

he had gone out on discovery, came with a great ship, returning from Brazil* on the coast of Tierra Firme, and from thence he crossed to this Island Espanola, and came near the mouth of the port of this City of Santo Domingo. He sent his boat full of men and sought license to come in there, saying that he came with merchandise and for traffic. At this moment, the Alcalde, ^{San} Francisco de Tapia,† ordered a blank charge to be fired from the Castle at the ship, which was coming right into port. When the English saw this they retired outside, and those in the boat embarked and went back to their ship.

In truth the Alcalde committed an error in what he did, because if the ship had entered, it would not have gone out again against the will of the City and the Castle. Thus seeing the manner in which they were received, they took the direction of the Island of Sant Juan, and entering the bay of Sant German, they spoke to the people of that city, &c.

XLIV.—HERRERA ON THE VOYAGE OF 1527.

Herrera, *Historia general de los hechos de los Castellanos en las Islas y Tierra Firme del Mar Oceano*. Madrid, 1601. Decada II, Libro V, Cap. III.

(The following extract is placed in the Spanish work, under the year 1519, but in Navarro's own manuscript,‡ as we were informed by the late Buckingham Smith, the date of the report is, St. Juan, November 19th, 1527. We know also, from Oviedo, that this is the correct one.)

Cap. III. Of an English ship, which came to the Indies; and of the state in which the Islands were.

The ships which carried the gold, the pearls and the common merchandise having sailed, a caravel of Santo Domingo being in

*The account in Herrera, that the ship had come from Newfoundland, seems to be the correct one.

† Tapia died in January, 1533, and Oviedo himself was appointed as his successor, holding the appointment until 1554, though several times crossing the Ocean to Spain. In 1549 he became also Regidor of St. Domingo City; resigned his office 1556, returned home and died in 1557, aged 79.

‡ Entitled "A copy of a letter authorized by Domo. Cavallero, escrivano of the Audiencia of Espanola," &c., &c. MS. in Seville.