THE STORY OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

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The Story of Christopher Columbus by Charles W. Moores

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CHARLES W. MOORES

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CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

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J. Pierpout Murgan

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BY

CHARLES W. MOORES

Author of The Life of Abraham Lincoln for Boys and Girls

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS



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PREFACE

The story of the life of Christopher Columbus presents peculiar difficulties. There are no sources of exact information about many of the facts of his career. It is not known with certainty when he was born or where, or how his boyhood and youth were spent; or whether he was learned in the books or attained his success through a knowledge of nature at first hand. His death went almost unnoticed, and his burial place is unknown. At best, his biography is a recounting of the probabilities, the story of what the biographer believes he did.

Columbus was a mystic. A great vision came to him, and became the controlling influence of his life. Faith in the vision gave him courage to face hunger and pain and death. Disease beset him and blindness fell upon him. He believed that God had revealed a new world to him and had commissioned him to make the revelation known to men, and that God would take care of him until his divine errand was complete. The value of his life is measured by the vision that he saw as well as by the discovery that he made. Men would soon have found America. But the Italian dreamer whom the heavenly vision led into a new world remains one of the greatest of men because of the greatness of his faith.

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