

Nec Plus Ultra

21.2. – 21.3.2015

Marius Engh

"The most common Spanish coin circulating in the British colonies was sometimes called the "pillar dollar" because of the obverse side bore an image of the Eastern and the Western hemispheres with a large column on each side. The columns represented the Pillars of Hercules, and the words "plus ultra" meaning "further beyond," embellished a banner hanging from one of the columns. The coin was apparently a means of publicizing the discovery of America. The dollar sign probably evolved from the pillar dollar, with the two vertical lines representing the columns, and the "S" shape representing the banner."

- Larry Allen, "The Encyclopedia of Money", ABC-CLIO, 2009

"In late 2010, a European level joint operation called Hermes took place – Hermes being Olympus' messenger, traveling from one country to another, hence the god of borders. It is interesting to notice that many of the operations carried out by Frontex, especially those in the Mediterranean, receive their names from European mythological beings: Hera, Aeneas, Hermes, Minerva, Argos, Mars, Hydra, Meteor, Jupiter, Mercure, Indalo, Nautilus, Poseidon, Zeus, etc. The idea of 'new Europe' as an originally 'mythical Europa' also underpins border control. These gods and goddesses will help police and military forces repel the 'barbarian invasions' from beyond Europe's borders. The aim of this police operation was to simultaneously coordinate border agencies from all member states in order to identify illegal aliens in strategic transport stations."

- Engin F. Isin, "Citizenship After Orientalism: An Unfinished Project", Taylor & Francis Online, 2012

"...George's shrine is described as a sort of madhouse. Deranged persons of all three faiths are taken thither and chained in the court of the chapel, where they are kept for forty days on bread and water, the Greek priest at the head of the establishment now and then reading the Gospel over them, or administering a whipping as the case demands. Although this practice has been discontinued in the hundred years since, one can still speak of someone going mad as "going to St. George's."

- Colin Dickey, "Afterlives of the Saints: Stories from the Ends of Faith", Unbridled Books, 2012