

now bears his name. Passing through this stormy Strait of Magellan, he sailed out (in 1520) on a sea whose surface was so quiet and peaceful that he gave it the name of *Pacific*.¹

When the great captain had passed the Strait of Magellan and his ships had begun to plow the broad waters of the Pacific, the sailors felt that they had gone far enough and wanted to turn back. They had but little food left, and they were afraid that they would get no more on the voyage. But Magellan said they must go forward even if they had to eat the ropes with which the ship was rigged. He had set out for the Indies, he



Magellan's voyage around the globe.

said, and to the Indies he was going, although they were ten thousand miles away. The ships kept on their course, but Magellan found that the fears of the sailors were by no means groundless. Food became scarcer and scarcer, and sure enough, before land was reached, the men, in order to get a little nourishment for their starving bodies, gnawed the very hides which covered the ropes of the rigging. After a voyage of terrible suffering Magellan at last (in 1521) reached the Philippine Islands. Here he was drawn into a battle with the natives and was killed.

After the death of Magellan a captain was chosen for the *Victoria*—one of the two vessels that still remained—and the voyage westward was continued. Having stopped at the Moluccas to take on board a cargo of precious stones and spices, the

¹The word "pacific" comes from the Latin word *pacificus*, which means mild, peaceful.