Columbian Press

Johann Gutenberg invented the first printing press hundreds of years ago and it was made from wood. In the 1800s, the first printing press made from iron was invented – the Columbian Printing Press.
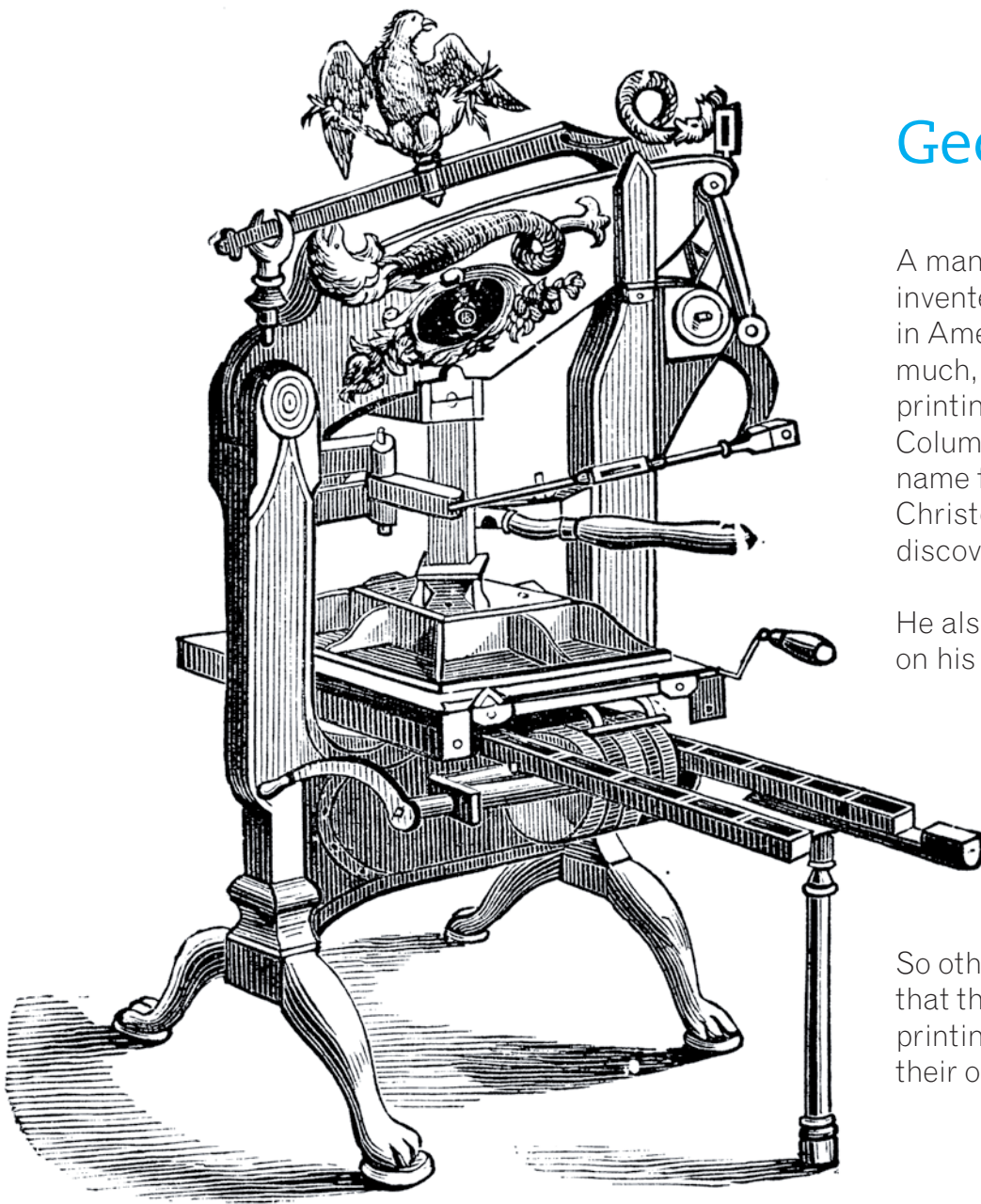
George Clymer

A man called George Clymer invented the Columbian Press in America. He liked America so much, he called his brand new printing press after it (the word Columbia is an old fashioned name for America, named after Christopher Columbus who discovered the country).

He also put symbols of America on his machine, like the eagle.

So other countries decided that they would decorate their printing presses with symbols of their own.

What would you call your press?

If you invented a machine like this one, what country would
you choose to show on it?

What symbols would you put on it?

In the spaces below draw four different things you would
use to represent your chosen country.
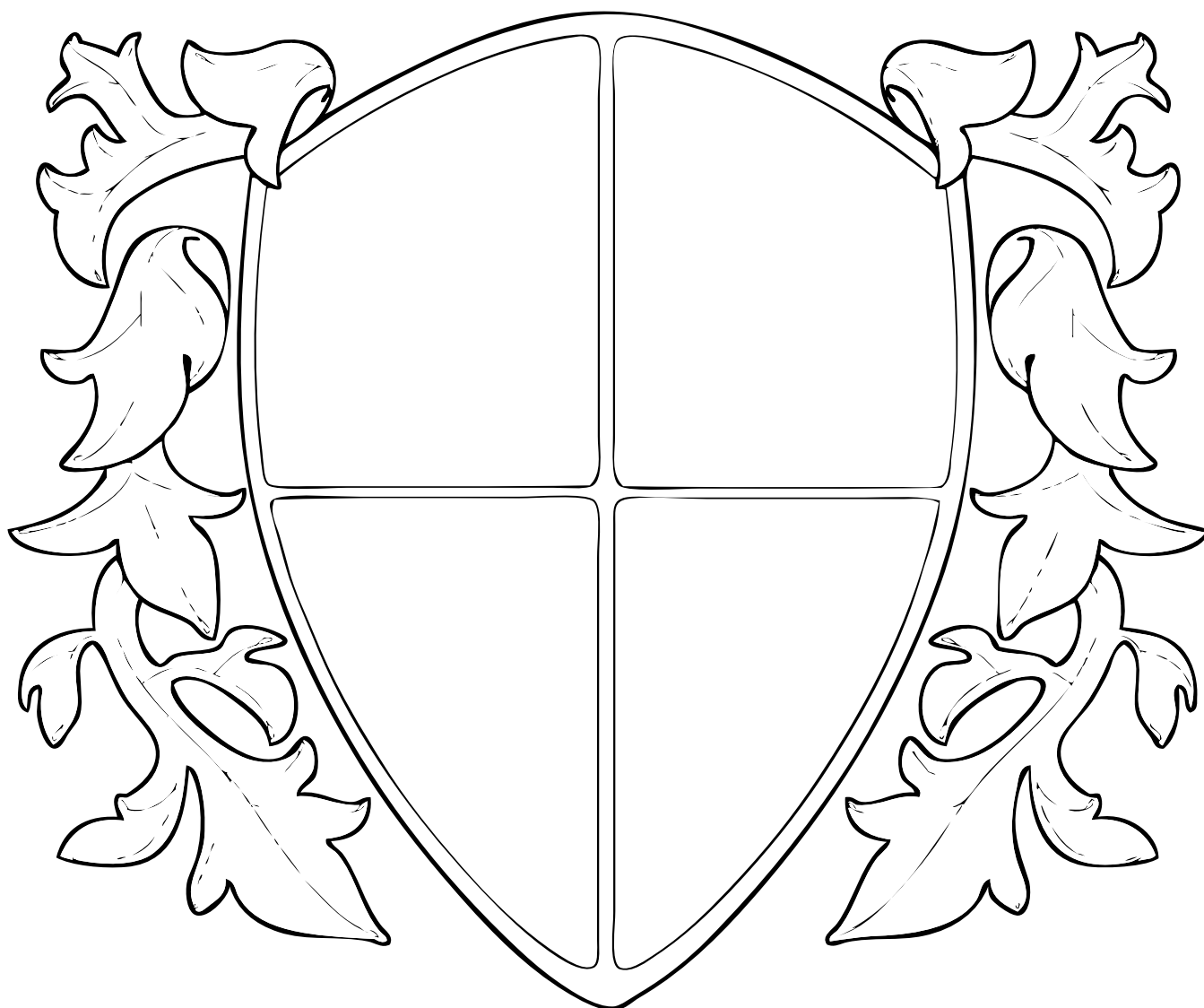
My press name: _____

NATIONAL
PRINT MUSEUM
Músaem Náisiúnta Cló

Albion Press

The Albion press is another iron hand printing press,
originally designed and manufactured in London by
Richard Whittaker Cope around 1820.

Grab a crayon and colour this one in!