

Las patentes reales a sir Humphrey Gilbert y sir Walter Raleigh

Sir Humphrey Gilbert (1537?-1583) estuvo convencido de que existía un paso que permitía navegar desde el Atlántico hasta el Pacífico por la región más septentrional del continente americano. Deseaba llegar a esa tierra lejana de la que había contado maravillas Marco Polo y que había sido el sueño dorado de Cristóbal Colón: Catay.

En las páginas de su "Discurso",¹ en el que pretende probar la realidad de dicho paso, se apoya en el aval de múltiples autoridades, antiguas y modernas. Recurre a Platón y Aristóteles, a Marsilio Ficino, así como a una constelación de geógrafos que abarca desde Gemma Frisius hasta Pedro Mártir y Ortelius. Es indiscutible que sus opiniones sobre esa ruta marítima inspiraron los viajes de Martín Frobisher, de John Davis y la exploración que los ingleses llevaron a cabo en Norteamérica.

En 1578, Isabel I le otorgó una patente que lo autorizaba a fundar colonias en América y en otras tierras ignotas que pudiera encontrar. En el transcurso de ese mismo año realizó su primera expedición. Fue un rotundo fracaso. En 1583 emprendió un segundo viaje. Llegó hasta Terranova.² Luego de anclar en la bahía de Saint John's, tomó posesión de aquellas latitudes en nombre de la reina y se autodenominó gobernador de la colonia de pescadores que había encontrado allí. Para Gilbert, la ocupación de ese sitio representaba el preludio de un proyecto más amplio: expulsar a los españoles de América para que la Corona inglesa gobernara en exclusiva a lo largo y ancho del Nuevo Mundo. Todavía en busca del paso hacia el noroeste, continuó explorando en dirección sur. Una sucesión de calamidades, entre ellas la pérdida de un navío, lo obligaron a regresar a Inglaterra.

¹ "A Discourse Written by sir Humphrey Gilbert, Knight, to Prove a Passage to the North-West to Cathay and the East Indies", in Hakluyt Richard, *Voyages in search of the North-West Passage*, Londres, Cassell, 1886, pp. 25-66.

² El relato de dicho viaje que escribió Edward Hayes, capitán del *Golden Hind* y contralmirante de Gilbert es asequible en <<http://www.archive.org/stream/sirhumphreygilbe03338gut/3338.txt>>.

La ruta del paso noroeste corre entre la masa continental ártica y el norte de Canadá, y prosigue a lo largo de la costa noroeste de Alaska. Sin importar que los exploradores del siglo XVI demostraran con sus viajes que el continente americano constituía una barrera infranqueable que impedía trazar una ruta corta desde Europa hasta el este asiático, persistió la esperanza de que existiera un paso natural para desembocar en el Océano Pacífico sin tener que ir hasta la parte extrema sur y rodear el Estrecho de Magallanes. Se popularizó entonces la idea de que era posible llegar hasta China e India a través del Polo Norte. Así, hallar el paso noroeste se volvió un objetivo importante, aunque semejante ruta carecía en esa época de cualquier interés comercial.

Además de Frobisher y Davis, un gran número de navegantes, exploradores y viajeros se empeñaron posteriormente en encontrarlo. Hudson, Baffin, Fox, James, el capitán Cook, Mackenzie y Chateaubriand fueron algunos de ellos.

La realidad del paso noroeste siguió alimentando el imaginario europeo hasta comienzos del siglo XX cuando el explorador noruego Roald Amundsen logró descubrir la ruta con la que había soñado Gilbert cuatro siglos atrás.

Finalizada en 1584 la vigencia de la patente que había concedido a Gilbert, la reina decidió renovarla, concediéndosela a su nuevo favorito, sir Walter Raleigh. A partir de esa fecha, Raleigh emprendió diversas aventuras de colonización. El privilegio que recibió de Isabel I le daba el derecho, a él y a sus herederos de adueñarse de todos los territorios que encontraran, comprometiéndose a pagar a la Corona un quinto de las minas y metales explotados. En abril de 1584 envió a dos capitanes, Philip Amadas y Arthur Barlowe, a explorar el este americano. De las Canarias llegaron a Florida y, desde allí, siguieron la costa hasta alcanzar lo que hoy es Carolina del Norte. Bautizaron con el nombre de Virginia a ese gigantesco territorio, pero ninguno pisó tierras de lo que actualmente es el estado de Virginia.

Ambas patentes van más allá de ser una curiosidad histórica. Su relevancia es manifiesta en la medida en que ellas propiciaron el inicio de la colonización inglesa en Norteamérica que ocurriría en los primeros años del siglo XVII, dando origen a lo que, con el correr del tiempo, serían las trece colonias americanas y, posteriormente, la nación independiente de los Estados Unidos de América.

Por esa razón hemos resuelto publicarlas.

*Nattie Golubov
Ignacio Díaz de la Serna*

LETTERS PATENT TO SIR HUMFREY GYLBERTE³ JUNE 11, 1578

Elizabeth by the grace of God Queene of England, &c. To all people to whom these presents shall come, greeting.

Know ye that of our especiall grace, certaine science and meere motion, we have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heires and successours, doe give and graunt to our trustie and welbeloved servaunt Sir Humphrey Gilbert of Compton, in our castle of Devonshire Knight, and to his heires and assignee for ever, free libertie and licence from time to time, and at all times for ever hereafter, to discover, finde, search out, and view such remote, heathen and barbarous lands, countreys and territories not actually possessed of any Christian prince or people, as to him, his heirs & assignee, and to every or any of them, shall seeme good: and the fame to have, hold, occupie and enjoy to him, his heires and assignee for ever, with all commodities, jurisdictions, and royalties both by sea and land; and the said sir Humfrev and all such as from time to time by licence of us, our heiress and successours, shall goe and travell thither, to inhabits or romaine there, to build and fortifie at the discretion of the sayde Sir Humfrey, and of his heires and assignee, the statutes or actes of Parliament made against Fugitives, or against such as shall depart, romaine or continue out of our Realme of England without licence, or any other acte, statute, lawe or matter whatsoever to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. And wee doe likewise by these presents, for US, our heires and successours, give full authoritie and power to the saide Sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, and every of them, that tree and they, and every of any of them, shall and may at all and every time and times hereafter, have, take and lead in the same voyages, to travell thitherward, and to inhabits there with him, and every or any of them, such and so many of our subjects as shall willingly accompany him and them, and every or any of them, with sufficient shipping and furniture for their transportations, so that none of the same persons, nor any of them be such as hereafter shall be specially restrained by us, our heires and successors. And further, that he the said Humfrey, his heires and assignee, and every or any of them shall have, hold, occupy and enjoy to him, his heires and assignee, and every of them for ever, all the soyle of all such lands, countries, & territories so to be discovered or possessed as aforesaid, and of all Cities, Castles, Townes and Villages, and places in the same, with the rites, royal-

³ Tomado de *The Federal and State Constitutions, Colonial Charters, and other organic Laws of the States, Territories, and Colonies now or heretofore forming the United States of America*, ed. de Thorpe Francis Newton, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1909, vol. I, pp. 49-52.

ties and jurisdictions, as well marine as other, within sayd lands or countreys of the seas thereunto adjoyning, to be had or used with ful power to dispose thereof, & of every part thereof in fee simple or otherwise, according to the order of the laws of England, as near as the same conveniently may be, at his, and their will & pleasure, to any person then being, or that shall romaine within the allegiance of us, our heires and successours, paying unto us for all services, dueties and demaunds, the fift part of all the oare of gold and silver, that from time to time, and at all times after such discoverie, subduing and possessing shall be there gotten: all which hands, countreys and territories, shall for ever bee holden by the said Sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee of us, our heires and successors by homage, and by the sayd payment of the sayd fift part before reserved onely for all services.

And moreover, we doe by these presents for us, our heires and successours, give and graunt licence to the sayde Sir Humfray (*sic*) Gilbert, his heires or assignee, and to every of them, that tree and they, and every or any of them shall, and may from time to time, and all times for ever hereafter, for his and their defence, encounter, expulse, repell and resift, as well by Sea as by land, and by all other wayes whatsoever, all and every such person and persons whatsoever, as without the special licence and liking of the sayd Sir Humfrey, and of his heires and assignee, shall attempt to inhabits within the sayd countreys, or any of them, or within the space of two hundred leagues nerre to the place or places within such countreys as aforesayd, if they shall not bee before planted or inhabited within the limiter aforesayd, with the subjects of any Christian prince, being amitie with her-Majesty, where the said sir Humfrey, his heires or assignee, or any of them, or his, or their or any of their associates or companies, shall within sixe yeeres next ensuing, make their dwellings and abidings, or that shall enterprise or attempt at any time hereafter unlawfully to annoy either by Sea or land, the said sir Humfrey, his heires or assignee, or any of them, or his, or their, or any of their companies: giving and granting by these presents, further power and authorite to the sayd sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, and every of them from time to time, and at all times for ever hereafter to take and surprise by all maner of meanes whatsoever all and every person and persons, with their shipper, vessels, and other goods and furniture, which without the licence of the sayd sir Humfrey, or his heires or assignee as aforesayd, shall bee found trafiquing into any harborough or harboroughs creeke or creekes within the limites aforesayde, the subjects of our Realmes and dominions, and all other persons in amitie with us, being driven by force of tempest or shipwracke onely excepted, and those persons and every of them with their ships, vessels, goods, and furniture, to detain and possesse, as of good and lawful prize, according to the discretion of him the sayd sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, and of every or any of them. And for unit-

ing in more perfect league and amitie of such countreys, lances and territories so to bee possessed and inhabited as aforesayde, with our Realmes of England and Ireland, and for the better encouragement of men to this enterprise: wee doe by these presents graunt, and declare, that all such countreys so hereafter to bee possessed and inhabited as aforesayd, from thencefoorth shall bee of the allegiance of us, our heires and successours. And wee doe graunt to the sayd sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, and to all and every of them, and to all and every other person and persons, being of our allegiance, whose names shall be noted or entred in some of our courts of Record, within this our Realme of England, and that with the assent of the said sir Humfrey, his heires or assignee, shall nowe in this journey for discoverie, or in the second journey for conquest hereafter, travel to such lands, countries and territories as aforesaid, and to their and every of their heires: that they and every or any of them being either borne within our sayd Realmes of England or Ireland, or within any other place within our allegiance, and which hereafter shall be inhabiting within any the lands, countreys and territories, with such licence as aforesayd, shall and may have, and enjoy all the priveleges of free denizens and persons native of England, and within our allegiance: any law, custome, or usage to the contrary notwithstanding

And forasmuch, as upon the finding out, discovering and inhabiting of such remote lands, countreys and territories, as aforesayd, it shall be necessarie for the safetie of all men that shall adventure themselves in those journeys or voiajes, to determine to live together In Christian peace and civil quietnesse each with other, whereby every one may with more pleasure and profit, enjoy that whereunto they shall attaine with great Paine and perill: wee for us, our heires and successours are likewise pleased and contented, and by these presents doe give and graunt to the sayd sir Humfrey and his heires and assignee for ever, that he and they, and every or any of them, shall and may, from time to time, for ever hereafter within the sayd mentioned remote lands and countreys, and in the way by the Seas thither, and from thence, have full and meere power and authoritie to correct, punish, pardon, governe and rule by their, and every or any of their good discretions and policies, as well in causes capitall or criminall, as chill, both marine and other, all such our subjects and others, as shall from time to time hereafter adventure themselves in the sayd journeys or voyages habitative or possessive, or that shall at any time hereafter inhabite any such lands, countreys or territories as aforesayd, or that shall abide within two hundred leagues of any sayd place or places, where the sayd sir Humfrey or his heires, or assignee, or any of them, or any of his, or their associate or companies, shall inhabite within sixe yeers next ensuing the date hereof, according to such statutes, lawes and ordinances, as shall be by him the said sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, or every, or any of them, devised or established for the better gov-

ernement of the said people as aforesayd: so alwayes that the sayd statutes, lawes and ordinances may be as neere as conveniently may, agreeable to the forme of the lawes & pollicy of England: and also, that they be not against the true Christian faith or religion now professed in the Church of England, nor in any wise to withdraw any of the subjects or people of those lands or places from the allegiance of us, our heires or successours, as their immediate Sovereignes under God. And further we do by these presents for us, our heires and successours, give and graunt full power and authority to our trustie and well-beloved counsellor, sir William Cecill Knight, lord Burleigh, our high treasurer of England, and to the lord treasurer of England of us, for the time being and to the privie counsell of us, our heires and successours, or any fours of them, for the time being that he, they, or any foure of them, shall, and may from time to time, and at all times hereafter, under his or their handes or scales by vertue of these presents, authorize and licence the sayd sir Humfrey Gilbert, his heires and assignee, and every or any of them by him and themselves, or by their or any of their sufficient attorneys, deputies, officers, ministers, factors and servants, to imbarke and transport out of our Realmes of England and Ireland, all, or any of his or their goods, and all or any of the Roods or his or their associates and companies, and every or any of them, with such other necessaries and commodities of any of our Realmes, as to the said lord treasurer or foure of the privie counsell of us, our heires, or successours for the time being, as aforesayd, shall be from time to time by his or their wisdoms or discretions thought meete and convenient for the better reliefe and supportation of him the sayd sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, and every or any of them, and his and their, and every or any of their said associates and companies, any act, statute, lawe, or other thing to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Provided alwayes, and our will and pleasure is, and wee doe hereby declare to all Christian Kings, princes and states, that if the said sir Humfrey, his heires or assignee, or any of them, or any other by their licence or appointment, shall at any time or times hereafter robbe or spoile by Sea or by land, or doe any act of unjust and unlawful! hostilitie to any of the Subjects of us, our heires, or successours, or any of the Subjects of any King, prince, ruler, governour or state being then in perfect league and amitie with us, our heires or successours: and that upon such injurie, or upon just complaint of any such prince, ruler, governour or state, or their subjects, wee, our heires or successours shall make open proclamation within any of the portes of our Realme of England commodious, that the said Sir Humfrey, his heires or assignee or any other to whom these our Letters patents may extend, shall within the terme to be limited by such proclamations, make such restitution and satisfaction of all such injuries done, so as both we and the said Princes, or others so

complayning, may holde us and themselves fully contented: And if the saide Sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, shall not make or cause to bee made satisfaction accordingly, within such time so to be limited; that then it shall be lawfull to us, our heires and successours, to put the said Sir Humfrey, his heires and assignee, and adherents, and all the inhabitants of the said places to be discovered as is aforesaide, or any of them out of our allegiance and protection, and that from and after such time of putting out of protection the saide Sir Humfrey, and his heires, assignes, adherents and others so to be put out, and the said places within their habitation, possession and rule, shall be out of our protection and allegiance, and free for all princes and others to pursue with hostilitie as being not our Subjects, nor by us any way to be advowed, maintained or defended, nor to be holden as any of ours, nor to our protection, dominion or allegiance any way belonging, for that expresse mention, &c. In witsesse whereof, &c. Witsesse ourselve at Westminster the 11, day of June, the twentieth yeere of our raigne. Anno Dom 1578.

PER IPSAM REGINAM, & C.

CHARTER TO SIR WALTER RALEGH⁴ - 1584⁵

Elizabeth by the Grace of God of England, Fraunce and Ireland Queene, defender of the faith, &c. To all people to whome these presents shall come, greeting.

Knowe yee that of our especial grace, certaine science, and meere motion, we haue given and graunted, and by these presents for us, our heires and successours, we giue and graunt to our trustie and welbeloued seruant *Walter Raleigh*, Esquire, and to his heires assignee for euer, free libertie and licence from time to time, and at all times for ever hereafter, to discover, search, finde out, and view such remote, heathen and barbarous lands, countries, and territories, not actually possessed of any Christian Prince, nor inhabited by Christian People, as to him, his heires and assignee, and to every or any of them shall seeme good, and the same to haue, horde, occupie and enjoy to him, his heires and assignee for euer, with all prerogatives, commodities, jurisdictions, royalties, privileges, franchises, and preheminences, thereto

⁴ Durante la época isabelina, la ortografía del apellido Raleigh fue muy variada. El mismo sir Walter solía escribirlo de distintas maneras, pero jamás lo escribió con una "i", de tal suerte que se pronunciaba como "Rawley". La costumbre de escribirlo con la "i" se adoptó posteriormente.

⁵ Tomado de Thorpe Francis Newton, ed., *The Federal and State Constitutions, Colonial Charters, and other organic Laws of the States, Territories, and Colonies now or heretofore forming the United States of America*, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1909, vol. I, pp. 53-57.

or thereabouts both by sea and land, whatsoever we by our letters patents may graunt, and as we or any of our noble progenitors haue heretofore graunted to any person or persons, bodies politique.or corporate: and the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee, and all such as from time to time, by licence of us, our heires and successors, shall goe or trauaile thither to inhabite or remaine, there to build and fortifie, at the discretion of the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee, the statutes or acte of Parliament made against fugitives, or against such as shall depart, romaine or continue out of our Realme of England without licence, or any other statute, acte, lawe, or any ordinance whatsoever to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.

And we do likewise by these presents, of our especial grace, meere motion, and certain knowledge, for us, our heires and successors, giue and graunt full authoritie, libertie and power to the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee, and every of them, that he and they, and euery or any of them, shall and may at all and euery time, and times hereafter, haue, take, and leade in the saide voyage, and trauaile thitherward, or to inhabit there with him, or them, and euery or any of them, such and so many of our subjects as shall willingly accompanie him or them, and euery or any of them to whom also we doe by these presents, giue full libertie and authority in that behalfe, and also to hare, take, and employ, and vse sufficient shipping and furniture for the Transportations and Nauigations in that behalfe, so that none of the same persons or any of them, be such as hereafter shall be restrained by us, our heires, or successors.

And further that the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee, and euery of them, shall haue holde, occupie, and enioye to him, his heires and assignee, and euery of them for euer, all the soile of all such lands, territories, and Countreis, so to bee discovered and possessed as aforesaide, and of all such Cities, castles, townes, villages, and places in the same, with the right, royalties, franchises, and iurisdictions, as well marine as other within the saide lances, or Countreis, or the seas thereunto adioyning, to be had, or used, with full power to dispose thereof, and of euery part in fee-simple or otherwise, according to the order of the lawes of England, as neere as the same conveniently may bee, at his, and their will and pleasure, to any persons then being, or that shall romaine within the allegiance of us, our heires, and successors: resewing always to us our heires, and successors, for all services, duties, and demaundes, the lift part of all the oare of golde and siluer, that from time to time, and at all times after such discouerie, subduing and possessing, shall be there gotten and obtained: All which lances, Countreis, and territories, shall for ever be holden of the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee, of us, our heirs and successors, by homage, and by the said paiment of the said fift part, resewed onely for all services.

And moreover, we doe by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, giue and graunt licence to the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heirs, and assignee, and euery of them, that he, and they, and euery or any of them, shall and may from time to time, and at all times for euer hereafter, for his and their defence, encounter and expulse, repell and resist as well by sea as by lance, and by all other wayes whatsoever, all, and every such person and persons whatsoever, as without the especiall liking and licence of the saide *Walter Raleigh*, and of his heires and assignee, shall attempt to inhabite within the said Countreis, or any of them, or within the space of two hundred leagues neere to the place or places within such Countreis as aforesaide (if they shall not bee before planted or inhabited within the limits as aforesaide with the subjects of any Christian Prince being in amitie with us) where the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires, or assignee, or any of them, or his, or their or any of their associates or company, shall within sine yeeres (next ensuing) make their dwellings or abidings, or that shall enterprise or attempt at any time hereafter unlawfully to annoy, either by sea or lance, the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heirs or assignee, or any of them, or his or their, or any of his or their companies giuing, and graunting by these presents further power and authoritie, to the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heirs and assignee, and euery of them from time to time, and at all times for euer hereafter, to take and surprise by all maner of meanes whatsoever, all and euery those person or persons, with their shipper, vessels, and other goods and furniture, which without the licence of the saide *Walter Raleigh*, or his heires, or assignee, as aforesaide, shalbe founde trafficking into any harbour or harbors, creeke, or creekes, within the limits aforesaide, (the subjects of our Realms and Dominions, and all other persons in amitie with us, trading to the *Newfound land* for fishing as heretofore they haue commonly used, or being driven by force of a tempest, or shipwracke onely excepted:) and those persons, and euery of them, with their shippes, vessels, goods and furniture to deteine and possesse as of good and lawfull prize, according to the discretion of him the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires, and assignee, and euery, or any of them. And for uniting in more perfect league and amitie, of such Countreis, lances, and territories so to bee possessed and inhabited as aforesaide with our Realmes of Englande, and Ireland, and the better encouragement of men to these enterprises: we do by these presents, graunt and declare that all such Countreis, so hereafter to be possessed and inhabited as is aforesaide, from thencefoorth shall bee of the allegiance of vs, our heires and successours. And wee doe graunt to the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires, and assignee, and to all, and euery of them, and to all and euery other person, and persons being of our allegiance, whose names shall be noted or entred in some of our Courtes of recorde within our Realme of Englande, that with the assentof the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires or assignes, shall in his journeis for discouerie, or in

the iourneis for conquest, hereafter trauelle to such lands, countreis and territories, as aforesaide, and to their, and to euery of their heires, that they, and every or any of them, being either borne within our saide Realmes of Englande, or Irelande or in any other place within our allegiance, and which hereafter shall be inliabiting within any the lands, Countreis, and territories, with such licence (as aforesaide) shall and may haue all the priniledges of free Denizens, and persons native of England, and within our allegiance in such like ample manor and fourme, as if they were borne and personally resident within our saide Realme of England, any lawe, custome, or vsage to the contrary notwithstanding

And for asmuch as upon the finding out, discovering, or inhabiting of such remote lands, countreis, and territories as aforesaid, it shal be necessary for the safetie of al men, that shal aduenture them selues in those iournies or voyages, to determine to line together in Christian peace, and ciuil quietnes each with other, whereby euery one may with snore pleasure and profit enjoy that whereunto they shall attaine with great Paine and perill, we for vs, our heires and successors, are likewise pleased and contented, and by these presents do giue and graunt to the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee for ever, that tree and they, and euery or any of them, shall and may from time to time for euer hereafter, within the said mentioned remote lances and Countreis in the way by the seas thither, and from thence, inane full and meere power and authoritie to correct, punish, pardon, gouerne, and rule by their and euery or any of their good discretions and pollicies, as well in causes capital, or criminall, as ciuil, both marine and other all such our subjects as shall from time to time aduenture themselves in the said iournies or voyages, or that shall at any time hereafter inhabite any such lances, countreis, or territories as aforesaide, or shall abide within 200. leagues of any of the saide place or places, where the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires or assignee, or any of them, or any of his or their associates or companies, shall inhabits within 6. yeeres next ensuing the date hereof, according to such statutes, lawes and ordinances, as shall bee by him the saide *Walter Raleigh* his heires and assignee, and euery or any of them deuised, or established, for the better government of the said people as aforesaid. So always as the said statutes, lawes, and ordinances may be as neere as conveniently may be, agreeable to the forme of the lawes, statutes, gouvernement, or pollicie of England, and also so as they be not against the true Christian faith, nowe professed in the Church of England, nor in any wise to withdraws any of the subjects or people of those lances or places from the allegiance of vs, our heires and successours, as their immediate Soueraigne vnder God.

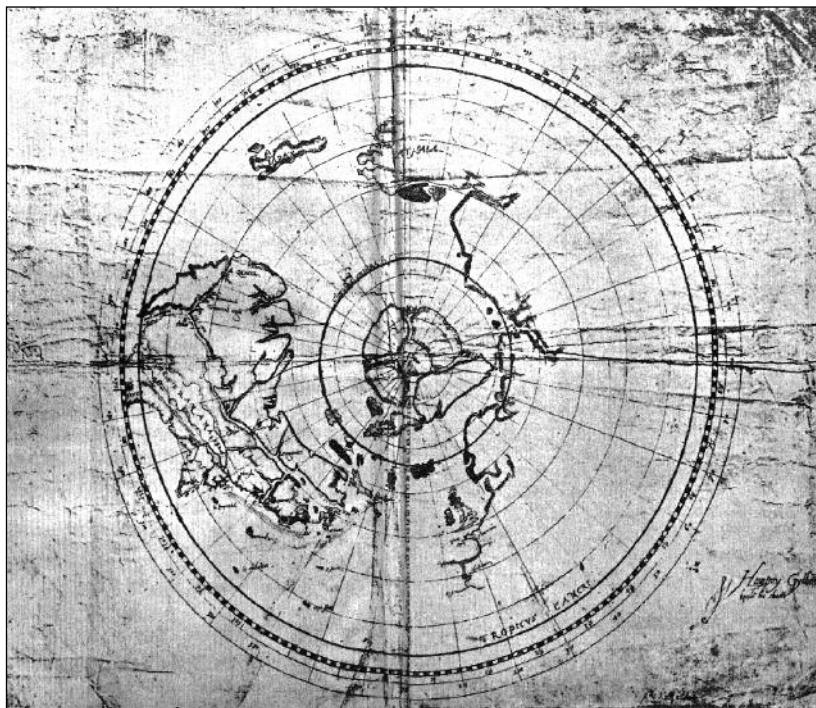
And further, wee doe by these presents for vs, our heires and successors, giue and graunt full power and authoritie to our trustie and welbeloued counsailler sir *William Cicill* knight, Lorde *Burghley*, our high Treasurer of England, and to the Lorde

Treasurer of England, for vs, our heires and successors for the time being, and to the priuie Counsell, of us, our heirs and successours, or any foure or more of them for the time being, that hee, they, or any foure or more of them, shall and may from time to time, and at all times hereafter, under his or their handes or scales by vertue of these presents, authorise and licence the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee. and euery or any of them by him, and by themselves, or by their, of any of their sufficient Attornies, deputies, officers, ministers, factors. and servants, to imbarke and transport out of our Realme of England and Ireland, and the Dominions thereof all, or any of his, or their goods, and all or any the goods of his and their associate and companies, and euery or any of them, with such other necessaries and commodities of any our Realmes, as to the saide Lorde Treasurer, or foure or more of the priuie Counsaile, of vs, our heires and successors for the time being (as aforesaide) shalbe from time to time by his or their wisdomes, or discretions thought meete and convenient, for the better reliefe and supportation of him the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires, and assignee, and euery or any of them, and of his or their or any of their associate and companies, any acte, statute, lawe, or other thing to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Provided alwayes, and our will and pleasure is, and wee do hereby declare to all Christian kings, princes and states, that if the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires or assignee, or any of them, or any other lay their licence or appointment, shall at any time or times hereafter, robbe or spoile by sea or by lance, or do any acte of unjust or unlawful hostilitie, to any of the subjects of vs, our heires or successors, or to any of the subjects of any the kings, princes, rulers, governors, or estates, being then in perfect league and amitie with us, our heires and successors, and that upon such injury, or upon lust complaint of any such prince, ruler, gouvernoir, or estate, or their subjects, wee, our heires and successours, shall make open proclamation within any the Fortes of our Realme of England, that the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee, and adherents, or any to whome these our letters patents may extende, shall within the termes to be Emitted, by such proclamation, make full restitution, and satisfaction of all such injuries done, so as both we and the said princes, or other so complayning, may holde vs and themselves fully contented. And that if the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee, shall not make or cause to be made satisfaction accordingly, within such time so to be limitted, that then it shall be lawfull to us our heires and successors, to put the saide *Walter Raleigh*, his heires and assignee and adherents, and all the inhabitants of the said places to be discovered (as is aforesaide) or any of them out of our allegiance and protection, and that from and after such time of putting out of protection the said *Walter Raleigh*, his heires, assignee and adherents, and others so to be put out, and the said places within their habitation,

possession and rule, shal be out of our allegiance and protection, and free for all princes and others, to pursue with hostilitie, as being not our subjects, nor by vs any way to be avouched, maintained or defended, nor to be holden as any of ours, nor to our protection or dominion, or allegiance any way belonging, for that expresse mention of the cleer yeerely value of tile certaintie of the premisses, or any part thereof, or of any other gift, or grant by vs, or any our progenitors, or predecessors to the said *Walter Raleigh*, before this time made in these presents be not expressed, or any other grant, ordinance, provision, proclamation, or restraint to the contrarye thereof, before this time giuen, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, in any wise notwithstanding. In witness whereof, we haue caused these our letters to be made patents. Witnessse our selues, at *Westminster*, the 25, day of March, in the sixe and twentieth yeere of our Raigne.

MAPA DE NORTEAMÉRICA Y LA REGIÓN ÁRTICA DIBUJADO
POR SIR HUMPHREY GILBERT, CIRCA 1582*



* Reproducido en Donald Barr Chidsey, *Sir Humphrey Gilbert. Elizabeth's racketeer*, Nueva York, Harper and Brothers, MCMXXXII, p. 207.