

Cortez had planned his campaign well.

~~He had not.~~

Just a year before in a desperate and nightmarish struggle ~~he had~~ ^{on rain and} total darkness ~~the~~ the spaniards had attempted a breakout from ^{the} their beleaguered palace of Apayacatl. Surprise had been impossible, ~~as~~ ^{as} then they moved onto the tacuba causeway. Only ~~about~~ ^{two of the} ~~two~~ ^{could be} eight bridges ~~had been~~ negotiated before ^{porters} ~~they~~ ^{the army} were completely surrounded. The makeshift bridge with which they had hoped to span the opened gaps in the cause way was stuck in the second gap and what with ^{and confusion} the over crowding ^{soon} on the causeway it was abandoned in a general rout as an "every man for himself" mentality took over. ~~But~~ Burdened as they were with an extensive ^{and non combative} baggage train of porters, artillery, ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~and~~ ^{nevertheless} it ~~is~~ ^{is} remarkable that anyone made it out. The results were disastrous enough. In spite of Cortez's attempts to gloss over this event in his letters to the emperor Charles V it is ~~now~~ ^{now} fairly evident that he had lost nearly half his force of spaniards and a majority of his eight thousand indian allies, that many of these seeing that it had become impossible to go forward had been forced to retreat back to the palace from which they had come where in the next days they were either ^{outrightly} killed or captured and sacrificed.

~~The survivors~~ ^{were} ~~all~~ ^{badly} exhausted and wounded

The survivors badly wounded and exhausted had lost all of their artillery, many crossbows and other vital equipment, ~~and~~ ^{and} many of their horses and all of their treasure

