

**A LETTER WRITTEN ON OCTOBER
4, 1589 BY CAPTAIN CUELLAR
OF THE SPANISH ARMADA TO
HIS MAJESTY KING PHILIP II**

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A Letter Written on October 4, 1589 by Captain Cuellar of the Spanish Armada to His Majesty King Philip II by Francisco de Cuellar & Jr. Sedgwick

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FRANCISCO DE CUELLAR & JR. SEDGWICK

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Note

ON the 28th and 29th days of May, 1588, the *Invincible Armada* set sail from the mouth of the Tagus under the command of the Duke of Medina Sidonia, to conquer England, dethrone Elizabeth, and restore the Apostolic Roman Catholic faith. It met contrary winds, and was driven back to Spain. A second time it put forth, and on July 22d sailed from Corunna. In eight

days a favourable wind brought the SAN MARTIN, the flagship, which had lagged behind to guard the slowest vessels, in sight of the English coast. On July 31st, Howard and Drake attacked the Spanish fleet; from that day on there was a constant running fight up the Channel to Calais, where the Spaniards anchored on August 6th. The Armada's plan was to protect the Prince of Parma and his army during the passage of their transport boats from Dunkirk to England. On the 8th, the English fleet forced the fighting and won a complete victory. On

the 9th, the broken Armada was flying from the English up the North Sea, hoping to escape by doubling the north ends of Scotland and Ireland, and out into the Atlantic, and so homeward to Spain. Mr. Froude has given a brilliant description of these events in "The Spanish Story of the Armada." His essay does not pretend to be the result of any original investigation; it is wholly taken from a book entitled "La Armada Invencible," published in Madrid in 1885 by El Capitan Cesáreo Fernández Duro. This book is mainly a compilation of

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	<p><i>various documents, such as letters from the Duke of Medina Sidonia to Philip II., preserved in the Spanish archives and not before published. Among these documents is the following letter from Captain Cuellar, one of the officers in the Armada, to Philip II. In his narrative Froude gives an abridgment of it, but the letter seems worthy to be read at length.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>

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To His Majesty King Philip II.

