The menace of “liminal” immigrants

“As he was jostled by Greek ragpickers, Armenian bootblacks, and Jewish carp vendors, it was distressingly obvious to him that the new arrivals did not know this nation’s history or understand its republican form of government... [Madison] Grant knew full well that classical Rome had fallen when she opened her gates to inferior races who ‘understood little and cared less for the institutions of the ancient Republic,’ and he feared for his country.”

“An episode of the lynching of the Italians in New Orleans in 1891 after the murder of police chief David Hennessy. The citizens breaking down the door of the parish prison with the beam brought there the night before for that purpose.”
COLUMBUS AN ARMENIAN?

So Miss Olivia Hill Says, Quoting Prominent Armenian Scholars.

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PARIS, April 26.—If Miss Olivia Hill of New York is able to substantiate her theories, a statue of Christopher Columbus should stand, not in Genoa, but on Mount Ararat.

Miss Hill, who spent a year in Armenia with the Near East Relief, puts forward the claim that Columbus was an Armenian, his real name being Kholumbian. The claim was brought to her attention by prominent Armenian scholars, and she has since ascertained that several families bearing the name still exist in Armenia and claim close relationship to the Spanish branch of the family, which changed its name to Columbus.

A complete family record is said to have been kept in the library of an Armenian monastery at Ethomidzian and to have been removed for safe keeping to Petrograd at the beginning of the war. Miss Hill hopes to trace the manuscript in order to settle the question.
Claiming Columbus—and whiteness

“God placed the white race in Europe; the yellow race in Asia; the black race or Negroes in Africa; and the red race in America. But the New World is populated by all races and nationalities, the white race dominating because the discoverer of the New World was of the white race from Europe....”

~ Moise Gadol, 1871-1941
Civilization and forebears

• “The Jewish nation appears as the first in civilization.... Through their studies, they helped bring civilization to the world. They were the forebears of the greatest men in the world, including Cristobal Colon who, with the able help of the great Jews, Prof. Abraham Zacuto, the astronomer and mathematician from Salamanca; the scientist Don Isaac Abarbanel; the financer Don Louis de Santangel of Madrid, and many others... discovered our New World....”
Refuge for Jews and humanity at large...

“Against the persecution, Inquisition and expulsion of the Jews from Spain, God created a Cristobol Colon of the same country, who aspired for the salvation of his defenseless brothers, from the worst antisemitic country in the world’s history. He was inspired by God, to risk his life and discover the New World, for the benefit of humanity at large. He is responsible for over 300 million people enjoying freedom in this Continent...”
A debt to the (Spanish) Jews

“Therefore, all Jews, descendants of Cristobal Colon, should be respected by all other nationalities living in this great Continent. In this New World there is no room for anti-semitism. The Jews must be treated with equality in commemoration of the discoverer Cristobal Colon the Jew...

Now it is to America to help the Jewish people to get their freedom, because Cristobal Colon or Christopher Columbus, discoverer of this Continent, was a Marano Jew from Spain.

Since all the nations of this continent owe their freedom to Columbus the Jew, it is their duty to pay tribute to the freedom of the Great Jewish Nation—Martyrs of Spain, Germany, Russia, etc.”
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS
A GREEK NOBLEMAN

A Disquisition concerning the Origin and Early Life of the
Great Discoverer and a Refutation of the Charges against
him which have appeared in certain Recent Publications

BY
SERAPHIM G. CANOUTAS, J. D.

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS, GREEK, FORMERLY OF THE EUROPEAN BAR
AT CONSTANTINOPLE, MEMBER OF THE BAR OF MASSACHUSETTS AND
NEW YORK. AUTHOR, JOURNALIST, Etc.

COLUMBUS'S GRECO-LATIN CIPHER

Printed by St. Mark's Printing Corp., 82-82 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.
Columbus—A Byzantine Nobleman

“His peculiar characteristics can be accounted for on the mere assumption that he was of the same family as Colon the Younger, i.e. George Palaeologus Dishypatos [a Byzantine prince].... persisting on the old theory that the illustrious navigator was a Genoese woolworker, there would be no other alternative than to brand him a liar of an insane impostor... The difference between the illiterate Genoese Colombo and our great mystic Columbus is such that all efforts to make the former appear like the latter remind one of the old adage of the man who tried to rub the black off the Negro’s face...”

~ Seraphim Canoutas, 1874-1944
Columbus’s fixed idea of a great Crusade against the Moslems for the liberation of Jerusalem and other Christian lands [e. g. Constantinople]...was not something new.... It was merely the very same idea, the very same design, which his immediate ancestors—the Palaeologi and the Dishypati—labored to put into execution and which his contemporary relatives and compatriots continued to advocate with the same zeal....

Columbus’s burning ambition to Christianize the heathen and the idolaters of Asia does not seem to be an isolated phenomenon
Blood, faith, and civilization

His ardent enthusiasm and zeal to spread the Christian faith among the idolaters may be attributed to the fact that he was descended from religious ancestors and was brought up in an Empire that was for centuries ‘the disseminator of the Christian Faith and he guardian of civilization,’ and ‘the champion of Europe against the Infidel.’ ... If we accept the fact that Columbus bore in his veins the blood of Pytheas the Assaliot and Alexander the Macedonian; of Cyrill and Methodius, the Thessalonicians; and of the Palaeologi and the Dishypati, of Byzantium, there would be little difficulty in solving every puzzle that the study of his life presents.
Columbus and Alexander the Great: benefactors of humanity-

In many respects—or rather all respects—Columbus’ character presents a remarkable resemblance to that of Alexander the Great... The Macedonian conqueror from the very beginning of his conquests has shown to the conquered peoples tolerance and generosity, refraining from using force for their Hellenization; while the policy of the New World’s discoverer was that the Indians should be treated with kindness and be taught with patience the principles of Christianity. The one wanted to Hellenize all Asia, the other to Christianize her...

Columbus [is] the greatest benefactor of all of us who live happily on this side of the Atlantic, indeed the greatest benefactor in humanity...
Greeks: an American “race”

The facts seem to indicate that, contrary to the general opinion that the Greek are among the so-called new immigrants in America, they have been here since Columbus’s days....This might of course be expected from a race par excellence [of] mariners, adventurers, and colonizers since the time of Ulysses to the present day. Particularly was this natural for these adventurous people after the conquest of their country by the Turks, when they were scattered to all four corners of the Globe.
A “Triumph” in Utah?

Biography

Maurice Abravanel was born in Thessalonika, Greece on January 6, 1903. Edouard de Abravanel and Rachel Bitty Abravanel had four children: Inez, Gaston, Ernest, and Maurice. He was a descendant of Don Isaak Abravanel (1438-1508) who, as finance minister/chancellor to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain, arranged in 1492 the funding for the first voyage of Christopher Columbus to the Americas.

His family moved to Lausanne, Switzerland when Maurice was six years old. His father, a pharmacist in Greece, lacked a Swiss diploma so he opened a drugstore. Having been schooled by Jesuit priests in Thessalonika and, as he described himself, "plagued by a very good memory," he quickly realized that the Swiss schools were absolutely of no challenge to him. "Mesmerized by the piano" at age 12, he began to compose and orchestrate music. At 16, he conducted his first ("non-professional") orchestra. He knew he was born to be a conductor.