

**FINDERS AND
FOUNDERS OF
THE NEW WORLD**

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Finders and founders of the New world by James A. Woodburn & Thomas F. Moran

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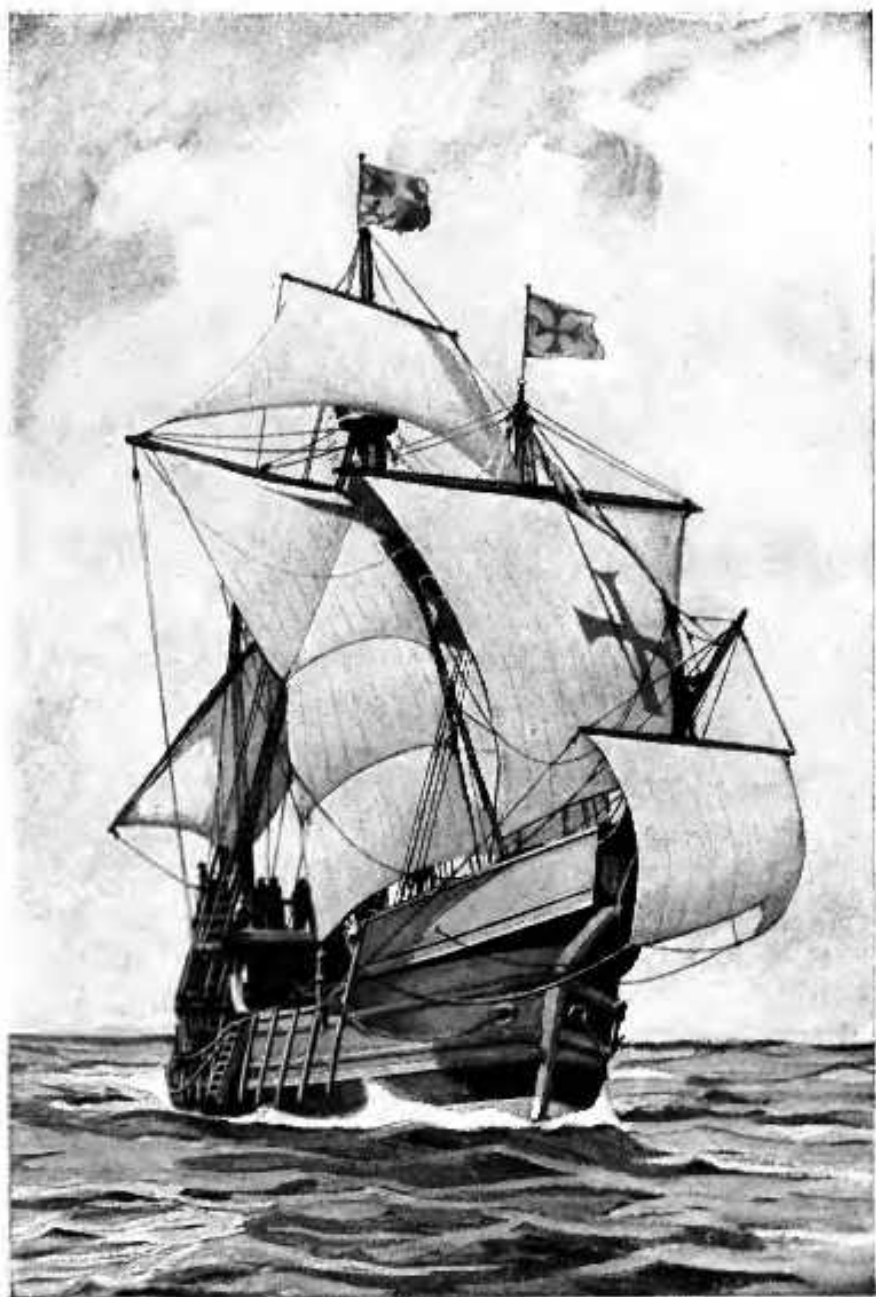
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JAMES A. WOODBURN & THOMAS F. MORAN

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FINDING AMERICA

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OF THE
NEW WORLD

BY

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FINDERS AND FOUNDERS OF THE NEW WORLD

INTRODUCTION

ASLEEP ON THE DOCK



“WAKE up, boy! Oh, Alonzo, stir yourself, my lad! Don't you hear the people shouting and the bell's ringing? What can the matter be, I wonder? Come on, hurry up, Alonzo, and we'll go down and find out what has happened.”

The speaker was a sailor named Martin, a little dried-up old man with piercing black eyes lighting up a bronzed face. He was very much excited. The boy Alonzo was a dark and handsome Spanish lad of about sixteen. It was high noon in a quaint old seaport town on the southern coast of Spain.

Martin and Alonzo had gone to the dock quite early that morning. Martin was a retired sailor and liked to meet the old cronies of his youth and talk over the many voyages which they had made to Africa, to Asia and to Britain. They had told over and over again the stories of storms and shipwrecks, of fierce fights with enemies on the ocean, and of races for life with pirates. Alonzo and the other boys of his age drank in with greedy ears these stories of adventure.

On this particular day in the month of March more than four hundred years ago, Martin and his comrades were fighting over again with great vigor the battles of their youth. Their keen eyes flashed fire as they told of the way they battled against the angry sea, or sent a pirate ship to the bottom in the blackness of midnight. The boys hung around and were thrilled by these stories. They had daydreams of the time in the near future when they too would contend against wind and wave, soldier and pirate, for the honor and glory of Spain.

As the warm bright sun rose high in the heavens, the story-telling began to slacken. The old men seemed to lose interest in their tales. They talked more slowly and whittled their sticks less rapidly. Then they began to yawn and finally to nod. The eyelids of the young boys also began to grow heavy. The sandman appeared, and they too became drowsy. Soon the chatter ceased and the entire company of men and boys, a dozen or more, were sound asleep on the boxes and bales