

THE CONSTELLATION WAR-SHIP.

(Sent by the United States Government with food for the Irish poor, 1880.)

BY JOSIAH W. LEEDS.

Oh, favoured *Constellation*, late sailing o'er the sea,
Deep freighted with the offerings that sweet mercy sends
by thee,
Was there ever grander service by a gallant war-ship
done,
Or ever nobler triumph thus attempted to be won?

From the port-holes of this war-ship pe grim cannon's
mouth doth glare—
On the deck-planks of this vessel neither shot nor shell
are there,
And the flag that proudly flutters at the mast-head far
above,
Is no signal of defiance, but a pennon broad of love.

All the day let favouring west-winds speed thee swiftly to
thy goal,
All the night let ocean's billows from thy prow to rudder
roll,
And the stars that stud the azure their benignant vigils
keep,
Every heavenly constellation bend in love above the
deep.

On thy rugged coasts, oh Connaught! now the waves of
welcome break,
And the heights of Connemara all the grateful echoes
wake,
For a deed that Heaven smiles on is voiced from every
wave—
The war-ship! yes, the war-ship! it comes men's lives
to save.

Oh, better, braver, grander, to use our brethren so,
Than with bursting shell and grape-shot to lay them
bleeding low—
Than to break that great commandment, which by Him,
who knoweth best,
Was to all the after ages thus in words of truth ex-
pressed:

"If thy enemy be hungry, let this gracious thought be
first—
To feed him with thy substance, and with drink t'assuage
his thirst,
For by doing so thou surely shalt kill the hate within—
Thou wilt also gain thy brother—thou wilt save thy soul
from sin."

THE DINING ROOM.

CABINETS AND BUFFETS—TABLE LINEN—SILVER
AND CHINA—DINNER AND TEA SETS—
FLOWERS FOR TABLE DECORATION.

Cabinets are made in the same style as the book-
case, and are sometimes in ebony instead of the
rich oak or other natural woods that the dining-
rooms are generally finished in. Occasionally
the backs of the deep recesses have pictures set
within them, and now and then thick bevelled
mirrors are placed behind the lower shelves, re-
flecting back the china and silver placed upon
them, and a mirror is set at the back of the
large centre recess. The same thick bevelled
glass is used for the doors of the little cup-
boards in the sideboards, which are filled with
thin antique glass set in gilding in the old
fashion, or with old and antique pieces of china.

For dinners of ceremony they are of fine
heavy white linen damask, made transparent
by Kensington drawn work laid over fine red
cloth covers, while a third cloth of small size is
of red velvet oval-shaped and embroidered in
peacock feathers, and outlined and fringed in
gold. On this velvet mat, which extends over
the central part of the white cloth, is placed a
silver-bound mirror. On this mirror are placed
Dresden swans and aquatic plants, the white
lilies looking as if floating on a miniature lake.
But these elaborate covers are used only for
great dinner parties; for smaller ones the table-
cloth is drawn and carefully sewed over again
into the most complicated lace-work. Under
this is placed a bright cloth, upon which the
white cloth is laid, the bright cloth showing
through the meshes; then as the light falls
upon it through coloured globes, red silk shades,
or those made of the crimped tissue paper, the
effect is warm, rich and cheerful. A great deal
of colour is now used in the dining-room, and
upon the table. Rich effects are sought after,
and coloured glass, coloured lunch cloths,
crystal, mirrors and silver all aid in bright re-
flections. Pink, gray and buff damask with
coloured borders and even laces are used for
lunch cloths. Silk damasks, embroidered linen
and even black satin are employed, as well as
the simpler ones of damask with centre piece
and border outlined in red or blue cotton.
Lunch napkins and tray cloths match the table
linen.

Among the novelties are entire sets for dinner,
tea, coffee and lunch services, decorated with
figures of rabbits, butterflies and dogs all treated
in a style of broad humour. Birds and butter-
flies are formed in a great variety of colour and
gorgeousness. Ice-cream sets are in French
shapes and Japanese and Chinese decoration.
Claret jugs and wine-glasses are of red crystal
with polka dots or wreaths and flowers; these
are grouped in three and some are plain, with
gold bands. Coffee sets have each cup and
saucer different in ornamentation. The same is
true of fruit sets also. Fish sets are decorated
with fishes; game sets have birds, deer, each on
its own native heath. Canvas-back ducks are
served at ceremonious dinners in England and
Paris on plates of American silverware, because
American silversmiths are the best in the world,
and the canvas-back is one of America's greatest
delicacies.

Some of the latest sets in Haviland ware re-
present baskets with braided handles. Dessert
plates in this style are nearly covered by
coloured squares, which represent napkins; the
tureens and little salver on which they stand

are made in one piece. Some are no longer,
round, but octagonal, and their decoration in-
cludes subjects of all sorts, from cattle pieces to
scenes from Tennyson, Shakespeare and Long-
fellow. Far prettier are the flower groups in
natural colours, in which each plate of the half
dozen is in six different tints, pink, tea rose,
buff, cream, celadon and sea foam, and the de-
coration is a flower spray lying just inside the
rim with a bee or bird hovering over it. Some
are plain china with turquoise, blue and pink
bands, and are very pretty. Among the new
designs for dinner plates is a set in Walter
Crane colours, representing a girl picking beans
from a trellis, another girl paring potatoes;
squashes, corn, cabbages and cauliflowers are
the objects of interest on the other plates. An-
other set represents fish with a border of coral
and cat tails; lobsters, surrounded by lily pods
and a pointer in a border of partridges, berries
and leaves. Some are of Indus ware, ornamented
with cranes and storks. Tea sets are accom-
panied by tea pots that look like tinted eggs
set in a frame of white wicker work, and having
braided handles. A set in which all the dishes
are fluted, and bear a resemblance to different
shells, is both quaint and pretty.

One set, mounted on a little tray, has a pile
of volumes of Punch lying in the foreground and
hollowed out to form a receptacle for salt.
Punch grins from one side of the pile, Judy
smiles from the other, and the little dog Toby,
looking over his frill in the background, serves
as a handle to the tray. Bits of white colour,
to set off the plain white sets, are found in the
casters and salt-cellars in Derby, Longway,
Copeland and other wares. Some of these have
nickel tops, and others are solid and are filled
through a cork in the bottom. These sets are
used instead of the time-honoured cester, and
come in very quaint design; solemn-looking
owls, with ruby eyes, English pug dogs, and
even toads. When these are used, small
pitchers of Venetian glass hold the vinegar, and
the mustard pots—two of which are a set—are of
artistic china, either matching the dinner ser-
vice or of sufficient beauty to stand alone.

Flowers of only one kind are preferred to
mixed bouquets for dinner decoration. It is
thought better to fill one's house with the odour
of one sweet-scented blossom and to give all
one's guests a knot of it to take home, thus con-
necting its memory with that of the dinner,
rather than to have a medley of flowers on the
table and thus leave a confused impression on
the minds of the guests. Thus, a dinner may be
known as the "violet," "rosebud," or "pansy
dinner." Very fashionable little baskets are
made of wood, so thin and turned to such a
nicety that the sides can be bent together.
These are decorated upon the exterior sometimes
gilded upon the edge and filled with moss,
small ferns, delicate flowers, and tied together
with ribbon. These are after dinner suspended
from the waist with a long loop of ribbon, and
the damp moss will for a long time keep the
flowers fresh. Small wooden pails and wheel-
barrows are also used, filled with the same.
These are mounted with four cones, decorated
with an insect, flower or blade of glass. These
are often filled with trailing vines or the ice
plant, interspersed with small flowers and the
vines allowed to trail over the side. Growing
ferns and other plants are often taken up and
put in a rustic jardiniere and used for table or-
namentation.

FOOT NOTES.

ABOLITION OF THE DRUM IN THE FRENCH
ARMY.—General Farre has determined to abol-
ish drums in the French army, and—terrible
loss for nursery maids—the gigantic drum major.
The pros and cons of this question have been
long discussed. The roll of the drum, it was
argued, was inspiring, and dear to tradition.
Nothing like the drum to bring out the popula-
tion to stare at a regiment on the march! But
the reasons which have prevailed are that in
actual service the drum is not heard so far as
the bugle; is not so well adapted to convey orders
by sound; and, moreover, that the heavily-
laden drummer cannot carry a rifle, which the
bugler does.

GOOD INTEREST.—A capital story was long
current relative to prices charged for goods in
Galt in its early days. As Mr. Shade began to
grow rich, and rumours prevailed that he made
profits of at least forty or fifty per cent. upon
his goods, he was one day visited by a well-
known, honest Dutch storekeeper in the south-
ern part of Waterloo Township, who could not
understand, but was extremely anxious to learn,
how that gentleman obtained such handsome
prices. "Mr. Shade," said he, "I have come
down to ask how it is you can get forty or fifty
per cent. profit upon your goods, when I have
hard work to get one per cent. for mine. Will
you tell me the secret?" "Only one per cent.,"
replied Mr. Shade; "why you must charge more
than that!" "O no, I don't," returned his
Waterloo friend, deeply in earnest. "When I
pay \$1 for an article, I never charge more than
\$2 for it, and I want to know how I can get
forty or fifty per cent. like you?" Mr. Shade
explained as well as his risibility would permit,
when his interlocutor departed a wiser if not a
happier man. The joke, however, was too
good to keep, and there is fun to this day over
the Dutchman's one per cent.

PRINCESS LOUISE, says the *Buffalo Express*, is
a comely, healthy-looking lady, of vivacious
spirits and genial disposition. Her good-

heartedness is proverbial, and it is reported that
since her arrival in Canada her hobby has been
the visiting of charitable institutions and hospi-
tals. She is simple and unaffected in her
demeanor when conversing with the poor and
unfortunate. Her garb yesterday was of the
plainest character, and so ill-fitting that any
Buffalo society lady would have shrunk from
appearing in public in it. His Royal High-
ness, Prince Leopold, the youngest son of Eng-
land's Queen, is a medium-sized young man of
about twenty-six years of age. He is a pro-
nounced blonde, and wears a dainty mustache
and goatee. At present Leopold is badly sun-
burnt. As he stepped out of the carriage yes-
terday, he appeared to be a fair specimen of the Eng-
lish youth, somewhat boyish-looking, but
manly and sensible in his deportment. He was
attired in a light suit of gray melton cloth, evi-
dently made by an English tailor, and cut
altogether too small for him. Tagging at the
heels of the young prince was his pet dog *Vic*, a
harmless-looking little English fox terrier.

SCRAPS.

PATTI has purchased a mansion in Wales.

CHAS. READE now reads the Bible diligently.

PRINTED for private circulation—counterfeit
bank notes.

You can always tell an English "lord," we
are assured by the *Norristown Herald*, by the
amount of money he wants to borrow.

An exchange, speaking of the stage, uses the
term, "the ballet proper." Don't think we've
seen it.

A DETROIT lady who had graduated at three
seminaries tried to send a handbox by telegraph
the other day.

FARMERS do not hear the cornstalk. Neither
do men who wear tight boots. But there are
some things which speak louder than words.

It is reported at Richmond, Va., that Arch-
bishop Gibbon, of Baltimore, who is now in
Rome, will be made a cardinal before his return.

EVERY ONE knows the sale of Beecher's
"Life of Christ." Canon Farrar's has been more
successful. Two hundred thousand copies have
been sold.

ALEXANDRE DUMAS' fortune is estimated at
\$500,000, outside of his art collection, worth
nearly as much. Every penny of it he has de-
rived from his literary labors.

AN Indiana girl jumped the rope until the
bones of her legs began to decay and she had to
have them amputated, but don't let this stop
any girl from doing likewise.

THE man who thinks that his boy can hoe in
the garden while a circus procession is passing
is always the man who has a front seat when
the performance begins.

MISS Emily Faithfull imagines that she has
done some little good in the world by living
single, but she admits that if it were to do over
again she'd say "yes" to some good fellow.

CARLYLE is said to be rapidly failing. He
cannot now hold a cup without spilling its con-
tents. He is resigned at the prospect of death,
fearing to survive his intellectual faculties.

THE New Orleans *Picayune* wants every rule
to work both ways. It says: "There is no in-
stance known of a man sentenced to imprison-
ment for life having his sentence commuted to
hanging."

A Leicestershire, England, farmer writes to
the *Mark Lane Express*: "Hundreds of farmers
have lost the whole of their flocks of sheep. It
has been one of the most disastrous seasons for
sheep ever experienced."

CARDINAL Newman, when he was stronger
than he is now, was a fine vocalist. He now
loves to sit dreamily listening to the playing of
Beethoven's compositions, of which he is a pas-
sionate admirer. His voice is still very sweet.

BONANZA FLOOD is to build the finest private
residence in America. He will have 1,500 acres
in his front yard, and when a stray cow gets in
there, it will require simply an enormous supply
of profanity and bricks to get her out.

FIFTY Greek brigands have been hunted
down and killed within the past week, but let
no traveller rejoice. There are over five
thousand left, saying nothing of the robbers who
act as Government officials.

CERTAIN Russian ladies occupy unofficial dip-
lomatic positions, some of them receiving from
the government as much as \$65,000 annually
for entertaining, bribery and other secret service
expenses.

THERE seems to be very little sympathy for
muscular effeminacy. The idea of a great big
giant like Courtney lying sick abed with a ner-
vous headache, like a delicate school-girl, seems
almost too absurd to be true.

GEORGE PEARBODY WETMORE's summer house
at Newport, R. I., has cost about half a million
dollars. The cost of the main staircase alone,
the wood of which was imported and the carving
done in the Florentine style of workman-
ship, was \$40,000.

It is significant of depression in England
that the marriage-rate was lower in the last
quarter of 1879 than in any since civil registra-
tion was established in 1837. The birth-rate
was lower than in 1850, and the death-rate, too,
below the average.

THE New York *Commercial Advertiser* wants
an elixir that will bring forgetfulness without
producing unconsciousness. If the *Advertiser*
will take hold of a hot poker, it will forget all
about business troubles and be a fearful way
from unconsciousness, too.

THE New Haven *Journal* makes the curious
statement that a post-mortem in the case of B.
D. Purdy, jr., of Canaan, Conn., "revealed the
fact that his death was caused by a broken neck,
and that he had been living in that condition
for some three years, as is supposed."

AN old lady heard one of her daughter-in-law's
callers say: "My father was an ambidexter."
After the visitor's departure the listener ex-
pressed her indignation by saying: "That
stuck-up hussy was lying all the time. I knew
her father year in and out, and his name was
Smith."

THE Hartford *Courant* gives a list of parties
who have been reported as killed by lightning
this season, and adds as a noticeable thing
about the list, "that none of the accidents oc-
curred in cities or in the presence of telegraph
wires and accumulations of metal. These seem
to act as safeguards."

EXTENSIVE repairs and improvements are
about to be undertaken at the Hofburg or old
Imperial palace of the Hapsburg family in
Vienna. The palace enclosure embraces an ex-
tent of about nineteen and one-half acres, of
which about nine and one-half acres are actually
covered with buildings.

AT a recent meeting of the Royal Geographi-
cal Society in England, three noblemen, Earl
Katakuba, Earl Swaddi and Earl Namkaddi,
ambassadors from Mtesa, king of Uganda, Africa,
were introduced to the president, Lord North-
brook, by Mr. Wilson, a missionary, who said
that they had taken a peculiar liking to white
women, and that in fact the king had begged
him to bring him back an English wife, but he
had told him that they were not to be bought.
Here is a crown absolutely going a-begging.

MARIO has resumed his own name of Marquis
of Candia. He lives in Rome, holding a post
at court, with a salary of \$2,000.

Two manuscripts of Lamartine were sold in
Paris a few weeks ago. Originally they were
given to friends of the orator-poet, who since
died. Jocelyn, dated 1836, fetched about \$560.
It was in a very bold handwriting, and had very
few corrections. Harmonies Sacrées, full of
erasures and corrections, but dated the same
year, brought \$130.

THE Princess of Asturias, now in Paris, is an
object of much curiosity in social circles. She
is twenty-eight years of age, and truly "as
haughty as a princess." Since she was an
infant almost she has been a great stickler for
every point of etiquette. She is the terror of
courtiers, and unconsciously proud of her posi-
tion as eldest daughter of the ex-Queen Isabella.

WHAT has been done with Gibbon and what
many people think should be done with all
great works that have been over-edited—the
restoration of the text to its original integrity—
will be done for Boswell's Johnson, edited, com-
mented on and discussed as few books in the
language have been. Rev. Alexander Napier
has this undertaking in hand.

A CLERGYMAN recently said that many a one,
while apparently singing with all his might the
lines:

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small,

was diligently engaged with one hand in his
pocket in scraping the edge of a 3-cent piece to
make sure it was not a dime.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

Solutions to Problems sent in by Correspondents
will be duly acknowledged.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Paper to hand. Many Thanks.

B.S., Montreal.—The position is correct.

E. H., Montreal.—Solution received of Problem for
Young Players No. 277. Correct.

T. S., St. Andrews, Manitoba.—Correct solution re-
ceived of Problem No. 277.

The Hamilton Chess Correspondence Tourney is
making rapid progress, and already several games have
been won and lost, and we have no doubt that others are
rapidly approaching conditions which will enable some
happy contestants to send in their scores to the con-
ductor, Dr. Ryall, and modestly ask for other victims.

We have already one or two finished games
which we intend to insert in our Column as soon as we
can find the necessary time to arrange them for publi-
cation.

The contest between Zukertort and Rosenthal is the
all-absorbing chess matter at the present moment. We
subjoin an extract from *Land and Water* which will be
read with interest. We give the score of the fourth
game in the match, but are obliged to leave out the
notes which, we believe, are by Mr. Steinitz, as they
would occupy too much space in our Column. The
game appears in *Turf, Field and Farm*.

The combats in the Zukertort-Rosenthal match
remain embedded in a quicksand of draws, wherefrom
they seem totally unable to extricate themselves. Al-
ready rumours are rife that there will be a drawn match.
It seems likely that some propositions have been ad-
vanced in that behalf, but such an unsatisfactory con-
clusion will scarcely be entertained yet awhile. Never-
theless if much further time elapse without either player
being able to establish his superiority, a division of
honours will naturally suggest itself as being the proba-
ble termination of the struggle. The sixth game of the
match was played yesterday week, and after lasting
until a late hour of the evening ended in a draw, which
was a piece of good fortune for Zukertort, as his oppon-
ent had a clear win in the end game. Last Monday there
was no play, the combatants condescending to imitate