

of gold and silver ore. Drake explored the west coast of what is now the United States as far as Oregon, and sailed for home by way of Asia and the Indian Ocean.

Such voyages fired men's minds with dreams of gold and boundless plunder, but they did not encourage any one to settle and build up trading colonies in America.

Trying to Found a Colony. Sir Humphrey Gilbert and his half brother, Sir Walter Raleigh, made up their mind to plant an English colony in America. They believed that colonies would pay better than the aimless searching for gold, for they would open up trade with the Indians, and develop agriculture in America; and above all, the colonies would be a fine market for English goods. So they obtained from Elizabeth a grant of land, and the right for their colony to rule itself.



SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

With a fleet, fitted out largely at their own expense, they set out for the New World. One ship was lost at sea. After fighting a battle with the Spaniards they returned to England without success. A second attempt also failed, and Sir Humphrey's tiny ship went down at sea.

Raleigh's Lost Colony. — Sir Walter Raleigh, who had not sailed on the second trip, had now risen to great favor with Queen Elizabeth. He was not the man to give up easily, and his heart was set upon planting a colony in