

Terra del
Fuego.

he gave the name of Cape of the Virgins to the first land that he discovered, because he saw it on St. Ursula's Day. He entered the straits on the 7th of November, and on the 27th he found himself in the South Sea, which he called the Pacific. The name Terra del Fuego, given to the country to the south of the straits, seems to be more modern. It arose, we are told, from a number of fires seen there by navigators. It was, perhaps, lightning, the whole region being subject to great thunderstorms, arising from the vapors drawn by the sun from the two oceans ; and doubtless, too, in consequence of the nature of the soil. From the narratives of Hollanders who have sailed in that quarter, it would seem that it is only a collection of islands, with ship-channels between them.

Mexican
mines.

The same year Hernan Cortez sent Gonzalo de Umbria to explore the southern coast of New Spain, and Francisco Pizarro, with Diego de Ordas, to visit the northern. At the same time mines were discovered in the country, and Montezuma, emperor of Mexico, acknowledged himself a vassal of the king of Spain, and sent him a tribute.

Florida.

The licentiate, Luke Vasquez de Ayllon, this same year undertook to continue the exploration of Florida ; he discovered, in fact, Cape St. Helena and the province of Chicora. This Cape St. Helena is at the mouth of a pretty large river, afterwards called the Jordan.

1521.

Ladrones.
Cebu.
Matan.

Discovery of the Ladrone Islands by Magellan. He also called them the Archipelago of St. Lazarus. These islands are now called the Mariane Islands. Magellan then discovered the island of Cebu, and subsequently Matan, where he was killed. After his death Gonzalo Gomez de Espinosa was recognized as commander of the fleet. He retained of his ships only the Trinidad and Vitoria, and having fallen in with a Chinese junk bound to the Moluccas, took a pilot aboard, who carried him to Tidor, which he reached on the 8th of November, or, according to Osorio, towards the end of October. Thence he returned to Spain, by way of India, in the Vitoria. It is the first vessel that circumnavigated the globe, and is still preserved at Seville.