

To Christopher Columbus,
Paul, the physician, health:

I have received thy letters
with the things thou didst send
me, and with them I received
a great favour. I notice thy
splendid and lofty desire to sail
to the regions of the east by
those of the west, as is shown
by the chart which I send you,
which would be better shown
in the shape of a round sphere;
it would please me greatly, should
it be understood; and that not only is the said voyage possible,
but it is sure and certain, and
of honour and countless gain,
and of the greatest renown
among all Christians

-Henry Vignaud, Toscanelli and Columbus: The letter and chart of Toscanelli on the route to the Indies by way of the west, sent in 1474 to the Portuguese Fernam Martins, and later on to Christopher Columbus (1902) excerpt