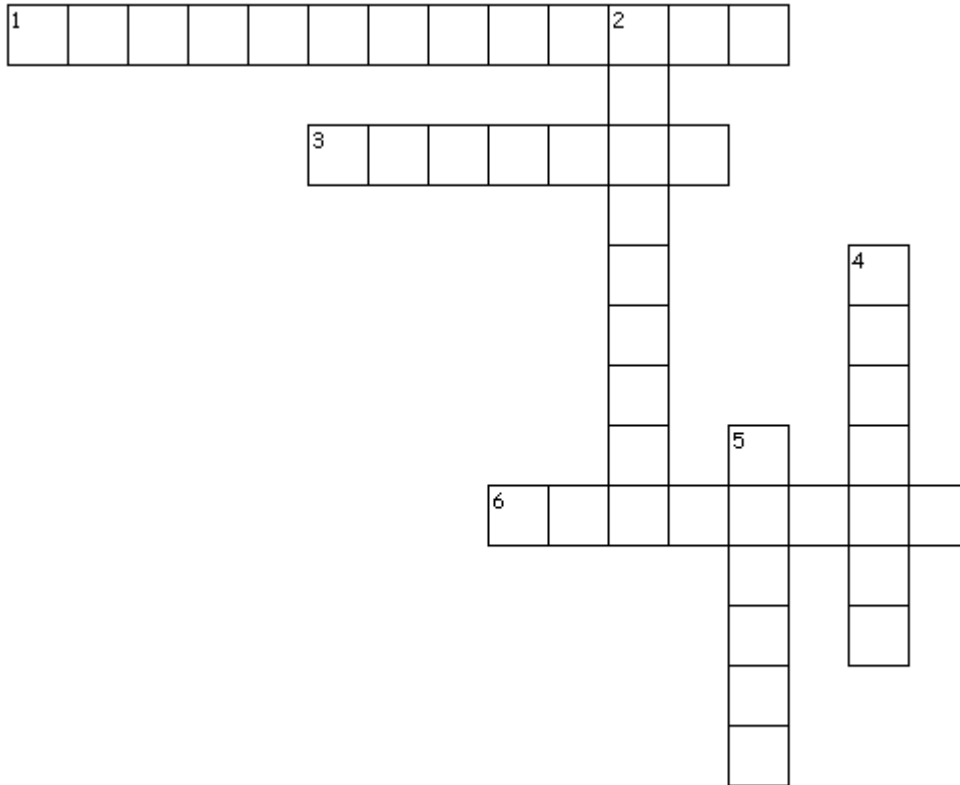
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1. Columbus explored this sea._____
2. India and China traded_____.
3. Vasco da Gama explored_____.
4. Literate population.
7. China invented this.
8. Portuguese ship.
10. Encouraged trade.

The Columbia Exchange

- The Columbian Exchange was the interaction of culture, products, ideas, and diseases that altered the lives of new and old world peoples.
- Europeans quickly extinguished all traces of Native American self rule.
- Native Americans and Europeans exchanged diseases like measles, syphilis, and smallpox.
- Europeans introduced herds of sheep and cattle that destroyed the Native American farming environment.
- Europeans attempted to destroy Indian culture.
- Europeans introduced “fire water.”
- Europeans introduced slavery and enslaved many of the Native American peoples.
- By 1500, Europeans began a migration to the New World that would eventually attract about 100 million people across the Atlantic Ocean.

The Columbian Exchange



Across

- 1. About 100 million people crossed this ocean.
- 3. Europeans attempted to destroy Native American _____.
- 6. Native Americans and Europeans exchanged_____.

Down

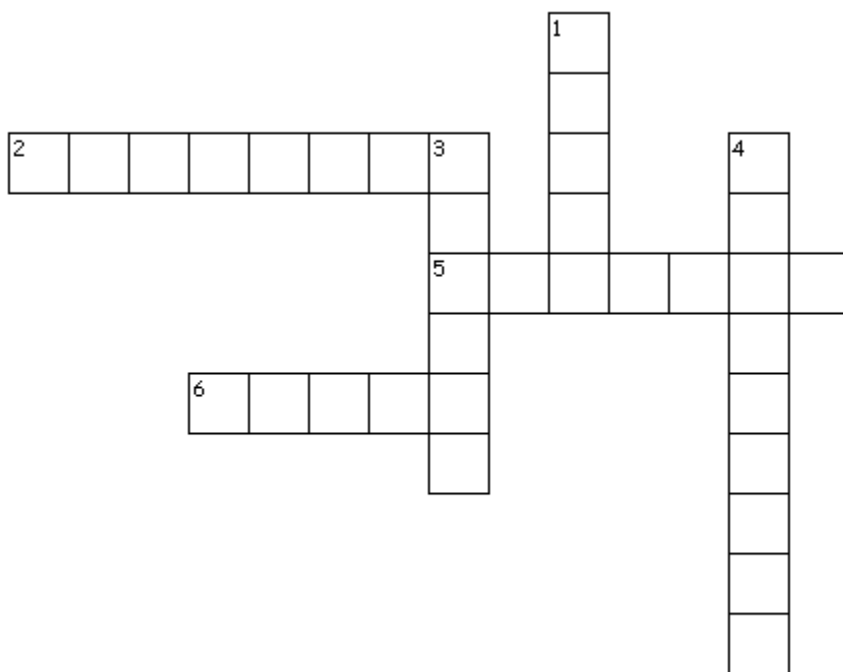
- 2. Destroyed Native American self rule
- 4. Europeans introduced this and enslaved Native American peoples.
- 5. Europeans introduced herds of sheep and _____.

From the Journal of Christopher Columbus

...”Your Highnesses commanded me that, with a sufficient fleet, I should go to the said parts of India and for this accorded to me great rewards and ennobled me so that from that time henceforward I might style myself “don” and be high admiral of the Ocean Sea and viceroy and perpetual governor the islands and continent which I should discover and gain and which from now henceforward might be discovered and gained in the Ocean Sea, and that my eldest son should succeed to the same position and so on from generation to generation.

And I departed from the city of Granada on the twelfth day of the month of May in the same year of 1492, on a Saturday, and came to the town of Palos, which is a port of the sea, where I made ready three ships very suited for such an undertaking, and I set out from that port, well furnished with very many supplies and with many seamen, on the third day of the month of August of the same year, on a Friday, half an hour before the rising of the sun and I steered my course for the Canary Islands of Your Highnesses, which are in the Ocean Sea, thence to set out on my way and to sail until I should arrive in the Indies, and deliver the embassy of Your Highnesses to those princes and perform all that you had commanded me to do.”

From the Journal of Christopher Columbus



Across

2. Columbus was called Admiral of the ____.
5. Columbus departed from this city ____.
6. Town where his ships were prepared.

Down

1. Columbus was looking for this country ____.
3. Month that Columbus left for America.
4. Columbus named this successor ____.

Additional Reading and Exploration

Vikings

<http://viking.no/e/people/leif/e-leiv.htm>

Portuguese Explorers

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/exploration/portuguese.html>

Cahokia

<http://www.cahokiamounds.org/>

Columbian Exchange

<http://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/american-indians/essays/columbian-exchange>

Christopher Columbus

<http://www.history.com/topics/christopher-columbus>