

As for the allies, flushed with the excitement
of their great cannibal victory, Mar 9, 1993

It was already raining heavily that August
Afternoon as ~~the~~ long files of combatants began
retracing their return to base camps on the causeways.
Only hours before the ^{Mexican} ~~the~~ Emperor Cuauhtemoc in
with ^{those who} what remained of his royal councilors and general
staff had surrendered to the combined forces of some
nine hundred Spaniards and one hundred fifty
thousand indian allies. It had taken seventy days
of siege, ~~the~~ an apocalypse of war, starvation, disease
and death to ^{bring an end to} ~~put an end to~~ ^a ~~the~~ determined and desperate
^{resistance} defence which despite a few notable ^{after} victories ~~on their~~
~~had never really been in doubt~~. Victory had never really been
in doubt yet. Passing back through the city there must have been
many mired feelings among the victors as they
surveyed a ^{great} city in almost ^{total} complete ruin.

Mexico Tenochtitlan - Tlatelolco renowned throughout
meso america for its ^{rich} ~~its~~ ^{to} might and great beauty, its
deep devotion to the gods, ^{its} the orderliness in all things
and in the elegance, piety and gentle good manners
of its people, ^{well} known also for its ruthless extortions
of subject peoples, its relentless and extravagant
tribute demands, and ^{the} ~~the~~ implacable viciousness
of its punishments ^{of} ~~of~~ the rebellious for any behavior
even hinting of rebellion ^{spanish} allies, ^{the} ~~the~~ indians ^{already}

As for the ~~spaniards~~ indian allies, flushed
with the excitement of a great cannibal victory,
unstoppable in their cruelty as they cut ^{great} ~~a~~ swaths of

vengeance through the ~~mangled~~ mangled, mangled mobs of
defenseless survivors while their Spanish
masters could only look on in horrified silence.
They too ^{must} have had mangled feelings, ^{as they} passed through
the stench and desolation of their conquest.

with Because of its peculiar lacustrine nature,
its ^{internal} network of canals and bridges and the general
lawiness of the buildings lining the roads and
causeways the city was a veritable fortress in the
water. ~~It~~ as formidable in its internal defenses
as it was at its periphery. The attackers had learned
by ^{bitter} tragic experience that if they were to succeed in any
their campaigns ~~that~~ against it that the first order
of business must be ^{the} control of the lake itself even
before any investiture could begin. To this end, thirteen
brigantines had been constructed in Tlapcala
during the Spanish recuperation from their disastrous
escape from Tenochtitlan ^{the overthrow of} or the Noche Triste.

These were then dismantled and in an epic chapter
of this ^{story} ~~history~~ were hauled piecemeal over the mountains
to ~~the~~ the city of Texcoco some ten miles to
the east and across the lake from Mexico.

While a two mile long canal was being ~~prepared~~
for dug and readied for their launchings these
vessels were reconstructed and outfitted with sails
and rigging and armament.

The result was a small armada of powerful
gunboats, ^{each} some thirty seven to almost fifty feet in
length, armed with a small artillery piece in the bows

and capable of propulsion by either sail or oars and
paddles. Upon their launching it became evident to
Cortez that he had succeeded beyond his hopes. These
vessels proved to be seaworthy, swift, ^{from the fastest Indian canoe} and very
maneuverable. They could carry archers, musketeers,
and artillery ~~and~~ even horses, ^{and able to reinforce} ~~providing~~ ^{by} many
of the land operations and providing invaluable
protection from flanking attacks. With the presence
of this navy on the lake the Aztec fate was all but
sealed.