

## Santiana (Plains of Mexico)

1. Santiana gained the day

**Hurray! Santiana**

Santiana gained the day

**All along the plains of Mexico.**

**Heave 'er up and away we'll go,**

**Hurray! Santiana!**

**Heave her up and away we'll go**

**All along the plains of Mexico.**

2. Santiana fought for fame

**Hurray! Santiana**

Santiana made this day

**All along the plains of Mexico.**

3. He gained the day ay Molly-del-rey

**Hurray! Santiana**

And General Taylor ran away

**All along the plains of Mexico.**

4. Santiana's dead and gone

**Hurray! Santiana**

Santiana's day is done

**All along the plains of Mexico.**

5. Santiana gained the day

**Hurray! Santiana**

Santiana gained the day

**All along the plains of Mexico.**

**Heave 'er up and away we'll go,**

**Hurray! Santiana!**

**Heave her up and away we'll go**

**All along the plains of Mexico.**

Sing with **The Young 'Uns** and thewir flash mob at <https://youtu.be/EU4NTsT-yoQ>

**Sean Dagher** gives a good introduction to the song then sings a version about the battle of Monterey at <https://youtu.be/cRQefFL9ssl>, using ghe chorus: High-oh! Santiana! / All across the Plains of Mexico.

### Notes

Pump shanty, later adapted for the capstan.

**Other names and spellings:** The Plains of Mexico, Santiana, Santianna, Santiano, Santy Anna, Santy Ano.

**Molly-del-rey** - Monterrey, Mexico (not California). The battle of Monterrey in September 1846 was part of the Mexican-American war of 1846-1848. Santa Anna - Antonio Lopez de Santa Aña - lost the battle to General Zachary Taylor.

A L (Bert) Lloyd wrote in his sleeve notes for [The Coast of Peru](#):

Many British sailors deserted their ships to join Santa Aña's army, and perhaps it was affection for the Mexican seaports that made the shanty singers reverse the run of history in their songs.

Stan **Hugill**, in *Shanties of the Seven Seas*, 1994, gives three versions that have slightly different tunes and verses covering

1. the unhistorical story of Santiana
2. the Spanish señoritas (with no mention of Santiana)
3. the benevolent sailor (similar to [Stormalong](#))

Hugill says its origin is veiled in mystery but likely a negro source. he adds that Bone (Captain David W Bone) thinks it may have originated from a sailor's prayer to Sainte Anne, patron saint of Breton seamen,



Lithograph by **Adolphe Jean-Baptiste Bayot** (1810–1866) after a drawing by **Carl Nebel** (1805–1855)

**US troops marching on Monterrey during the Mexican-American War**

From the 1851 book "*The War Between the United States and Mexico, Illustrated*". via [wikimedia](#)