

The Islands Joanna and Hispana

Columbus explores the two islands and is awed by their temperate climate and profuse plant and animal life. Since he is a businessman, Columbus notices the ports and rivers as well as the spices and precious metals.

- Quae dicta Ioanna et aliae ibidem insulae quam
fertilissimae existunt. Haec multis atque tutissimis et latis
nec aliis, quos umquam viderim, comparandis portibus
est circumdata. Multi maximi et salubres hanc interfluunt
5 fluvii, multi quoque et eminentissimi in ea sunt montes.
Omnes hae insulae sunt pulcherrimae et variis distinctae
figuris, perviae et maxima arborum varietate sidera
lambentium plenae. Quas numquam foliis privari credo,
quippe vidi eas ita virentes atque decoras, ceu mense Maio
10 in Hispania solent esse. Quarum aliae florentes, aliae
fructuosae, aliae in alio statu secundum uniuscuiusque
qualitatem vigeant. Garriebat philomena et alii passeris
varii ac innumeri mense Novembris, quo ipse per eas
deambulabam.
- 15 Sunt praeterea in dicta insula Ioanna septem vel octo
palmarum genera. Quae proceritate et pulchritudine
(quemadmodum ceterae omnes arbores, herbae
fructusque) nostras facile exsuperant. Sunt et mirabiles
pinus, agri et prata vastissima, variae aves, varia mella
20 variaque metalla, ferro excepto. In ea autem, quam
Hispanam supra diximus nuncupari, maximi sunt montes

ac pulchri, vasta rura, nemora, campi feracissimi seri
 pascuisque et condendis aedificiis aptissimi. Portuum
 in hac insula commoditas et praestantia fluminum copia
 25 salubritate admixta hominum—quae nisi quis viderit—
 credulitatem superat. Huius arbores, pascua et fructus
 multum ab illis Joannae differunt. Haec praeterea Hispana
 diverso aromatis genere, auro metallisque abundat.

VOCABULARY

ali•us –a –ud other, another **alii . . . alii** some . . . others

aroma aromatis *n* spice, aromatic substance

ceu *adv* just as, like

circum•do –dare –dedi –datum to surround

deambul•o (1) to take a walk

emine•ns –ntis *adj* lofty, towering, grand

exist•o –ere **existiti existitum** to appear, prove to be

exsuper•o (1) to surpass

ferr•um –i *n* iron

flum•en –inis *n* river

fluvi•us –i *m* river

foli•um –i *n* leaf

lamb•o –ere –i to surround, caress

mel mellis *n* honey

metall•um –i *n* metal

ne•mo –minis *m* no man, no one

pascu•um –i *n* pasture

Philomel•a (**Philomen•a**) –ae *f* Greek maiden injured and turned into a nightingale; the nightingale

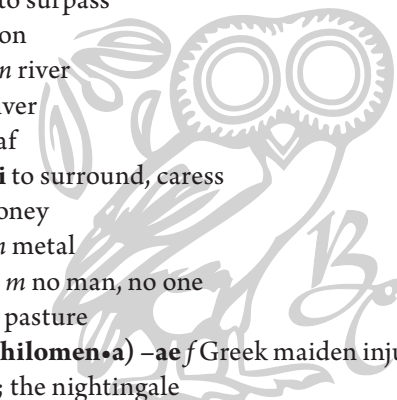
quam *how w comp* as, than; *w superl* as . . . as possible

quippe *adv* of course, naturally

ser•us –a –um *adj* late blooming, late blossoming

sid•us –eris *n* glory, beauty, tempest, star

umquam *adv* ever



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