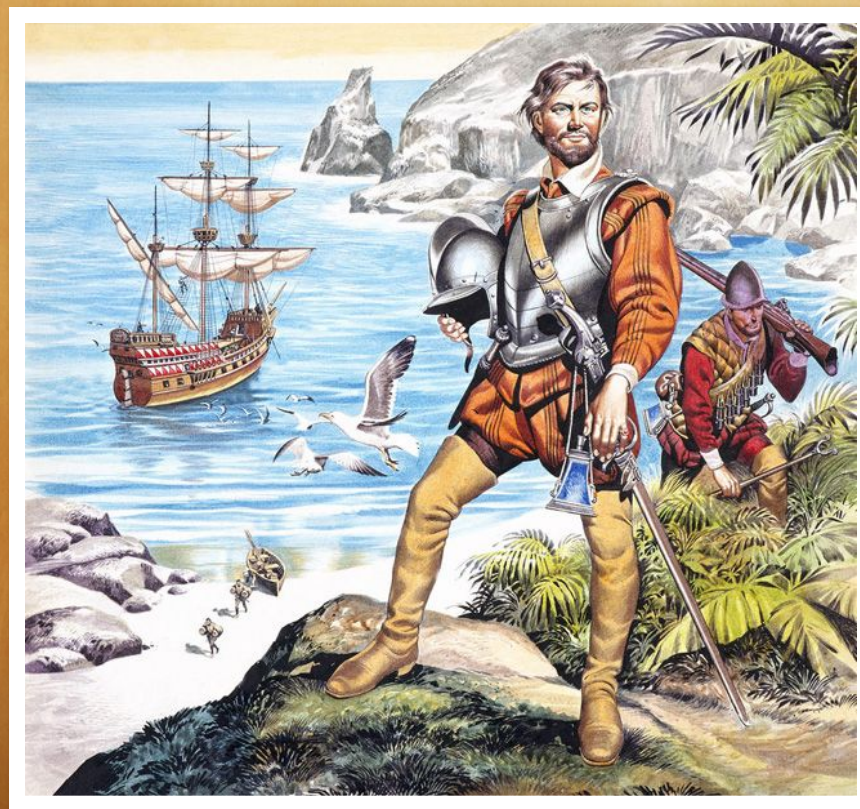


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Francis Drake

**is known today as one of the most
legendary Privateers in history**



I. Early years



Francis Drake

was born in **Plymouth** ['plɪməθ], a seaport and the largest town in the south of England.

The boy spent his time looking at the ships in Plymouth **Harbour** ['hɑ:rbər] and talking to the seamen. They told him long stories about sea adventures.



At the age of fifteen Francis was taken on a small ship where he worked for some years.

The boy learned the duties of a **sailor** (**матрос**) very soon and did his work well.



When Drake was twenty-five he became the **mate** (**помощник капитана**) on the ship.

II. Why did Francis Drake become a privateer?



Drake's first sea-fight took place on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean in 1567.

A small **fleet (флот)** of six English ships was attacked by Spanish **men-of-war (военный корабль)**.

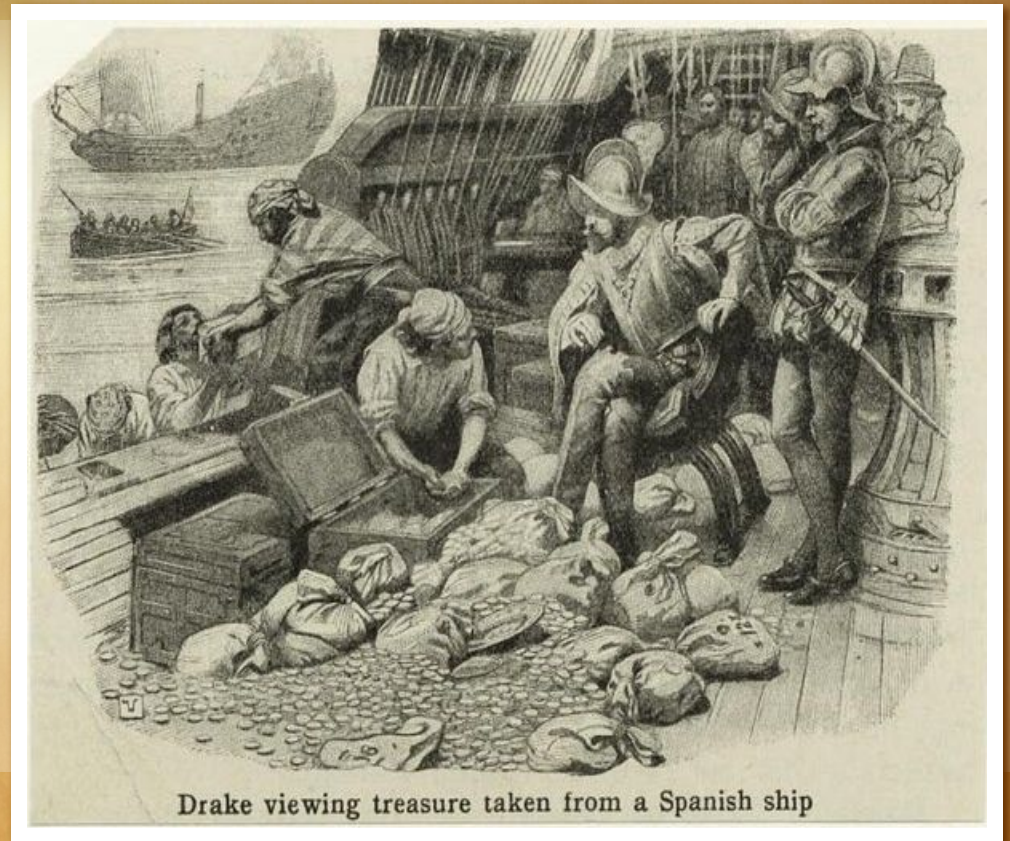
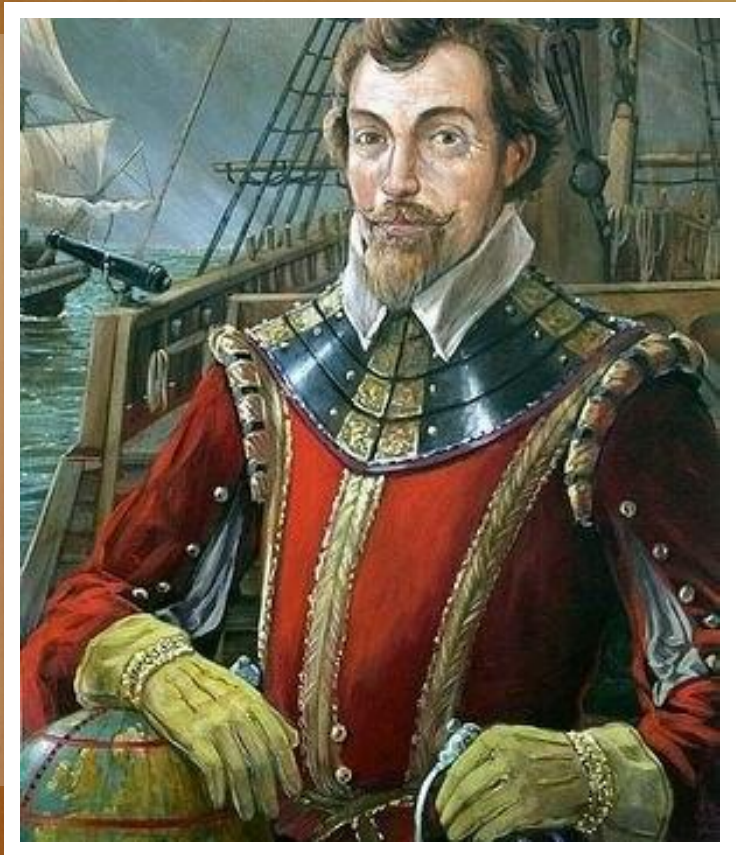


Four of the English ships were burnt and only two of them came back to England.

Drake asked the king of Spain to pay him for his ships but was refused.



Drake was very angry and promised he would take all he could from the king of Spain. And he did so.



Drake viewing treasure taken from a Spanish ship

He **captured** (захватил) the Spanish "Silver Caravan" with thirty tons of silver. Drake returned to England in wealth and glory.

It is worth to say that Drake was not a pirate, he was **a privateer (koptap)**.

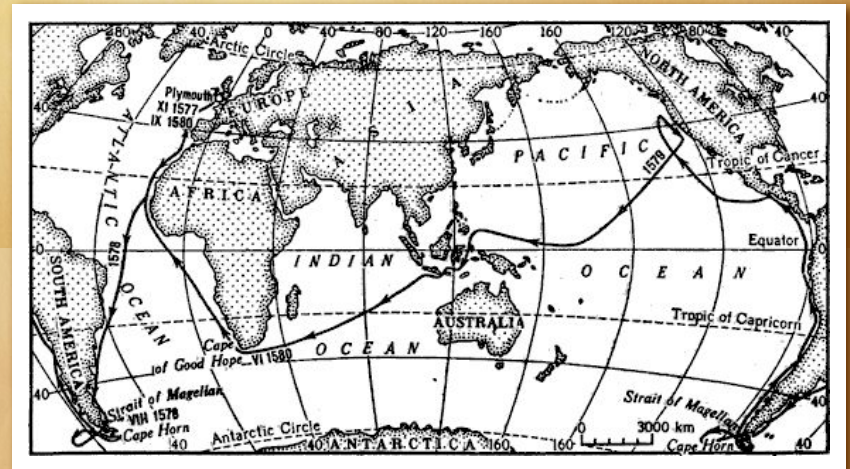
He had the state patent.

Queen Elizabeth I allowed Francis Drake to rob and steal from enemy ships.



A significant part of the products was given to Queen.

In 1577 Queen Elizabeth I asked Drake to lead the expedition to the New World. The official purpose of the expedition was **exploration (исследование)**.



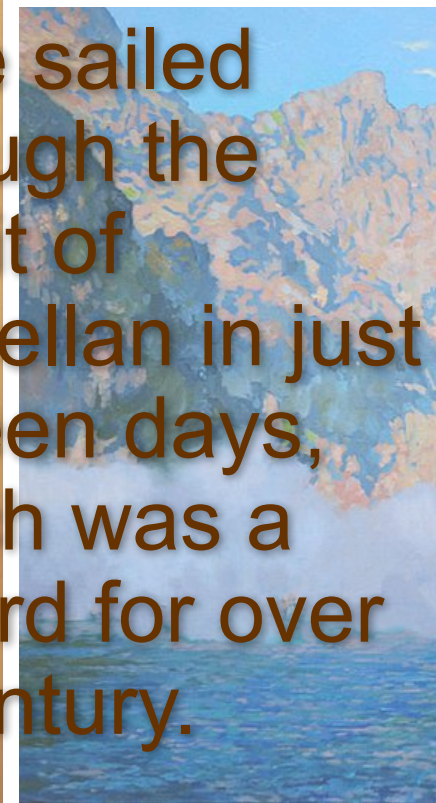
In fact, Drake was instructed to explore the Pacific coast, to attack the Spanish settlements, to rob as much as possible and **to claim (провозглашать)** new lands for England.

III. Drake traveled around the world

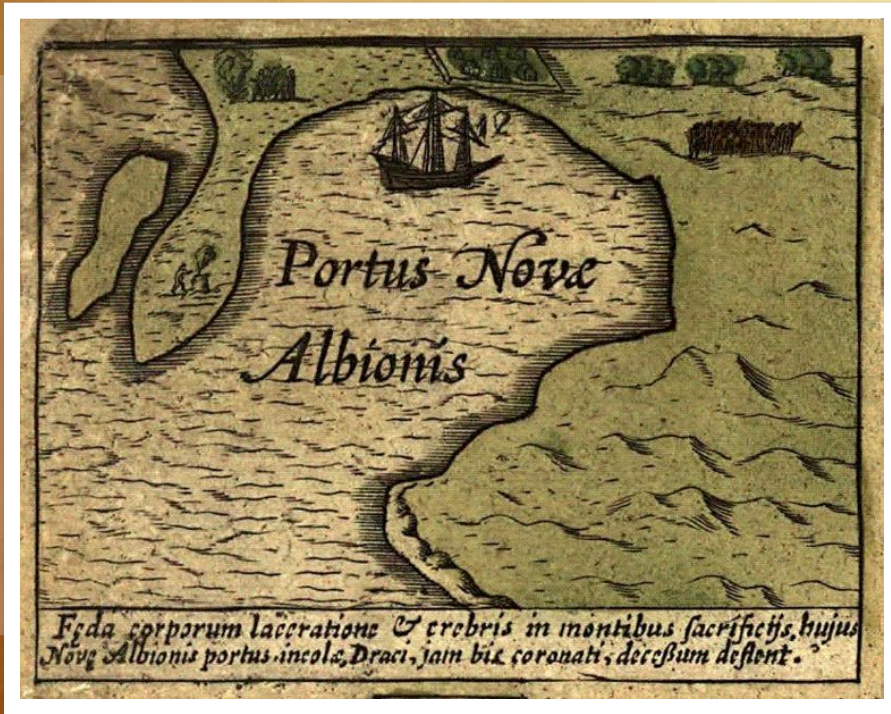
Five ships left Plymouth to sail around the world.

Three years later, only one ship, the **Golden Hind** (Золотая Лань), returned to England.

Drake sailed through the Strait of Magellan in just sixteen days, which was a record for over a century.



He landed on the coast and claimed the land for England. He called it New England.

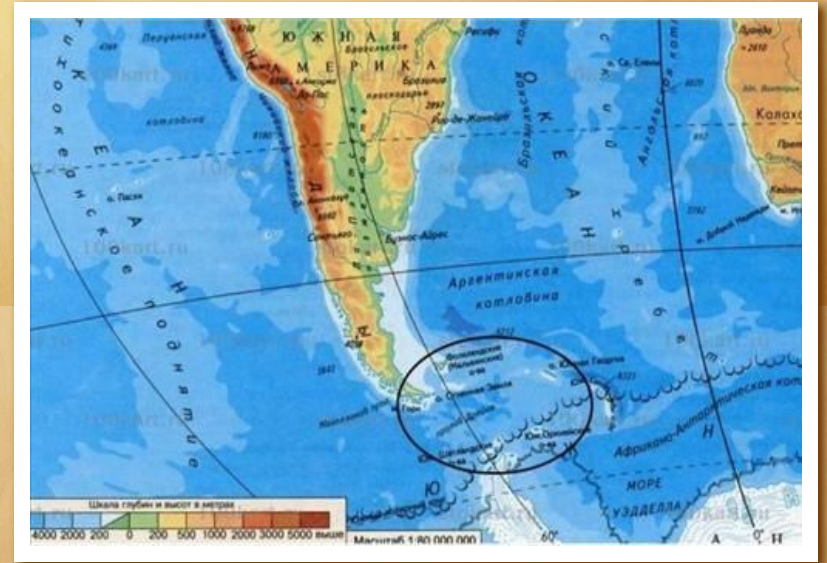


In the Pacific, Drake robbed many ships and burned several towns along the Pacific coast of North America.

The Spanish called Drake "the dragon".



Also Drake made the discovery that between South America and Antarctic Region there is a water way.



This Strait was later named after him.
Nowadays it is called - **the Drake Strait**
(Пролив Дрейка).

Drake sailed west across the Pacific Ocean. After 62 days, they reached the Philippines.



Then they sailed across the Cape of Good Hope at the bottom of Africa and finally reached England in 1580.

Queen Elizabeth I came to visit him on the Golden Hind she made him a **knight** (рыцарь).

Since then he has got the right to be called Sir Francis Drake.

Drake was greeted as a national hero.



THE END

Francis Drake

