

## Santy Anno

1. We're sailing down the river from Liverpool  
Heave away Santy Anno  
Around Cape Horn to Frisco Bay  
All on the plains of Mexico
6. Oh, Santiana fought for fame,  
Oh, Santiana gained a name.
7. An' Zacharias Taylor ran away,  
He ran away at Molley-Del-Rey.

## Chorus

So heave her up and away we'll go  
Heave away Santy Anno  
Heave her up and away we'll go  
All on the plains of Mexico

8. Santiana's men were brave,  
Many found a soldier's grave.
9. 'Twas a fierce & bitter strife,  
Hand to hand they fought for life.

**Alternate chorus:**

Mexico, oh Mexico  
Away Santy Anno  
Mexico is a place I know  
All on the plains of Mexico

2. She's a clipper fast ship and a bully good crew  
A down-east Yankee for her captain, too.
3. Oh, Santiana gain'd the day!  
Oh, Santiana gain'd the day!
4. He gained the day at Molley-Del-Rey,  
An' General Taylor ran away.
5. All of his men were brave and true,  
Every soldier brave and true.
12. 'Twas on the field of Molley-Del-Rey,  
Santiana lost a leg that day.
13. Oh, Santiana's day is o'er,  
Santiana will fight no more.
13. Oh, Santiana's gone away,  
Far from the field of Molley-Del-Rey.
14. Oh, Santiana now we mourn,  
We left him buried off Cape Horn.

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A capstan chanty. "Santianna", also known as "Santiana", "Santayana", "Santiano", "Santy Anna", "Santy Anno" and other variations, refers to the Mexican General Antonio López de Santa Anna. The song is listed as number 207 in the Roud **Folk Song Index**. The theme of the shanty, which dates from at least the 1850s, may have been inspired by topical events in the news related to conflicts between the armies of Mexico, commanded by Antonio López de Santa Anna, and the U.S., commanded by Zachary Taylor, in the Mexican-American War. The lyrics are not historically accurate: for example, both the Battle of Monterrey and the Battle of Molino del Rey (different versions refer to one or other) were US victories, not Mexican ones. This song is thematically (but not melodically) to the fiddle/banjo tune "Santa Anna's Retreat". The melody is a good strong one, atypically in Dorian mode. The chorus is sung to the same melody as the verse. It was recorded by Burl Ives, The Kingston Trio, The Highwaymen, The Hardtackers and other sea song groups.