

Now the brigantines which the Spaniards made in Texcoco, came against Mexico.



The Spaniards while in Tlascala constructed twelve brigantines, and before they armed them, the Indians brought them in pieces to Texcoco, There they put them together, and tarred them and equipped them, and put in them artillery and ammunition. Then those who were assigned to them entered on board, and came by the lake to a landing place called Atachinanes, which is near to Mexico, in that place the direction of the Church of Sant Anton, and the houses of Alvarado. The captain Hernando Cortes then embarked and before they began to ^{sound the depths of} ~~sound the depths of~~ the water in the directions ~~that~~ ~~the water takes the soundings in the direction~~ that they had to go. When they had thus ascertained their route they immediately appeared a warlike aspect on board of the brigantines and advanced in order with banners des-

The present state of the
 world is such that the
 human mind is not
 able to grasp the
 true nature of things
 as they are. The
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played and great sound of drums and
 pipes, and began to attack the Mexicans. Many
 of the Mexicans whose houses were built in
 the water, when they found the war commen-
 -cing on the lake, fled with their wives and
 children. Some carried their children on their
 shoulders, and others in their canoes. They
 left all their effects in their houses, and the
 Indians who accompanied the Spaniards, entered
 the houses and plundered them. The Indians
 of Tlatibulco came ~~there~~ in their canoes to
 make battle, and the Spaniards found the
 canal, by which they were to proceed, stopped
 up by (altamirano y pared) a wall, behind
 which the enemy had collected to defend
 the pass.  The Spaniards, however, ~~after~~
 attacked and cleared away the wall, and
 turning the artillery of their Brigantines ~~up~~
 and their musketry
 upon those places where the canoes of the
 enemy were most crowded together, made
 great havoc. Upon this the Mexicans scattered
 themselves abroad, and so began to be ~~after~~

extremely wary and fearful of the artillery,
 raising their canoes in a serpentine course, and
 whenever they saw the flash of a gun, throw-
 ing themselves flat in their vessels. In this way
 they retreated towards the houses, leaving the
 route of the Spaniards unimpeded. The latter
 now proceeded to a place called Vitzillan,
 which was near to where at present stands the
 church of Saint Paul. There the natives had
 made another wall, and many had ~~collected~~
 stationed themselves behind to defend it. The
 Spaniards paused for a time, therefore, until
 the artillery could be prepared to batter the
 wall.



SHR.

