

E. M. Barton, Miss Sarah N. Randolph, A. H. Hoyt, Mellen Chamberlain, William H. Wyman, George H. Moore, John Ward Dean, John R. Bartlett, Ralph U. James, and the Duke of Veragua himself.

The oldest Columbian portrait of which I discover any trace in the United States now hangs in the New York senate chamber at Albany. It was presented to the State in 1784, by Mrs. Maria Farmer, a granddaughter of Jacob Leisler, governor of New York, in 1689. According to her statement the painting had been in her family for a hundred and fifty years. It may then have been brought from Europe more than two centuries ago. In one corner it bears the inscription, "anno [1592] or 1492, Aet. 23." This legend may indicate the year in which the copy was taken, and the age of the copyist.¹ This likeness is of a younger man than we can believe Columbus to have been when his first portrait was painted, and it is not now generally deemed authentic.

Your gift is small to the eye, but it is great to the mind I for one could not appreciate its value till after considerable research.²

¹ *Catalogue* N. Y. State Library, p. 45. *Magazine of Amer. History*, vol. v, p. 446.

² During my investigation, engravings of Columbian portraits have come to my knowledge in great numbers. The oldest of all painted likenesses, the Florentine Uffizi, dating from 1508, or probably from an earlier year. A photograph of this has been ordered from Florence. Among those owned by the State Historical Society are the following:

1. The Giovan woodcut, dating from 1575 or '78.
2. The Yanez portrait from Madrid, unscoured.
3. The same, scoured.
4. The De Bry likeness, Frankfort, 1595.
5. The Carriolo likeness, Rome, 1596.
6. The Naples likeness, by Parmigiano.
7. The Munoz likeness.
8. The bust in Genoa.
9. The statue in Genoa.
10. The Bryant and Gay likeness from an old map.
11. The Harper Magazine likeness.
12. The Bibliotheque National, p. 150, Goodrich.
13. The Albany likeness.
14. The Herrera, p. 219, Goodrich.
15. The Venetian Mosaic.
16. A German likeness, p. 382, Goodrich.
17. The Bernado likeness.
18. Columbus at St. Christopher, p. 153, Goodrich.
19. The Jeffersonian Columbus in Boston, heliotype.
20. The Crispin de Pas.