AROUND THE WORLD

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MR. AND MRS. JEFFERSON C. GRINNALDS
AS A MEMORIAL TO HIS MOTHER
ROBERTA SARAH TWYFORD

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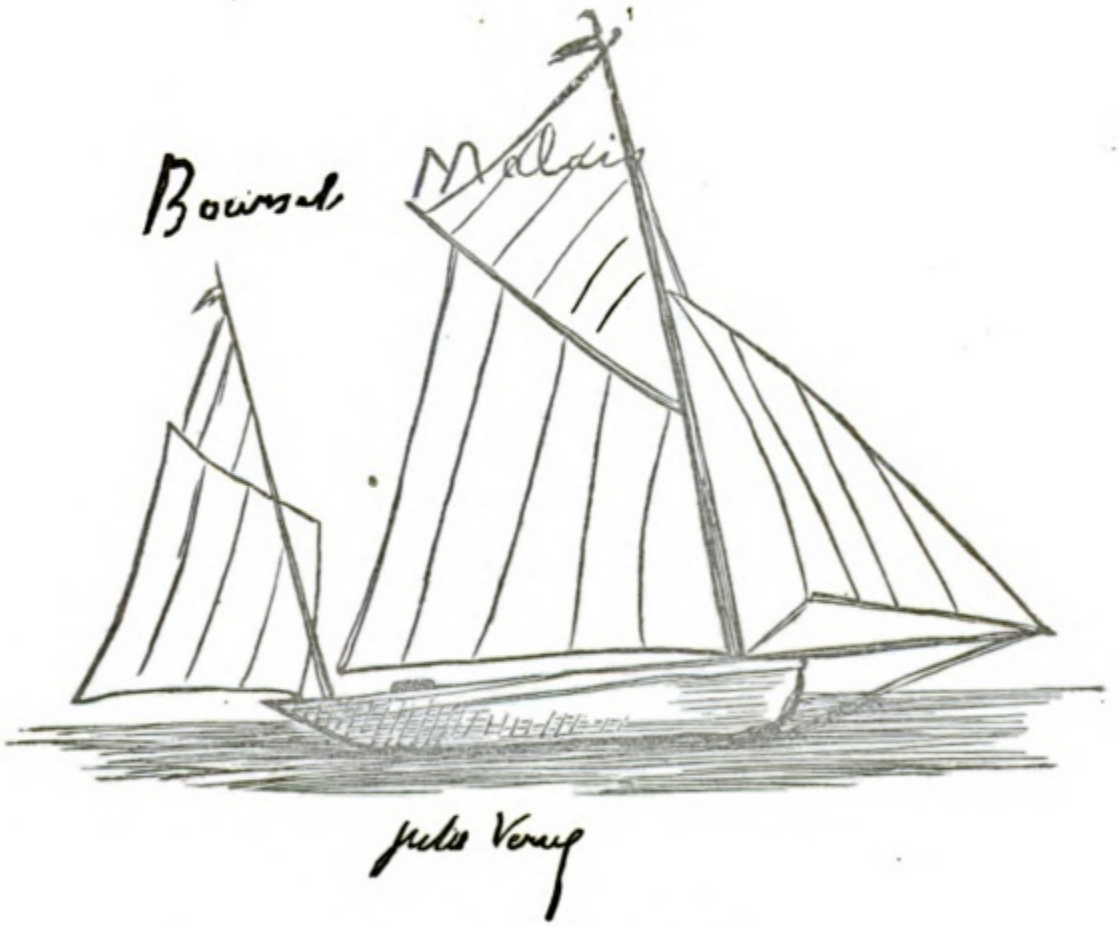

THE "SAINT MICHAEL."

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Verne studied law, and became a barrister. Then, under the auspices of Captain Darpentigny, a well-known chiromancer, he became intimate with the Dumases, father and son, wrote pieces in conjunction with them, and afterwards worked alone, producing several libretti which had some success at the Théâtre Lyrique, under the direction of the Sevestes and Rety. Among them were "Les Pailles Rompus," "L'Auberge des Ardennes," "Le Colin Maillard," "Onze Jours de Siège," and some operettas, the titles of which escape me. He makes verses with extreme ease; and if ever there was a person who could be called marvellously gifted, it is Jules Verne.

He was a broker in the firm of Eggley, in which he had, and still has, a pecuniary interest, when the success of "Five Weeks in a Balloon" induced him to turn his whole attention to scientific romance.

He brings to his so justly popular works an ardour and faith which greatly contribute to their success. He shrinks from no pains to procure information, and he is careful to fully establish beforehand the facts which he asserts.

He went to America, and returned with the plan of the "Floating City." He accomplished his voyage in ninety-six days, on the "Great Eastern." On reaching New York, he

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did not saunter about Broadway, looking in shop-windows, but took the railway and went six hundred leagues to see Niagara Falls, of which he cannot yet speak without emotion.

Verne is overwhelmed with requests from dramatists to be permitted to dramatize his works. He is not disinclined to yield to their wishes, and has shown me some very original ideas in regard to scenery, which seem likely to enrich the managers, who may choose to put some hundreds of thousands of francs at the service of his labours, by millions. He has nearly finished, with Cadol, the "Around the World," and proposes to substitute for the ordinary drop-curtain a planisphere, on which a luminous trail shall mark between each act the road gone over by the heroes in their tour across the four quarters of the globe. He is also preparing "The Marvels of Science," a great piece of mechanism, which will borrow its effect, not only from painting, velvet, and the ballet, but from the dynamic agents of physics, chemistry, and mechanics. But I must stop. I might write a volume about this eloquent, witty, affable, and sympathetic man, whose biography may, however, be included in these words: "A Breton, a Catholic, and a sailor."

ADRIEN MARX.

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JEAN PASSEPARTOUT —Page 6.

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DETECTIVE FIX. — Page 35.

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"In Africa!" repeated Passepartout. "Just think, monsieur, I had no idea that we should go farther than Paris; and all that I saw of Paris was between twenty minutes past seven and twenty minutes before nine in the morning, between the Northern and the Lyons stations, through the windows of a car, and in a driving rain! How I regret not having seen once more Père la Chaise and the circus in the Champs Elysées!"

"You are in a great hurry, then?"

"I am not, but my master is. By the way, I must buy some shoes and shirts. We came away without trunks, only with a carpet-bag."

"I will show you an excellent shop for getting what you want."

"Really, monsieur, you are very kind."

And they walked off together, Passepartout chatting volubly as they went along.

"Above all," said he, "don't let me lose the steamer."

"You have plenty of time; it's only twelve o'clock."

Passepartout pulled out his big watch. "Twelve!" he exclaimed; "why it's only eight minutes before ten."

"Your watch is slow."

"My watch? A family watch, monsieur, which has come down from my great-grandfather! It doesn't vary five minutes in the year, it's a perfect chronometer, look you."

"I see how it is," said Fix. "You have kept London

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