

This man tried to persuade the general to stay on the larger ship, for he thought it was taking needless risk for him to cross the ocean in such a tiny vessel as the *Squirrel*. A story had got about, however, that Sir Humphrey was afraid of the sea; and, determined to show that this was untrue, he turned a deaf ear to all warnings.

13. He was naturally of a quick impatient temper, and, in his earlier days, as a soldier in Ireland, had shown himself very stern and cruel; but Hayes says the trials he had undergone had improved some of the defects that had formerly made his many virtues "less delightful," and he adds that like every other man "of noble mind," Sir Humphrey had earnest desires after goodness and God.

14. Soon after the general's last visit to his friend on the *Golden Hind*, a storm came up, and the waves began to break "short and high, pyramid-wise." Sometimes the two vessels were so near together that the crews could hear each others' voices, and as Sir Humphrey sat with a book in his hand on the deck of the tossing *Squirrel*, he cried out to the men on the *Hind*, "We are as near heaven by sea as by land."

15. These brave words seemed like his last message to his friends, for as night fell the winds and waves grew wilder, and suddenly the anxious watchers on the larger ship lost sight of the lights on the little *Squirrel*. Still they did not give up hope. All the way home they kept an eager look-out, but the little boat was never seen again by mortal eyes, and not one man on board escaped to tell the tale of that wild night on the Atlantic.