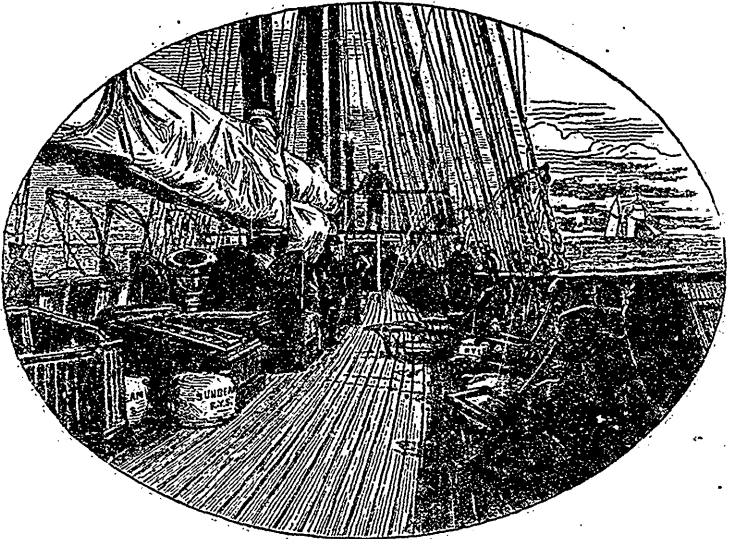


of a lady's boudoir. But when you step outside of the door, everything is ship-shape—the deck clean as holystone can make it, the brass work brightly burnished, and the sails neatly stowed. The yacht was so constructed that with a favouring wind the funnel could be lowered, and sails alone be used; but when necessary steam could be used as an auxiliary, or indeed as the sole motive power.

The chapters of this book consist of familiar journal letters, written to friends at home, and present vividly the result of the author's keen observation and picturesque description, and many



DECK VIEW ON THE "SUNBEAM."

of the pictures are from her own photographs. Our travellers everywhere received the most distinguished courtesies from British and foreign consuls, governors, and persons of influence, and enjoyed very exceptional opportunities of seeing everything that was to be seen in the various places they visited.

On September 11th, 1874, Mrs. Brassey went on board the *Sunbeam*, which was riding at anchor off Ryde. She had been belated, so that it was pitch dark, a heavy gale was blowing, it was pouring rain, and the gig shipped seas which kept three men bailing. Such was the unpropitious beginning of what proved a very pleasant and prosperous voyage.

Sailing across the Bay of Biscay, they skirted the coast of