

Newfoundland. After following the coast to the north, perhaps as far as Cape Chudley, he is supposed to have turned and proceeded south until he reached the latitude of Cape Race in Newfoundland. Early in the following spring, before Columbus left Spain on his third voyage, in the course of which he too at last sighted the mainland, Cabot had again set sail from England. Coasting the shores of Newfoundland and Labrador as far north as on the preceding voyage, he is believed to have extended his explorations to the south as far as the Carolinas. Cabot was thus the first European since the Northmen to reach the mainland of America, and he was also the first to pass, without suspicion of its existence, before the mouth of the great waterway of the St Lawrence.

Whether in deference to the protest of the Spanish ambassador at the English Court, or on account of the saving proclivities of the then occupant of the English throne, or for some other reason, English exploration in these regions ceased for a quarter of a century. It was the Portuguese who next hovered about the mouth of the St. Lawrence. Two years after Cabot's last voyage Gaspar Corte-Real, under a commission from his sovereign the King of Portugal, explored the eastern coast of Newfoundland. In the following year he set sail again with three vessels and passing north beyond Newfoundland examined the coast of Labrador. At some unknown point he sent back two of his vessels which safely reached Portugal in the autumn, but the third vessel, in which he remained, was never seen again. An expedition in search of him under his brother Miguel was equally unfortunate, and two only of the three vessels which composed it reached port, having accomplished nothing of importance. Thus Portugal, like England, explored the region about Newfoundland without lifting the veil which hung before the portals of the St. Lawrence.

From 1502 until 1520 nothing was done to advance discovery in the north. Spain indeed, from her centre in the Spanish Main, steadily extended her influence and in 1520 a caravel from Hayti made its way as far as the point afterwards called Cape Charles, near the 37th parallel of latitude. While the Spaniards

were
In t
of S
the
saile
the
Bell
shor
over
Acad
land
them
passe
with
A
dition
unsm
in th
expec
becom
explo
as far
Corte
south
suspe
the r
archij
the e
coast-
exten
Magel
discov
throug
by wa
length
began
howev