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## **Tongue in Cheek**

As further commemoration of the daring of Christopher Columbus and the honor we bestow on him by having a big retail sales push through a (but only one) weekend-extending Monday in October, I want to share with you another poem, or maybe merely a rhyme, from our Anonymous Poet.

### **The Silent Fishermen**

Two fishing boats were coasting  
just off the Belle Isle Strait,  
Which hardly counts for much,  
except to note the date;  
It was Fall, fourteen ninety two,  
with news from fleet to fleet:  
An unknown Genoese adventurer  
had been granted Spanish sheet.  
Nonplussed were these Icelandic salts  
who muttered on and on,  
about how odd  
To stow no fishing gear on board,  
yet stock the hold  
with salt and cod.

He guessed of islands in the sea  
unknown to even modern men,  
And reckoned distances on a map,  
with an imaginary pen;  
He never garnered treasures  
enough to pay his freight,  
And left the flagship run aground,  
bare wood left over for a crate.  
He is remembered now by more  
than are other profiteers,  
But the simple fishermen  
of a new world sea  
coast forever, his silent peers.

*By The Anonymous Poet*

So might Christopher Columbus otherwise be remembered, as deserving of at least two The Magic Library Card! featured articles in the Penn-Franklin News, last Monday and this Monday, to honor him more than 500 years after his four, long shopping expeditions for riches. Memories fade. Indeed they do.

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