

Coffee was introduced into Venice in 1615; into England in 1652 and into France in 1658. Cacao, from the seeds of which chocolate is prepared grows wild in Central America, and is extensively cultivated in Mexico, Guatemala, and on the coast of Guayana.

Mount Etna, is the loftiest volcano in Europe, as well as the highest mountain in Italy. Height 10,849 English feet.

Buckwheat is a corruption rather than a translation of the Saxon word Buckwaig, the first syllable signifying buck, the tree of that name, whose nut the kernel of the grain so much resembles in shape. The grain therefore might properly be called buck-wheat.

Post offices were first established in 1644; Printed musical notes were first used in 1478; Watches were first constructed in 1466; America was discovered in 1492; The printing press was set up at Copenhagen in 1493. Copernicus announced his discovery of the true system of the universe. 1517: Albert Durer gave the world a prophecy of future wood engraving. 1527: Jergens set the spinning wheel in motion in 1538, the germ of all the busy wheels and looms of 16,000 future factories. Modern needles first came in use in 1545. The first knives were used in England, and the wheel carriages in France in 1559. The first newspaper was published in Eng. in 1588. Telescopes were invented in 1590. Spenser, Shakespeare, Bacon, Kepler and Tycho Brahe were contemporaries in 1590. These were some of the most important headlands of European history within a single century.

In 1530 wheat found its way into Mexico, and then only by chance. A slave of Cortez found a few grains of wheat in a quantity of rice and showed them to his master, who ordered them to be planted. The result showed that wheat would thrive well in Mexican soil; today one of the finest wheat valleys in the world is near the Mexican capital. From Mexico the cereals found its way to Peru.

Antonio Bosio a Genoese by birth, was the first who seriously explored the catacombs. His is called the Columbus of the catacombs. His labors continued from 1600 to 1630.

The pearl is a disease of the oyster. It is caused by a particle of sand getting inside the shell of the oyster and irritating the delicate flesh of the bivalve. The oyster exudes a mucus secretion as a lubricant. This hardens over the tiny grain of sand and forms the pearl.

The Greek amphora is a jar with two handles tapering at the bottom and is used for holding wine and oil.

Helion upon Issa means filling mountain upon mountain.