



CHAPTER XVIII.

THE JOURNEY HOME.

UNE SEVENTEENTH.—Having made a few parting calls upon friends in New York, and taken lunch with Dr. Collyer at the Century Club, I went by the Elevated Railway to the pier of the White Star Line, for the return journey to England by the steamship *Majestic*,* which in April had brought me safely to the New World. On arriving at the pier, I found myself in the midst of a multitude of persons, two thousand strong at least, of both sexes and all ages, who had come to take leave of departing friends, and wish them *bon voyage*. The *Majestic*, herself, large as she is, was crowded in every part by a noisy and inquisitive throng, whose incessant chatter was not always appreciated by the officers of the ship, who had much difficulty in giving out their orders on account of the noise and confusion. Much astonishment was evinced by those visitors who had not previously seen the excellent accommodation and complete appointments of this last addition to the magnificent fleet of White Star steamers.

The tables in the saloon of the vessel were literally loaded with flowers, the parting gifts of the friends of the passengers, and when I reached my "state room," some kind friend had been there before me, and placed in it a lovely basket of roses, which was duly appreciated by the recipient of the friendly token. At a few minutes to 2 p.m., the vessel was cleared of all but actual passengers, and punctually at the hour the ship moved gracefully out of the dock, and as I could now move freely about, and look around me, I saw that every available place on the pier and in the

* I would here correct one or two slight errors which have crept into my account of the outward voyage. First. The saloon of the *Majestic* being placed exactly amidships, there is no inconvenience whatever arising from the screw, which is not near the saloon. Second. The number of furnaces in the *Majestic* is 76, and not 146, as stated, though the last-named figures were given to me on the vessel at the time of my inspection.