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## Christopher Columbus

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**Abstract:** Praises Christopher Columbus and shows how he potentially fulfilled a prophecy by Nephi.

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# THE JUVENILE INSTRUCTOR.

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VOL. I.

## Poetry.

[For the Juvenile Instructor.]

### A PRECIOUS JEWEL.

There is a precious jewel,  
Of youth and beauty rare;  
And one that's not too costly  
For every one to wear.

Of all the golden treasures  
Which kings and princes boast,  
This single, lovely jewel  
Is worth, by far, the most.

Inward, as well as outward,  
This jewel must be hung;  
And when the lips are open,  
Should ornament the tongue.

No one should be without it,  
Either on land or sea;  
But keep it ever with you,  
Where ever you may be.

If children learn to value  
This jewel, when they're small,  
They're pretty sure to prize it,  
When they are large and tall.

And when the heart and bosom,  
This jewel shall encase,  
The tongue conveys its lustre,  
And beautifies the face.

It is a gem of friendship  
Emboss'd with confidence—  
A shining badge of honor,  
Untrammel'd with pretence.

Its name—can no one guess it—  
This prize for age and youth?  
I'll tell you! Can you speak it?  
It is not hard—'tis Truth.

E. R. SNOW.

### A COURAGEOUS REFORMER.

The following is an instance of courage and faithfulness, on the part of Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, one of the Protestant Reformers. Having one day preached a sermon before King Henry the Eighth which had displeased his majesty, he was ordered to preach again the next Sunday, and to make an apology for the offense he had given. After reading his text, the Bishop thus began his sermon: "Hugh Latimer, dost thou know before whom thou art to speak to-day?—to the high and mighty monarch who can take away this life if thou displeasest him. But then, consider well, Hugh: dost thou not know from whence thou comest? upon whose message thou art sent? Even by the great and mighty God, who is everywhere present, who beholdeth all thy ways, and who is able to cast thy soul into hell! Therefore take heed that thou deliverest thy message faithfully." He then proceeded with the same sermon which he had preached on the previous Sunday, but with considerably more energy. When the sermon was ended, the court was full of expectation to know what would be the fate of the fearless and plain-dealing reformer. After dinner, the king called for Latimer, and with a stern countenance asked him how he dared to be so bold as to preach in such a manner. He replied, his duty to his God and his prince had enforced him thereto, and that he had merely discharged his duty and his conscience in what he had spoken. Upon which the king, rising from his seat, and taking him by the hand, said, "God be thanked I have so honest a servant!" Latimer feared not the face of any man; but he walked humbly and faithfully before his God. In one of his letters he says, "It is not I, without God's mighty, helping hand, that can abide the brunt; but I have trust that God will help me in every time of need."—[Selected.]

## CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

[For the Juvenile Instructor.]



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, the discoverer of America, was born in Genoa, Italy, about the year 1446. He was of humble but respectable parents, his father being a woolcomber. When about fourteen years of age he went to sea, and, after years of experience as a sailor, he became a skilful navigator. At that time nothing was known of America by the nations of Europe, although they knew of and traded with the East Indies. Columbus believed that by sailing westward a passage could be found to the East Indies, without sailing round the continent of Africa. He was a religious man, and believed that he was destined in the hands of the Almighty to make important discoveries by navigating westward. He applied to several governments for assistance, but without success, until after the exercise of great patience, and perseverance in overcoming difficulties which would have discouraged any ordinary man, he received assistance from Ferdinand and Isabella, the monarchs then reigning in Spain. On the 3rd day of August, 1492, he sailed on his first voyage of discovery with three small vessels, only one of which was decked, and about ninety men, mostly sailors.

Columbus had great faith, for though he had launched forth on an unknown sea, with three small barks, manned by superstitious men who several times were about to mutiny, or rebel against him, and though he met difficulties of a nature to make

most men give up the project, he kept steadily on, and on the 12th of October, 1492, he landed on one of the Bahama Islands, which he named San Salvador. He had succeeded. He had discovered land to the westward. And he returned to Europe where honors were heaped upon him.

In a second voyage he discovered others of the West India islands. On his third voyage, he landed on the coast of South America. Enemies worked against him in Europe,

while he was in the New World, as the land of America was called, and after a fourth voyage he returned to Spain, worn down in mind and body, by the injustice done him in consequence of the efforts of his enemies, and died on the 20th of May, 1506.

Christopher Columbus was undoubtedly inspired of the Lord for the prosecution of the work which he accomplished. He opened up a New World to Europe, and brought to view the land which God had for ages reserved for the establishment and building up of his Kingdom.

Nephi, in vision, inspired by the Spirit of God, saw the discovery of this continent, and recorded it. The passage will be found on the 24th page of the Book of Mormon, and reads as follows:—"And I looked and beheld a man among the Gentiles, who was separated from the seed of my brethren by the many waters; and I beheld the Spirit of God, that it came down and wrought upon the man; and he went forth upon the many waters even unto the seed of my brethren who were in the promised land. And it came to pass that I beheld the Spirit of God, that it wrought upon other Gentiles; and they went forth out of captivity, upon the many waters. And it came to pass that I beheld many multitudes of the Gentiles upon the land of promise."

Thus did the Lord, through His servant Nephi, more than fourteen hundred years ago, foretell the discovery of this continent by the coming hither of many people from Europe and other parts of the earth.

The trials of life are the tests which ascertain how much gold is in us.

A cheerful spirit makes labor light and sleep sweet, and all around happy, which is much better than being only rich.

Learning refines and elevates the mind.

Every one knows that there are many things which he could not accomplish; yet no one knows what he actually can do until he has made the attempt.