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The Illustrators of Jules Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires*

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Evans, Arthur B. "The Illustrators of Jules Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires*" *Science Fiction Studies* 25 (1998): 241-270

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Arthur B. Evans

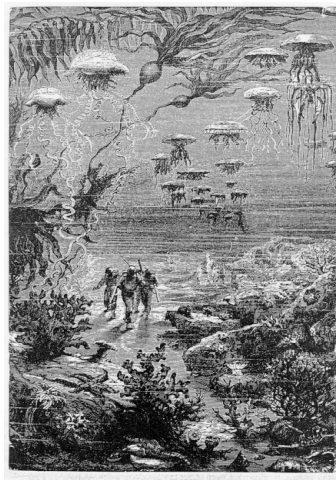
The Illustrators of Jules Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires*

First, consider the following amazing statistic: there were over *four thousand* illustrations in Jules Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires*—an average of 60+ illustrations per novel, one for every 6-8 pages of text in the original in-octavo red and gold Hetzel editions. Since the publication of Verne's first novel in 1863, these Victorian-looking woodcut plates and maps have constituted an integral part of Verne's early science-fiction tales: to such an extent, in fact, that today most modern French reprints of the *Voyages Extraordinaires* continue to feature their original illustrations—recapturing the “feel” of Verne's socio-historical milieu and evoking that sense of faraway exoticism and futuristic awe which the original readers once experienced from these texts. And yet, to date, the bulk of Vernian criticism has virtually ignored the crucial role played by these illustrations in Verne's oeuvre.

As I have discussed in somewhat more detail elsewhere,¹ there appear to be *four* different categories of illustrations in the *Voyages Extraordinaires*, each of which has a different semiotic and/or didactic function within the narrative. The first offers renderings of the *protagonists* of the story—e.g., portraits like the one of Impey Barbicane in *De la terre à la lune* [*From the Earth to the Moon*] (#1). The second features the *places* visited by the protagonists and are normally more panoramic and postcard-like—e.g., the many exotic locales, unusual sights, and flora and fauna which the heroes encounter during their journey, like the one from *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers* [*20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*] depicting divers walking on the ocean floor (#2).

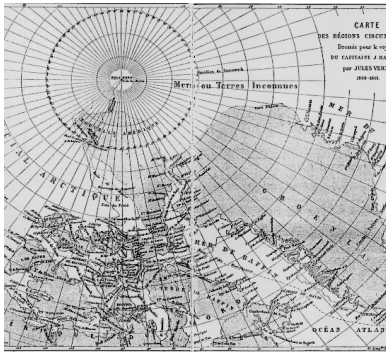


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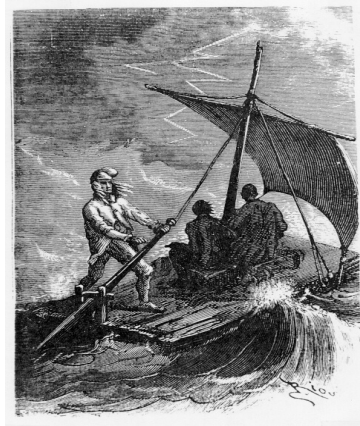


#2

The third is *documentational* in nature—e.g., the map of the Polar regions (hand-drawn by Verne himself) for his 1864 novel *Les Voyages et aventures du capitaine Hatteras* [*The Adventures of Captain Hatteras*], where the curious reader might trace the itinerary of Hatteras and his crew as they explore the Arctic (#3). And the fourth portrays a specific moment of *action* in the narrative—e.g., the one from *Voyage au centre de la terre* [*Journey to the Center of the Earth*] where Prof. Lidenbrock, Axel, and Hans are suddenly caught in a lightning storm on a subterranean ocean (#4).



#3



#4

It is also interesting to note *which* passages in the text are ultimately chosen for representation in Verne's novels. Most often, this decision seems to have been made less according to their respective importance to the story-line and more according to their intrinsic pedagogical value and/or their potential for enhancing the story's local color, verisimilitude, or metaphoric content. For example, such crucial turning-points in the narrative like the explosion of the giant elephant-locomotive in *La Maison à vapeur* [*The Steam House*] or the near-collision with a comet in *Autour de la lune* [*Around the Moon*] are not represented in these novels, whereas dozens of relatively unimportant scenes *are*—e.g., an illustration of Indian snake-charmers from the first (#5) or, from the second, one which depicts the frustration of Michel Ardan attempting to understand the complex algebraic computations of his fellow astronauts (#6).

The textual *location* of these illustrations in Verne's novels is also noteworthy. Although differing from edition to edition (on facing pages in the original volumes), many tend to precede their textual counterparts by at least a page or two, arousing curiosity in the reader (i.e., inciting him or her to continue reading) and foreshadowing events and scenes to come. Consider, for instance, the one from *L'Ile mystérieuse* [*Mysterious Island*] where the castaways first encounter the land-locked *Nautilus* inside a seacave on Lincoln Island (#7). This illustration has been placed on page 795. By contrast, the page number in parentheses indicates that this scene is actually described on

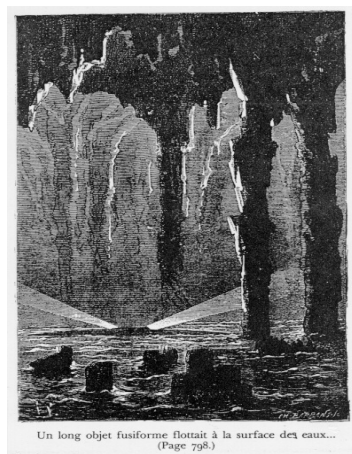
page 798 of the narrative. Another use of illustrations to enhance foreshadowing in Verne's works are the often very elaborate frontispieces opposite the title pages of these books—e.g., the one at the beginning of the Hetzel double-volume edition containing *Cinq semaines en ballon* [*Five Weeks in a Balloon*] and *Voyage au centre de la terre* (#8). Here the reader gets a foretaste of two representative episodes (one from each novel), superimposed upon one another in a kind of collage depicting scenes from above, on, and below the Earth's surface. This frontispiece (and others) might be viewed as a highly symbolic pictorial representation of Verne's goal—as expressed by his publisher Pierre-Jules Hetzel—to “outline all the geographical, geological, physical and astronomical knowledge amassed by modern science.”²



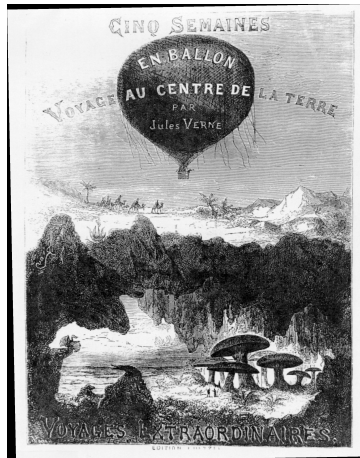
#5



#6



#7



#8

Moreover, the importance of these illustrations as *visual aids* to the explicit didactic intent of Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires* cannot be overemphasized. The large number of purely pedagogical illustrations in Verne's novels—those having very little to do with the fictional events narrated in the plot—is sometimes astonishing: species of fish enumerated by Conseil in *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers*, the phases of the moon in *De la terre à la lune*, the planet Saturn and its moons in *Hector Servadac* [*Off on a Comet*], various types of hot air balloons and dirigibles in *Robur-le-conquérant* [*Robur the Conqueror*, *Clipper of the Clouds*], etc. And even the non-pedagogical illustrations—those depicting the fictional plot—were also highly educational to French readers of the mid-late 19th century, especially to those who were less than 100% literate. As Marc Soriano has pointed out:

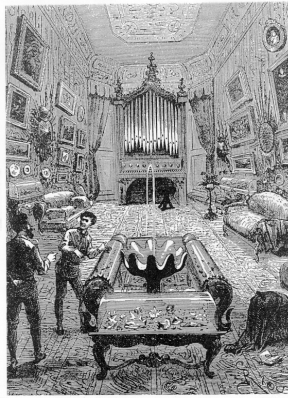
Let us not forget that [when Verne began to publish] we are in 1862-1865. The drive for literacy in France has been underway since the Guizot Law of 1833, but there is still much to do. Any well-advised editor must aid his readers who have not yet achieved a good reading proficiency...³

But it also must be acknowledged that the presence of such illustrations in Verne's works acted as a double-edged sword: while they enhanced both the mimetic and the didactic dimensions of his novels, they also contributed to his entire oeuvre being considered "paraliterary" by the moguls of French literary taste of the time who viewed them as appropriate only for children or for the less-educated masses.⁴

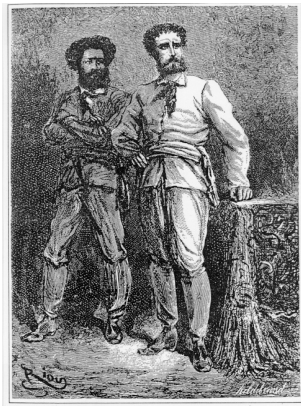
According to their correspondence, Verne, Hetzel, and the illustrators of these books collaborated very closely with one another, and there was constant communication among them throughout the entire production process. In an 1868 letter from Verne to Hetzel concerning *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers* (#9), for instance, Verne writes:

I have received the drawings from Riou. I have several suggestions to make which I'll mention to him by return mail. I think he needs to make the people much smaller and the rooms much larger. And he needs to add much more detail...

By the way, it was an excellent idea to use Colonel Charras as the model for Captain Nemo [#10]. I should've thought of that.⁵



#9

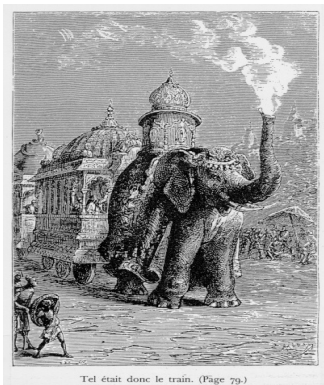


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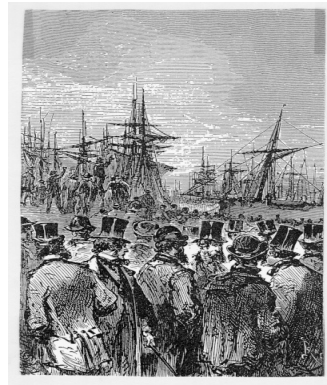
The following excerpt is from an 1879 letter written by Verne to the artist Léon Benett. At the time, they were preparing the illustrations for Verne's novel called *La Maison à vapeur*—that narrative where the heroes travel across India in an elephant-locomotive pulling two train-cars (#11). Verne writes:

Dear Mr. Benett, I have received your drawings which look excellent. But the caravan needs to be modified: instead of 2 train-like cars, they should be small bungalows—like little pagodas on wheels, European on the inside but Hindu on the outside. Imagine something that would go with the elephant pulling them... Be careful to make them so that they are not square, but longer than wider... And try to make them look very ornate...⁶

Verne often accompanied such letters to his illustrators with free-hand sketches to give them an idea of what he wanted. But, in this as in all other editorial matters, it was Hetzel who always had the final say. In the following



#11



#12

1884 letter, for example, Hetzel was forced to intervene in an apparent dispute between Verne and Benett over the portrayal of two protagonists in Verne's novel *Mathias Sandorf*:

My dear old Benet (sic), I believe that we have finally come to the end of our miseries with these last changes that Verne has asked for. But if you look closer at his text concerning the clothing of Sarcany and Zirone, you will see that he is right. It couldn't be clearer. He does indeed talk of a long *cape* and *boots*. You missed that entirely....Try to see if you can satisfy Verne's demands...If he is annoying you, be assured that we are annoying him as well by forcing him to make revisions in his text. Nobody is exempt from corrections.⁷

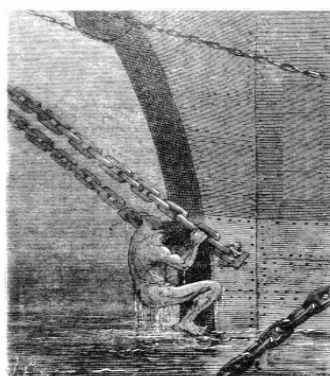
Hetzel often required major changes in his illustrators' work before publication and sometimes also chose to radically censure their content in the name of "good taste." For example, a peaceful and rather banal harbor scene at the outset of *Les Voyages et aventures du capitaine Hatteras* was originally planned (and actually published in an earlier version of the novel) to depict

Hatteras' boisterous shipmates offering toasts of rum to celebrate the beginning of their journey toward the North Pole (#12). On occasion, however, certain editorial oversights occurred which neither Verne, nor Hetzel, nor even the illustrator himself managed to catch before publication—e.g., the one from *L'Île mystérieuse* of the orangutang named "Jup" (#13) who, unlike most members of his species, has grown a tail! Or look closely at the two illustrations, placed sequentially in this same novel, where Ayrton is secretly climbing aboard a pirate ship in the middle of the night (#14-15). Apparently Ayrton not only has managed to find a pair of pants during his climb, but also the hull and bow of the vessel have somehow metamorphosed from iron to wood, and a winged figurehead has suddenly appeared on its prow! And, on least on one occasion, the artist actually "corrected" Verne's text when illustrating it—e.g., Alphonse de Neuville's portrayal of the famous battle with the giant squid in *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers* showing the beast with the requisite ten tentacles, instead of eight as described by Verne in his narrative (#16).⁸

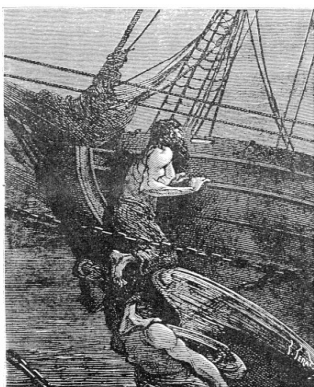


Jup passait une partie de son temps à la cuisine. (Page 406.)

#13



#14



#15



#16

The semiotic relationship between the illustrations and the text in Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires* is also interesting. As Georges Borgeaud has described it: "It is not the text which defines the illustration, but the illustration which defines the text and which transports the reader beyond...it is a catalyst to dream."⁹ Each illustration not only condenses and concretizes into one image many separate segments of the text (presented linearly), but it also adds another layer of rich meaning to them, deepening the narrative's associative and intertextual effect on the reader. In his study of Verne's illustrations, for example, Daniel Compère has observed:

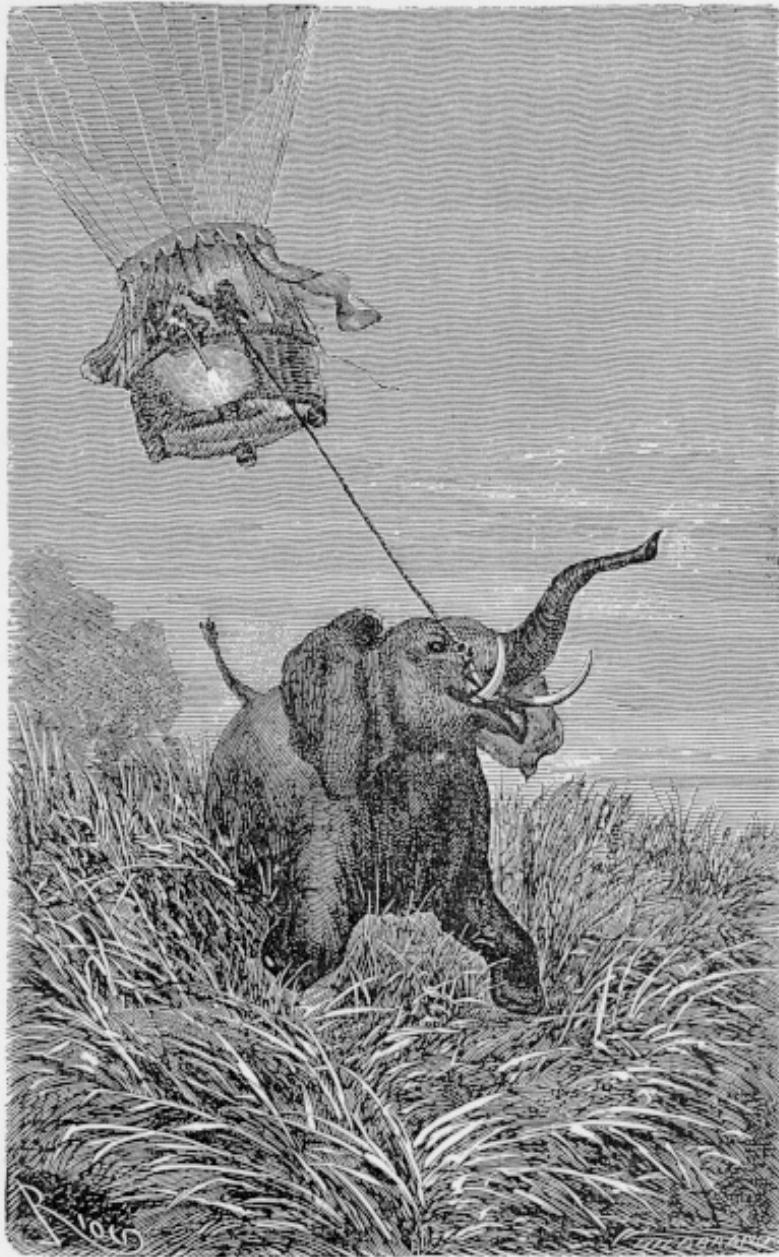
This commentary via illustration establishes a dialectic between the real and the imagined. The illustrations strengthen the verisimilitude of the Vernian text and their realism acts as a kind of guarantor of veracity. But they also add a dimension...of illusion.¹⁰

Further, the *point of view* represented by these illustrations—similar to the narrative voice in Verne's texts¹¹—is one which is constantly shifting, much like in a dream. The reader/viewer oscillates between seeing what the protagonists are actually seeing or thinking about, and what the narrator wishes to present as extra-narrative context. The point of view is sometimes anchored in the narrative's present, sometimes in its past, sometimes in a hypothetical future. Much like a movie or TV camera, it sometimes zooms in for a close-up, sometimes zooms out for a panoramic shot, and sometimes (almost like an advertisement) intercalates into the action a brief pedagogical aside. In its polyvalent omnipresence—both within and outside the narrative itself—the point of view represented by these illustrations appears to dovetail perfectly with the dominant ideological and epistemological orientation of Verne's entire oeuvre: i.e., a "vision" of totality, inventory, and appropriation.¹²

But who were these illustrators? Who were these talented artists whose evocative images brought Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires* to life and allowed millions of 19th-century readers to "boldly go" where they had not gone before? Who were these individuals who played such a large role in Verne's worldwide celebrity and the enduring popularity of this new literary genre?

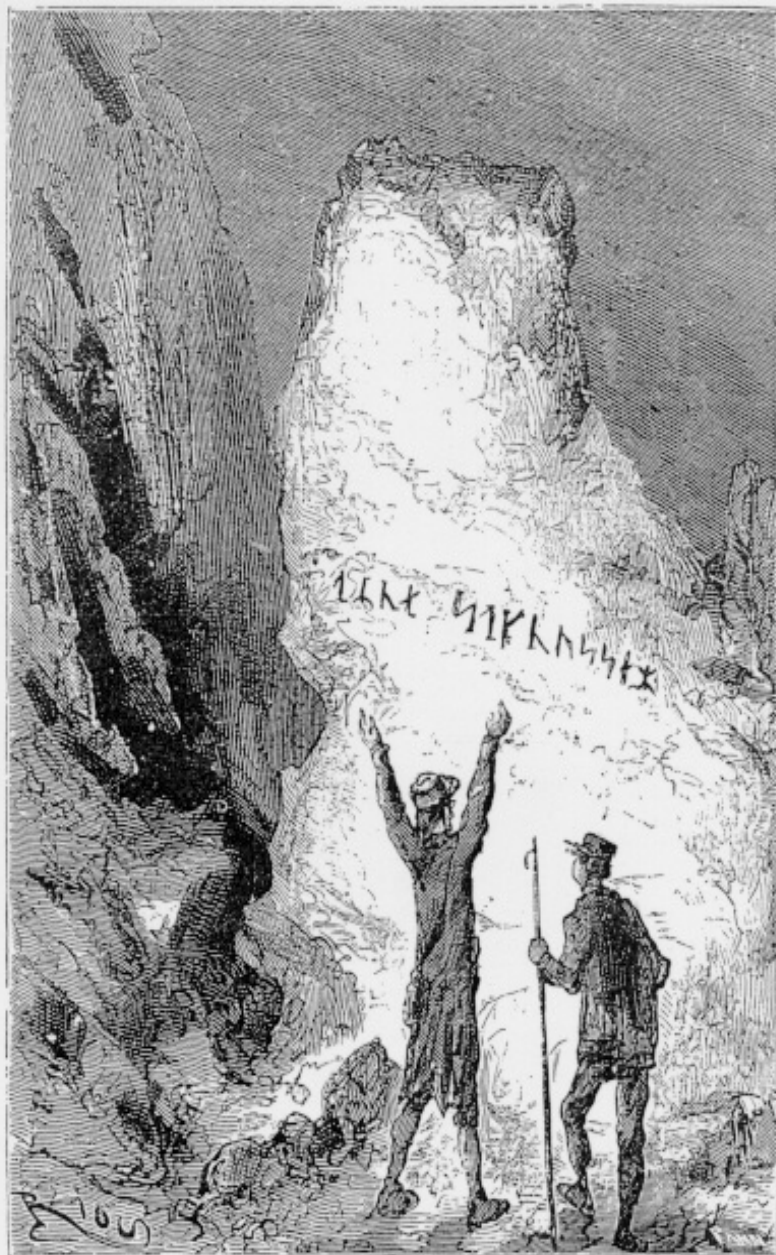
It must be said from the outset that very little is known about them.¹³ And even less is known about the dozens of engravers who converted the artists' sketches into the detailed wood engravings and metal printing plates which produced the many illustrations published in these books, and whose names—Pannemaker, Hildibrand, Barbant, Prunaire, Dumont, Coste, Lavallé, Meaulle, et al.—sometimes figure prominently on the finished illustrations along with that of the illustrator himself. Consider, for example, the one from *Cinq semaines en ballon* (#17) illustrated by Riou and engraved by Hildebrand whose signature is found in the lower right-hand corner; or the one from *Voyage au centre de la terre* (#18) also illustrated by Riou but engraved by Pannemaker, who usually signed his work "PANN" (sometimes with the "N"s written backwards, as in a mirror reflection).

Edouard Riou (1833-1900) is the first and probably the most recognized



Le Victoria remorqué par un éléphant.

#17



Regarde! me dit le professeur. (Page 83.)



#19



#20

illustrator of Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires*. He illustrated Verne's earliest and most famous novels, including *Cinq semaines en ballon*, *Voyage au centre de la terre*, (#19), *Les Voyages et aventures du capitaine Hatteras*, *Les Enfants du capitaine Grant* [*The Children of Captain Grant, In Search of the Castaways*], as well as the first eleven chapters of *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers* (the remaining chapters were done by Alphonse de Neuville). For this latter novel, Verne himself posed for the portrait of Prof. Pierre Aronnax located in an early chapter of this text. Before and after his association with Hetzel, Riou specialized for many years in landscape painting and commemorative pieces (the opening of the Suez Canal, the marriage of the Russian tsar's daughter, etc.). A student of the famous French artists Daubigny and Gustave Doré, he was very well known in France during the 1850s, 60s, and 70s, and he contributed illustrations to a wide variety of French books and popular magazines throughout this period—e.g., Dumas' *Le Comte de Monte-Cristo*, Scott's *Ivanhoe* and *Waverley*, Hugo's *Notre Dame de Paris* and periodicals like *Tour du monde*, *Illustrated Times*, and *La Chronique illustrée*. He was even inducted into the prestigious *Légion d'honneur* toward the end of his career. Riou's work for Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires* has been described as follows: "Riou's drawings are rich with light, and the traits of his characters have a vigorous expression (#20). Riou succeeds in adapting himself artistically to the realistic reproduction of the many fantastic locales of the Vernian fictional geography: the mists and the glacial icepacks (#21), the shadows inside the Earth's crust (#22), the deserted and expansive beaches, and the many bodies of water and their movement...(#23). Everything is both ordered and evocative in Riou's work—his style might be called 'romantic realism'..." (#24).¹⁴ Artist and Verne scholar Ron Miller has said of Riou: "I believe his work stylistically spans the transition between the illustrators of the early 19th century and those of the latter half—when the profession of professional illustrators became established. Some of the qualities that Riou carried over were the often cartoon-like depiction of characters and the use of numerous 'spot' illustrations."¹⁵



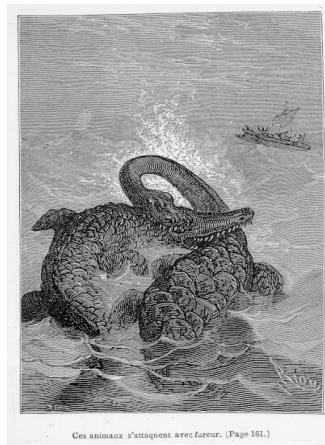
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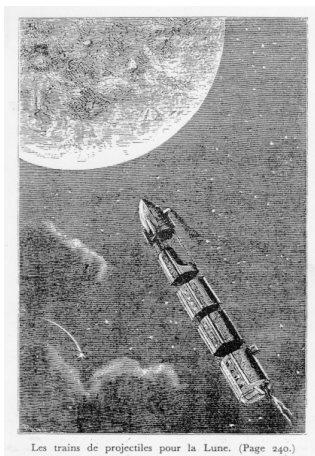


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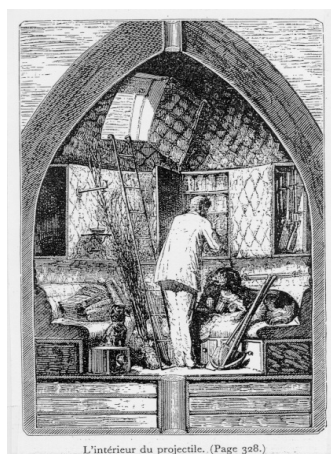
#24

Henri de Montaut (1840?-1905?) helped Riou to illustrate Verne's first two novels of *Cinq semaines en ballon* and *Les Voyages et aventures du capitaine Hatteras*. But he is better known as the sole illustrator of Verne's 1865 best-seller *De la terre à la lune* (#25-26) and the creator of some of the most celebrated early sf illustrations. Montaut was a successful magazine cartoonist who also specialized in portraits—as in his rendering of the three Vernian astronauts Barbicane, Nicholls, and Michel Ardan (#27)—the latter of whom, incidentally, was drawn from the likeness of the famous Parisian photographer and daredevil Nadar, whose witty personality and name (via anagram) were immortalized by Verne in this work. Montaut was also known to have contributed many works to the popular weekly French magazine *La Vie Parisienne* founded in 1862 and was himself responsible for starting another illustrated journal called *L'Art et la Mode*.



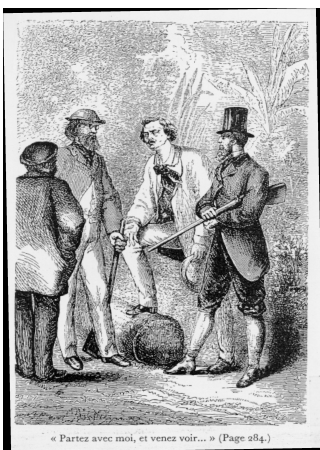
Les trains de projectiles pour la Lune. (Page 240.)

#25



L'intérieur du projectile. (Page 328.)

#26



« Partez avec moi, et venez voir... » (Page 284.)

#27



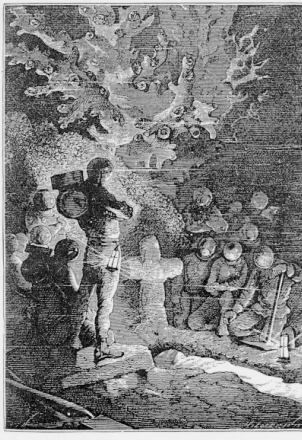
C'était un calmar de dimensions colossales. (Page 555.)

#28

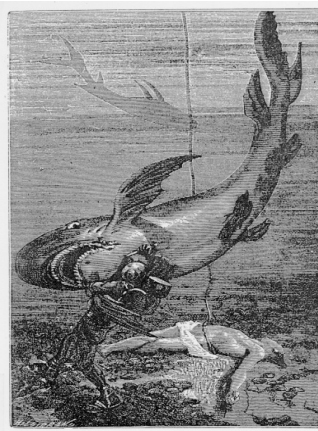
Alphonse de Neuville (1835-1885) was another much-admired painter in France during this period. As a youth, he was a student of Eugène Delacroix, and he was especially known for his battle scenes and pictures of military life (especially scenes from the FrancoPrussian War of 1870-71). His paintings can be found in museums in Versailles, Grenoble, Moscow, New York, and other cities. He also contributed a large number of illustrations to the popular French magazine *Le Tour du Monde*, provided 309 plates for Guizot's *Histoire de France*, and was inducted into the *Légion d'honneur* in 1881. He collaborated with Riou on *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers*—all of the illustrations from chapter 12 onwards are his (#28-31). Neuville was also responsible for a small number of illustrations in the best-selling 1873 novel *Le Tour du monde en 80 jours* [Around the World in 80 Days]—in particular



#29



#30



#31

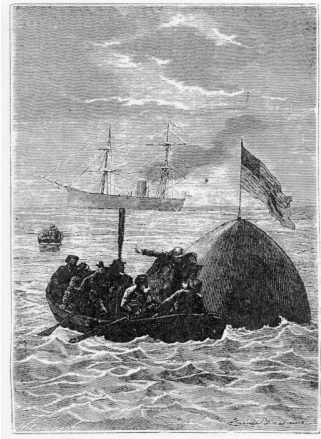


#32

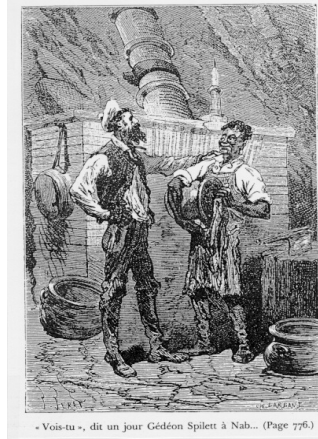
the portraits at the beginning of the novel like the one of Phileas Fogg (#32). But, before completing this work, he quit Hetzel's employ, and it was the artist Léon Benett who provided the remainder of the illustrations for this particular novel.

Emile-Antoine Bayard (1837-1891) was a popular portrait painter and a regular contributor to many different periodicals like the *Journal des Voyages*, the *Journal pour Rire*, *Cassell's Magazine*, *Le Tour du monde*, *L'Illustration*, and others. He illustrated many of Erckmann-Chatrian's fantasy tales, a number of literary works for youth by Alphonse Daudet, Jules Sandeau, Hector Malot, la Comtesse de Ségur, and several classic novels like Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*. But he is probably best remembered as the illustrator of *Un Drame dans les airs* [*A Drama in the Air*] in Verne's short-story collection *Le Docteur Ox* [*Doctor Ox*]¹⁶ and especially for the 1872 sequel to Verne's novel *De la terre à la lune* called *Autour de la lune*. His work has

been described as follows: “His engravings showing the effects of weightlessness upon the pioneer astronauts; the survey of the moon’s surface; and, above all, the ‘splashdown’ picture are among science fiction’s most famous illustrations (#33). The latter piece, showing the American flag securely fixed above the module, proved to be amazingly prophetic when Frank Borman of the Apollo 9 moon expedition landed in the Pacific, one hundred years later, only two or three miles from the point mentioned in the book.”¹⁷



#33



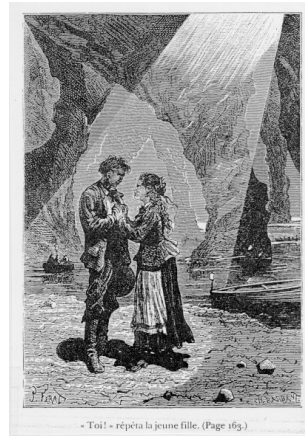
#34

Jules Ferat (1819-1889?) was known in Paris especially for his portrayals of factory life, workers and their machines, and the milieu of heavy industry (#34). He was responsible for the illustrations in many books of fiction and non-fiction by authors like Eugène Sue, Louis Figuier, Mayne-Reid, Edgar Allan Poe, and Victor Hugo from the early 1850s to the late 1880s. He was also the sole illustrator for a number of Verne’s novels—e.g., *Une Ville flottante* [A Floating City], *Les Forceurs du blocus* [Blockade Runners], *Les Aventures de trois Russes et de trois Anglais* [The Adventures of 3 Englishmen and 3 Russians, *Measuring the Meridian*], *Michel Strogoff*, and *Les Indes noires* [The Black Indies]. He was also the co-illustrator with Alfred Quesnay de Beaurépaire (1830-?) for *Le Pays des fourrures* [The Fur Country] and illustrated two short stories, “Martin Paz” and “Un Drame au mexique” [A Drama in Mexico]. But Ferat’s real masterpiece was the series of illustrations he did for Verne’s 1874 novel *L’Île mystérieuse*. Edmondo Marcucci¹⁸ has said of his work: “Ferat’s illustrations are somewhat stylized: his characters have very fluid garments, rich with folds and movement, and usually possess rugged working-class faces”—e.g., the portrait of Gideon Spilett from *L’Île mystérieuse* (#35). “Ferat is also a master with *clair-obscur*; he is particularly good at rendering the play of light in darkened areas”—e.g., the various illustrations depicting the coal mines of *Les Indes noires* (#36). “On the other hand, he has a Michelangelo-like tendency toward over-musculature and exaggeration of proportion in his characters”—e.g., the double-portrait of

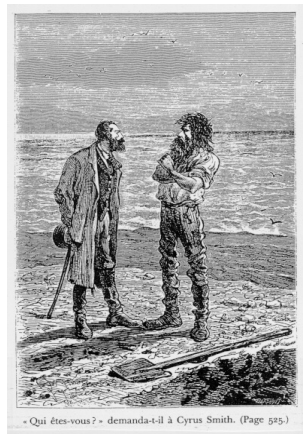
Aryton and Cyrus Smith in *L'Île mystérieuse* (#37). “And Ferat often seems to prefer a more symbolic than realistic portrayal of reality”—e.g., his illustration of the ocean liner called “The Great Eastern” (#38) from Verne’s early novel *Une Ville flottante*, where Ferat has enlarged the size of this vessel to truly gargantuan proportions. Another critic has said of Ferat: “Jules Ferat has always been my favorite of Verne’s illustrators—I associate his images with the books in much the same way that I associate Tenniel with Carroll. I would love to have seen what he would have done with *20,000 Leagues* or *Journey to the Center of the Earth*! Benett runs a very close second, though his later work is not very good.”¹⁹



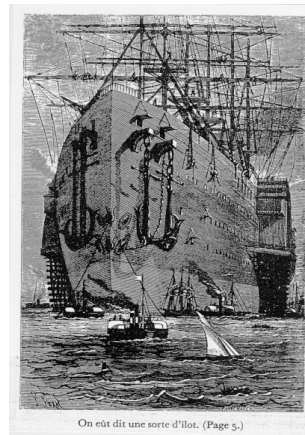
#35



#36



#37



#38

Three artists were commissioned by Hetzel to illustrate one novel each in Verne’s collection: Henri Meyer (1844-1899) for *Un Capitaine de quinze ans* [*The Boy Captain*], Paul-Dominique Philippoteaux (?-1903) for *Hector*

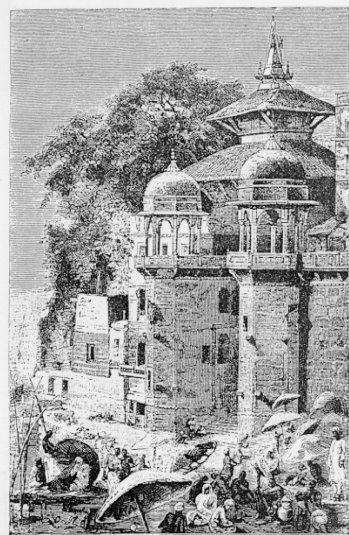
Servadac, and Georges Tiret-Bognet (1855-1930?) for *Famille-sans-nom* [*Family Without a Name*]. Philippoteaux, the son of another famous French artist, was also responsible—along with Benett—for illustrating Verne's geography-history books *Découverte de la Terre* [*Discovery of the Earth*, 1868] and *Les Grands Navigateurs du XVII^e siècle* [*The Great Navigators of the 17th century*, 1879].

Léon Benett (1839-1917) was by far the most important illustrator of Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires* in terms of sheer volume—almost half of the 60+ novels in this series, nearly 2,000 illustrations. A good friend of both Verne and Hetzel, his real name was Benet (with one "t"), but he added another "t" so that his name would not resemble the French word for a fool, or a simpleton. In addition to his work for Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires*, Benett also illustrated books by Hugo, Erkmann Chatrian, Tolstoy, André Laurie, and Camille Flammarion among others. Benett traveled widely in the Orient and the South Seas (#39-40), and Charles Lemire,²⁰ his fellow-traveler, described Benett and his work as follows: "We traveled together and wandered around the interior of the islands: rain forests, valleys, mountains, waterfalls, villages, plantations, tribespeople... (#41). Benett knew how to capture the real essence of all these exotic tropical locales. His notes and journal drawings were like an inexhaustible museum of our travels... And the exactitude of his illustrations were a perfect complement to the descriptions." Benett's work has also been described by Marcucci in the following terms:²¹ "He is carefully realistic in his representations"—e.g., his illustration from *Les Cinq cents millions de la Bégum* [*The Begum's Fortune*] (#42) featuring a gigantic canon and its inventor, German mad scientist Herr Schultze (the German Chancellor Bismarck was used as model).



Lucknow, la mosquée de Imāmbara. (Page 171.)

#39

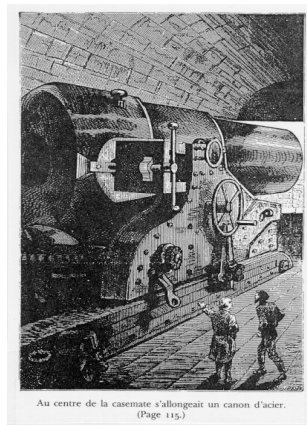


Bénarès : Pagode népalaise. (Page 134.)

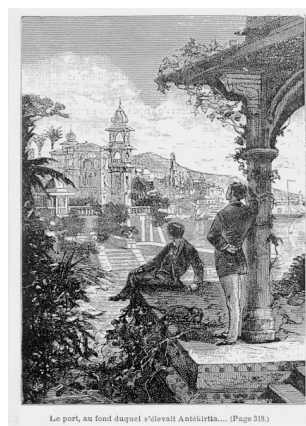
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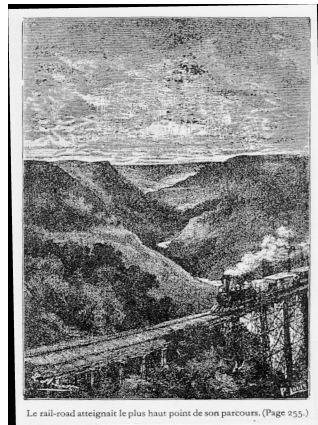


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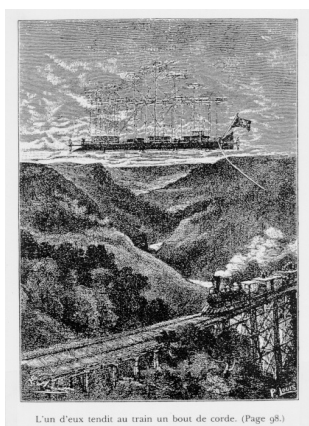
“Benett has a supple imagination, much movement, and there is a certain delicacy in his lines (#43), and this is especially evident in his portraits of women and children (#44). Finally, Benett knows better than most how to frame an outdoor scene so that it is both real and picturesque (#45), vibrating with richness.” But another critic, Pierre Sichel,²² strongly disagrees, pointing out that “Alas, if he reproduces with exactitude the narrated events, his portrayals go no further than that. He is not expressive. The faces of his characters are neutral; his locales are devoid of poetry... His compositions are impersonal (in the blandest and narrowest sense of the word)... Thanks to the collaboration of Alphonse de Neuville, Verne’s *Le Tour du monde en 80 jours* is a bit better. This latter illustrator contributed, for example, the excellent portrait of Phileas Fogg and a rather fine one of Passepartout. In contrast, Be-



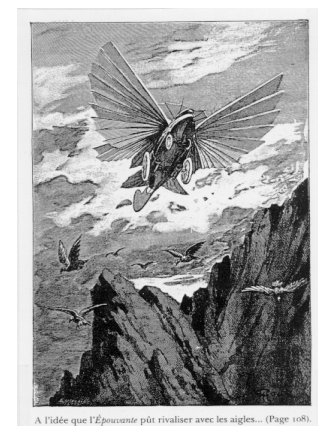
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#46



#47

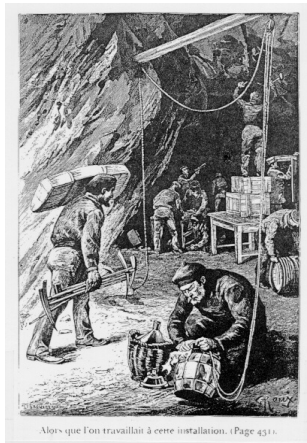


#48

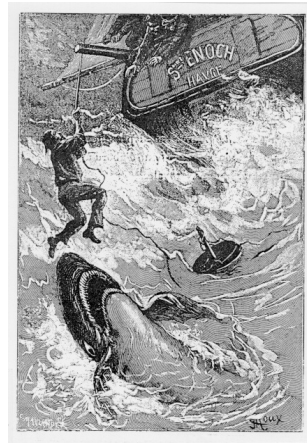
nett's rendering of the principal scenes in the novel is uniformly banal and boring... This is the work which made Jules Verne world-famous. Yet this novel is still awaiting an illustrator truly worthy of it" (#46). It is also interesting to note that Benett's illustration of the American steam-train in *Le Tour du monde en 80 jours* (published in 1873) was apparently recycled thirteen years later, reappearing in the 1886 novel *Robur-le-conquérant* with the fantastic helicopter air-ship *Albatros* now inserted into it (#47).

Finally, George Roux (1850?-1929) was the second most prolific illustrator of the *Voyages Extraordinaires*—responsible for illustrating 22 novels in the series, mostly during the last years of Verne's literary production (#48). He began with *L'Épave du Cynthia* [*The Salvage of the "Cynthia"*] in 1885 and finished with Verne's last posthumous novel *L'Étonnante aventure de la mission Barsac* [*The Barsac Mission*] in 1919. Scholarly opinion as to Roux's

merit as an illustrator tends to vary widely. One Vernian biographer, Peter Costello, has said of his illustrations for *L'Etonnante aventure de la mission Barsac*: "The vision of the secret city and the illustrations of it are quite magnificent. In designing the city, Roux seems to have been directly inspired by the latest advances in architecture... Verne was well served by his designers to the very end."²³ In contrast, Ron Miller has characterized Roux's work as follows: "In my opinion, Georges Roux was the weakest of Verne's illustrators and demonstrates not only the gradually decreasing quality of Hetzel's illustrators but the reproduction of Roux's work additionally suffers from the decreasing quality of the woodcut engravers—a profession that disappeared almost overnight with the introduction of the halftone process. If you look at the illustrations in Verne's later works in chronological order, you can see this deterioration dramatically displayed."²⁴ And yet another, Pierre Sichel, remarks: "Roux is perhaps the most refined and the most 'modern' of all the illustrators of the *Voyages Extraordinaires* (#49). His compositions are large, luminous and very plastic"—e.g., the illustration from the *Les Histoires de Jean-Marie Cabidoulin* [*The Sea Serpent: the Yarns of Jean-Marie Cabidoulin*] (#50) where, obviously, Roux seems to have been just as clueless as De Neuville concerning shark anatomy.



#49

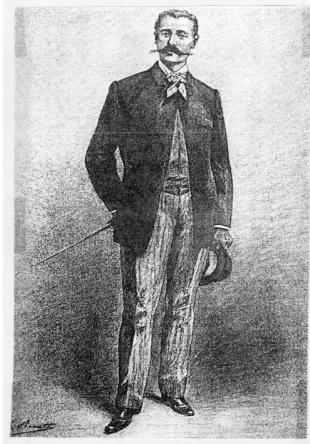


#50

"The gestures, faces, and muscles of his characters—and particularly in groups of people—are masterfully treated"—e.g., the illustration from the same work showing several bare-breasted New Zealand women feeding a reclining man (#51). This particular novel was published in 1901 (some 15 years after Verne's publisher Hetzel had died), and it is almost certain that, had he been alive, the prudent Hetzel would have never allowed an illustration like this one to be published in Verne's works. In his final comments on Georges Roux, Sichel makes the following observation: "Lastly, I find Roux's chromo-typographs to be especially handsome" (#52).²⁵



#51



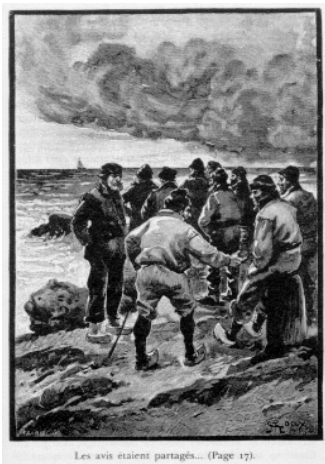
#52

This mention of Roux's "chromotypographs" leads me to one last but very important matter concerning the many original illustrations in Verne's works: i.e., their technological evolution. From 1850 onwards, the rapid development of two-toned lithography, photography, and photolithography slowly began to replace the older woodcut-engraving process in most publishing houses in France—primarily because these techniques were cheaper, faster, and much less labor-intensive.²⁶ As a kind of graphic representation of this technological evolution in the printing industry, one need only look at the illustrations in Verne's later *Voyages Extraordinaires*. For instance, consider those novels like his 1892 work entitled *Claudius Bombarnac* (illustrated by Léon Benett), whose title-page proudly announced the inclusion of six "large chromotypographical plates" along with "2 maps in color."

Throughout this *fin-de-siècle* period of 1890 to 1900, Verne's later novels tended to carry a *mixture* of old-fashioned woodcuts and the newer halftone illustrations. An example of this is George Roux's illustrations for Verne's 1897 epilogue to Edgar Allan Poe's *The Mystery of Arthur Gordon Pym* called *Le Sphinx des glaces* [*The Ice Sphinx*]. Two illustrations, the first (a halftone) and the second (a woodcut), are located within the first couple of chapters of this work (#53-54). By Verne's 1904 novel *Maître du monde* [*Master of the World*], however, most of the illustrations were of the new variety. And, effectively blurring the boundaries between fiction and reality, even a real photograph is included from time to time—e.g., the one of Lake Michigan (#55) in this same novel.

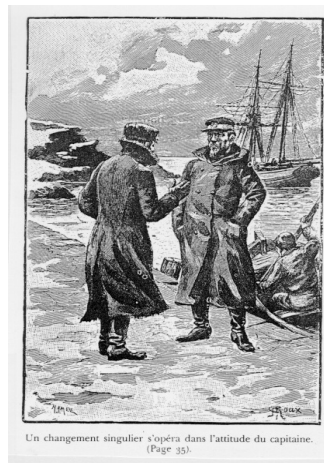
Finally by 1907, some two years after Verne's death, virtually *all* of his remaining posthumous novels feature *only* "modern" illustrations—e.g., the ones in his short story "Au XXXIX^e siècle: Journée d'un journaliste américain en 2889" ["In the Year 2889"] (#56)—actually written (as were a large number of other posthumous works) by Verne's son Michel²⁷ and published

in the 1910 short-story collection entitled *Hier et demain* [*Yesterday and Tomorrow*].²⁸



Les avis étaient partagés... (Page 17).

#53



Un changement singulier s'opéra dans l'attitude du capitaine. (Page 33).

#54



Le lac Michigan. (Photographie Bret).

cations téléphoniques, on savait de cinq minutes en cinq minutes quelle était la situation du ring, et en quel ordre se succédaient les concurrents. C'était une voiture Renault frères, quatre cylindres et vingt chevaux de force, pneus Michelin, qui tenait la tête à mi-chemin de Madison et de Milwaukee, suivie de près par une Harvard Watson, et une Dion-Bouton. Quelques accidents s'étaient déjà produits, des moteurs fonctionnant mal, des appareils restés en panne, et, vraisemblablement, ils ne seraient pas plus d'une douzaine de chauffeurs en mesure d'atteindre le but. Mais, si l'on comptait plusieurs blessés, ils l'étaient peu grièvement. D'ailleurs, y eût-il eu mort d'hommes, c'est un détail, qui n'a pas grande importance dans cet étonnant pays d'Amérique. On le comprendra, où la curiosité, où les passions devaient se déchaîner dans toute leur violence, c'était

#55



« Où va monsieur ? » demanda l'aéro-coachman. (Page 205.)

#56

In conclusion, I believe that it is not too exaggerated to say that the novels of Jules Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires* constitute a key socio-historical artifact in understanding the dawn of our modern age—not only because of their much-discussed literary status as proto-sf, but also because of their evocative illustrations. The shift from a 19th-century worldview to an early 20th one is evident both in the stylized content of these pictures—the manner of dress, the facial hair, the Victorian “dream machines,” the Saint-Simonian portrayal of scientists as conquering heroes, etc.—and in their actual published format, as the technology itself was evolving from woodcuts to halftone

photolithography, etc. As such, this remarkable collection of early sf illustrations²⁹ stands as a living testament to the passing of an age—literary, ideological, and technological.

NOTES

1. See Arthur B. Evans, *Jules Verne Rediscovered* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1988) 117-18. See also the excellent study by Daniel Compère titled "Fenêtres latérales" in *Jules Verne 4: texte, image, spectacle*, ed. François Raymond (Paris: Minard, 1983) 55-71 as well as his "Poétique de la carte," *Bulletin de la Société Jules Verne* 50 (1979): 69-74. All quotations translated from the French are my own. I would also like to offer my thanks to Jean-Michel Margot for his generous bibliographical help and to Sidney Kravitz for his assistance with the illustrations from *L'Île mystérieuse*.

2. Pierre-Jules Hetzel, "Avertissement de l'Editeur," *Les Voyages et aventures du capitaine Hatteras* (Paris: Hetzel, 1866) 7-8. Steve Michaluk, co-author with Brian Taves of *The Jules Verne Encyclopedia* (Scarecrow Press, 1996) offered an additional insight in an e-mail message to me (Sept. 24, 1997), saying: "I would like to suggest one other related aspect. As a variation on an old adage, in the case of Jules Verne 'you CAN judge a book by its cover.' In much the same way you describe Hetzel's very symbolic 'mise-en-abyme' frontispiece, the same might be said of many Hetzel front cover designs. Likewise, British and American publishers of Jules Verne in the nineteenth century frequently used the original black & white illustrations from the Hetzels to adorn the front cover and spine. As you discuss the primary rationale of selecting which scenes were illustrated, the British and American publishers faced a secondary decision of which illustration to select for the front cover. If Verne's reputation wasn't enough to sell a book, perhaps an enticing front cover would be enough to catch a reader's interest? Who knows, but I consider these bindings to be true works of art, and another legacy of Jules Verne."

3. Marc Soriano, *Jules Verne* (Paris: Julliard, 1978) 130-31.

4. V. my article "Jules Verne and the French Literary Canon" in *Jules Verne: Narratives of Modernity* (Liverpool: Liverpool UP, forthcoming in 1998).

5. Quoted in Charles-Noël Martin, *La Vie et l'oeuvre de Jules Verne* (Paris: Michel de l'Ormerie, 1978) 176.

6. Olivier Dumas, "Jules Verne et Benett, avec cinq lettres inédites de Jules Verne." In *Jules Verne 4: texte, image, spectacle*, ed. François Raymond (Paris: Minard, 1983) 184-85.

7. Philippe Chauchoy, *Léon Benett, illustrateur de Jules Verne* (Amiens: Centre Culturel de la Somme, 1991) 10-11.

8. V. Walter James Miller and Frederick Paul Walter, "Verne's Controversial Giant Squid: Continued," *Extraordinary Voyages: The Newsletter of the North American Jules Verne Society* 4:1 (Dec. 1997): 1-5.

9. Georges Borgeaud, "Les Illustrateurs de Jules Verne," *Arts et Lettres* 15 (1949): 72. See also his article "Jules Verne et ses illustrateurs," *L'Arc* 29 (1966): 43-45.

10. Daniel Compère, "Fenêtres latérales." In *Jules Verne 4: texte, image, spectacle*, ed. François Raymond (Paris: Minard, 1983) 70.

11. Michel Foucault, for example, has observed:

The narrative process is constantly breaking up. It changes signs, inverts itself, distances itself, comes from somewhere else as if from another speaker. Narrative voices emerge from nowhere, silencing those that preceded them, offering for a moment their own discourse, then suddenly disappear, to be replaced by another one of those nameless faces, these grey silhouettes. It is an organization very different from that of *A Thousand and*

One Nights. In the latter, each narrative, even if it is recounted by a third party, is linked to the one who actually lived the story—each fable has its own voice, each voice its own fable... In Verne's works, there is one fable per novel, but recounted by many different voices— voices that are intertwined, obscure, and contesting one another. ("Arrière fable" *L'Arc* 29 [1966]: 6).

12. V. my article "The Extraordinary Libraries of Jules Verne," *L'Esprit créateur* 28:1 (1988): 75-86.

13. The two best sources for detailed information on Verne's original illustrators are André Bottin, *Bibliographie des éditions illustrées des Voyages Extraordinaires de Jules Verne* (Contes: Chez l'auteur, 1978) and Edmondo Marcucci, *Les Illustrations des Voyages Extraordinaires de Jules Verne* (Bordeaux: Ed. Société Jules Verne, 1956). For information on subsequent illustrators (in reprints of Verne's works), see Françoise Tamaro, "Textes et illustrations dans les romans de Jules Verne, de 1863 à nos jours" (mémoire de D.E.A. de littérature comparée), Université de Paris IV, Sorbonne, 1993. For an interesting discussion of the *captions* beneath Verne's illustrations, see René Micha, "Les Légendes sous les images," *L'Arc* 29 (1966): 50-55. In addition to the critical studies listed above and elsewhere in these notes, other useful works concerning Verne's illustrators include Marcus Osterwalder, *Dictionnaire des illustrateurs, 1800-1914* (Paris: Hubschmid & Bouret, n.d.), Robert Weinberg, *A Biographical Dictionary of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1988), Jean Chesneaux, "Les Illustrations des romans de Jules Verne," *Bulletin de la Société Jules Verne* 37-38 (1976): 114-15, and Cornelius Helling, "Les Illustrateurs des Voyages Extraordinaires," *Bulletin de la Société Jules Verne* 11-13 (1938): 140-46. Several studies on the topic which I have not seen include the following: Pierre Pitrou, "Les Illustrations des romans de Jules Verne" (mémoire - L'Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, 1977), Jacques Van Herp, *Les Univers extraordinaires des illustrations de Jules Verne* (Racour, Belgium: Ed. Phénix, 1992), Lucien Giraudo, "L'Illustration: une autre façon de voir et de lire Jules Verne," *Nouvelle Revue Pédagogique* (Paris: Nathan, 1991), Hans Rie, "Der Triumph des Holzstiches. Die Originalillustrationen des Roman-werks Jules Verne," *Jules Verne Handbuch* (Stuttgart, Germany: Ed. Stuttgart VS Verlagshaus Stuttgart GmbH, 1992), and Dan Malan, "Jules Verne, Original Illustrations," *The Classics Collector* (Dec. 1993).

14. Edmondo Marcucci, *Les Illustrations des Voyages Extraordinaires de Jules Verne* (Bordeaux: Ed. Société Jules Verne, 1956) 18-19.

15. Ron Miller, in an e-mail message to me on Sept. 27, 1997.

16. Other illustrators of the short stories in *Le Docteur Ox* include Lorenz Froelich (1820-1908), Adrien Marie (1848-1891), Théophile Schuler (1821-1878), and Edouard Yon (1855-1930).

17. Richard Dalby, "Bayard, Emile-Antoine." In Robert Weinburg, *A Biographical Dictionary of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists* (NY & Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1988) 47.

18. Marcucci, 22-23.

19. Miller, op. cit.

20. Charles Lemire, *Jules Verne* (Paris: Berger-Lévrault, 1908) 145.

21. Marcucci, 25.

22. Pierre Sichel, "Les Illustrateurs de Jules Verne," *Europe* 112-13 (1955): 95.

23. Peter Costello, *Jules Verne, Inventor of Science Fiction* (NY: Scribner's, 1978) 209.

24. Miller, op. cit. It must also be mentioned that Roux's originality is also open to question, as many of his illustrations for Verne's *Le Superbe Orénoque* (1898) are plagiarized directly from Riou's illustrations for J. Chaffanjon's article "Voyage aux

sources de l'Orénoque," *Le Tour du Monde* (1889): tome 56—one of Verne's sources for this novel. See Olivier Dumas, "À propos de Verne et Chaffanjon," *Bulletin de la Société Jules Verne* 125 (1998): 10-14.

25. Sichel, 90-98.

26. "The illustrations in Verne's books are not lithographs. They are woodcuts reproduced via electrotypes (a lithograph is an entirely different printing process involving—as its name implies—a wet stone, a greasy crayon and water repellant ink; today, of course, 'lithography' is used more broadly in the printing industry to describe a process of printing with metal plates replacing the ink-repellent stones still used by artists—the principle remains the same, however). There were a number of ways to reproduce a woodcut. You could print directly from the block, of course, but only if the print run was short since the wood would deteriorate quickly with use. (End-grain box-wood was the most commonly-used wood; since boxwood does not come in very large chunks, blocks would be bolted together to provide a surface for very large illustrations, where you can often see the vertical and horizontal seams. To save time, engraving houses would often break up such a block and have each separate piece worked on by a different engraver. Early on, the illustrator would paint or draw his illustration directly on the block—the original drawing would, of course, be destroyed by the engraving process. Later, the art would be transferred to the block photographically, by coating the wood surface with a photosensitive emulsion.) The cut could be reproduced in metal by either electroplating it and then making another electroplate copy from that (to make a 'positive') or by making a papier maché 'mat' and then taking an electroplate 'positive.' This would not only allow for longer print runs, but allowed the publisher to make any number of copies of the original printing plate (which are what Hetzel would send to, say, Scribner's or Sampson Low)." Miller, op. cit.

27. V. my article "The 'New' Jules Verne," *SFS* 22.1 (March 1995): 35-46.

28. In addition to Benett and Roux, Félicien de Myrbach (1853-1940) also produced illustrations for Verne's posthumous short-story collection *Hier et demain*, in particular for the short stories "La Famille Raton" [The Rat Family]—see the delightful English-language reprint titled *The Adventures of the Rat Family* (NY: Oxford UP, 1993)—and "Monsieur Ré-Dièze et Mademoiselle Mi-Bémol" [Mr. Ray Sharp and Miss Me Flat].

29. Although not appearing during the "Hetzel" period of 1863-1919, three "rediscovered" works by Jules Verne published recently also carry original illustrations. They include the much ballyhooed *Paris au XXe siècle* [*Paris in the Twentieth Century*] illustrated by François Schuiten, *San Carlos et autres récits inédits* [*San Carlos and other unpublished stories*] illustrated by Tardi, and *Un Prêtre en 1835* [*A Priest in 1835*] also illustrated by Tardi.

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Jules Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires***Illustrators and engravers of the first illustrated editions**

- Cinq semaines en ballon* (1863, *Five Weeks in a Balloon*) - 51 illustrations
 Edouard Riou (40), Henri de Montaut (5), unsigned (6) - engravers: Coste, Delaville, Dumont, Fournier, Hildibrand, Pannemaker, Prunaire
- Voyages et aventures du capitaine Hatteras* (1866, *Voyages of Capt. Hatteras*) - 259
 Edouard Riou (190), Henri de Montaut (69) - engravers: Barbant, Cazat, Delaville, Dumont, Hildibrand, Joliet, Linton, Pannemaker, Pierdon, Pisan, Prunaire
- Voyage au centre de la terre* (1864, *Journey to the Center of the Earth*) - 56
 Edouard Riou - engravers: Pannemaker, Gauchard, Maurand
- De la terre à la lune* (1865, *From the Earth to the Moon*) - 41
 Henri de Montaut - engravers: Pannemaker, Doms
- Les Enfants du capitaine Grant* (1867, *The Children of Capt. Grant*) - 175
 Edouard Riou - engravers: Delaville, Gauchard, Maurand, Pannemaker, Prunaire
- Vingt mille lieues sous les mers* (1869-70, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*) - 110
 Edouard Riou (24), Alphonse de Neuville (86) - engraver: Hildibrand
- Autour de la lune* (1870, *Around the Moon*) - 45
 Alphonse de Neuville (6), Emile Bayard (39) - engraver: Hildibrand
- Une Ville flottante, suivi des Forceurs du blocus* (1871, *A Floating City, and the Blockade Runners*) - 44
 Jules Ferat - engravers: Pannemaker, Doms
- Aventures de trois Russes et de trois Anglais* (1872, *Adventures of 3 Englishmen and 3 Russians*) - 53
 Jules Ferat - engravers: Pannemaker, Dutheil
- Le Pays des fourrures* (1873, *The Fur Country*) - 103
 Jules Ferat (74), Alfred Quesnay de Beaurepaire (29) - engravers: Pannemaker, Hildibrand, Dumont, Louis
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 Alphonse de Neuville (7), Léon Benett (49) - engravers: Dumont, Hildibrand, Louis, Pannemaker, Prévost
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- L'Ile mystérieuse* (1874-75, *The Mysterious Island*) - 152
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 Edouard Riou (45), Jules Ferat (13) - engravers: Barbant, Crosbie, Dumont, Hildibrand, Louis, Meaulle, Pannemaker
- Michel Strogoff* (1876, *Michel Strogoff, The Courier of the Czar*) - 91
 Jules Ferat (90), Léon Benett (1) - engraver: Barbant
- Hector Servadac* (1877, *Hector Servadac*) - 99
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- Un Capitaine de quinze ans* (1878, *Dick Sands, The Boy Captain*) - 94
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Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Crosbie, Dumouza, Hildibrand, Louis, Meaulle, Pannemaker
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- La Maison à vapeur* (1880, *The Steam House*) - 99
Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Baude, Bellenger, Delangle, Dumouza, Froment, Heulard, Hildibrand, Joffroy, Louis Maylander, Meaulle, Pannemaker, Quesnel, Verdeil
- La Jangada* (1881, *The Giant Raft*) - 98
Léon Benett (82), Edouard Riou (16) - engravers: Barbant, Bellenger, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Duvivier, Froment, Heulard, Hildibrand, Louis, Meaulle, Thomas
- Le Rayon vert* (1882, *The Green Ray*) - 44
Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Bellenger, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Hildibrand, Meaulle
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Léon Benett - engravers: Bellenger, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Meaulle, Verdeil
- Kéraban-le-Têtu* (1883, *Kéraban the Inflexible*) - 101
Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Bellenger, Bure, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Froment, Heulard, Hildibrand, Lafontan, Leriverend-Dochy, Louis, Meaulle, Moller, Verdeil
- L'Etoile du sud* (1884, *The Southern Star*) - 62
Léon Benett - engravers: Bellenger, Bure, Dumouza, Dutertre, Froment, Heulard, Hildibrand, Ladmiral, Louis, Meaulle, Moller, Puyplat, Verdeil
- L'Archipel en feu* (1884, *The Archipelago on Fire*) - 49
Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Bure, Delangle, Dumouza, Froment, Guillaume, Heulard, Hildibrand, Ladmiral, Louis, Meaulle, Moller, Puyplat
- Mathias Sandorf* (1885, *Mathias Sandorf*) - 111
Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Bellenger, Bure, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Froment, Guillaume, Heulard, Hildibrand, Jacob, Ladmiral, Louis, Meaulle, Moller, Pannemaker
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George Roux - engravers: Bellenger, Bure, Froment, Ladmiral, Mollet, Rousseau
- Un Billet de loterie* (1886, *The Lottery Ticket*) - 41
George Roux - engravers: Bure, Delangle, Dumouza, Froment, Hildibrand, Louis, Moller
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Léon Benett - engravers: Bure, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Hildibrand, Ladmiral, Louis, Moller, Pannemaker, Rousseau
- Nord contre Sud* (1887, *North Versus South*) - 85
Léon Benett - engravers: Bure, Delangle, Dochy, Dumouza, Froment, Ladmiral, Louis, Moller, Pannemaker, Puyplat, Vintraut
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George Roux - engravers: Bure, Dochy, Dumouza, Dutertre, Froment, Ladmiral, Louis, Moller, Napier, Pannemaker, Rousseau, Vintraut

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Léon Benett - engravers: Bure, Charpentié, Delangle, Dutertre, Froment, Ladmiral, Levasseur, Moller, Napier, Pannemaker, Petit, Puyplat, Rousseau, Vintraut

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Georges Tired-Boguet - engravers: Bellenger, Bure, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Froment, Hamel, Ladmiral, Louis, Moller, Pannemaker, Petit, Peulot, Puyplat, Rousseau, Vintraut

Sans Dessus Dessous (1889 *Topsy-Turvy, The Purchase of the North Pole*) - 36

George Roux - engravers: Dumouza, Froment, Hamel, Ladmiral, Louis, Pannemaker, Petit, Peulot, Vintraut

César Cascabel (1890, *Caesar Cascabel*) - 85

George Roux - engravers: Bellenger, Bure, Delangle, Dumouza, Dutertre, Froment, Hamel, Ladmiral, Louis, De Lucders, Moller, Peulot, Puyplat, Rousseau

Mistress Branican (1891, *Mistress Branican*) - 83

Léon Benett - engravers: Delangle, Dumouza, Duplessis, Dutertre, Froment, Hamel, Gusman, Moller, Pannemaker, Peulot, Puyplat, Rousseau, Vintraut

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Léon Benett - engravers: ?

Claudius Bombarnac (1892, *Claudius Bombarnac*) - 55

Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Bauchart, Burgun, Carlier, Charpentié, Delangle, Duplessis, Dutertre, Froment, Gusman, Hamel, Moller, Morizet, Pannemaker, Peulot, Puyplat, Toquenne

P'tit-bonhomme (1893, *Foundling Mick*) - 85

Léon Benett - engravers: ?

Mirifiques aventures de maître Antifer (1894, *Captain Antifer*) - 77

George Roux - engravers: Baudouin, Bories, Dumouza, Froment, Gusman, Hamel, Lerondeau, Maylander, Moller, Pannemaker, Fougeron-Vignerot

L'Ile à hélice (1895, *The Floating Island, Propeller Island*) - 80

Léon Benett - engravers: ?

Face au drapeau (1896, *For the Flag*) - 42

Léon Benett - engravers: ?

Clovis Dardentor (1896, *Clovis Dardentor*) - 47

Léon Benett - engravers: ?

Le Sphinx des glaces (1897, *The Ice Sphinx*) - 68

George Roux - engravers: Barbant, Delangle, Duplessis, Froment, Froment fils, Guerelle, Gusman, Hamel, Marx, Maylander, Moller, Outrebon, Pannemaker, Puyplat

Le Superbe Orénoque (1898, *The Superb Orinoco* [untranslated]) - 71

George Roux - engravers: Ducourtieux, Duplessis, Froment, Guerelle, Hamel, Maylander, Moller, Pannemaker, Puyplat

Le Testament d'un excentrique (1899, *The Will of an Eccentric*) - 61

George Roux - engravers: Duplessis, Froment, Guerelle, Maylander, Pannemaker

Seconde Patrie (1900, *Second Homeland*) - 67

George Roux - engravers: Clément, Duplessis, Froment, Guerelle, Hamel, Mathieu, Maylander, Pannemaker, Puyplat

Le Village aérien (1901, *The Village in the Treetops*) - 39

George Roux - engravers: Barbant, Clément, Duplessis, Froment, Guerelle, Mathieu, Maylander, Puyplat

Les Histoires de Jean-Marie Cabidoulin (1901, *The Sea Serpent: The Yarns of Jean Marie Cabidoulin*) - 29

- George Roux - engravers: Clément, Duplessis, Froment, Froment fils, Guerelle, Gusman, Mathieu, Maylander
- Les Frères Kip* (1902, *The Kip Brothers* [untranslated]) - 40
- George Roux - engravers: Clément, Duplessis, Froment, Gusman, Mathieu, Maylander
- Bourses de voyage* (1903, *Travel Scholarships* [untranslated]) - 49
- Léon Benett - engravers: Duplessis, Dutertre, Froment, Gusman, Maylander
- Un Drame en Livonie* (1904, *A Drama in Livonia*) - 33
- Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Duplessis, Dutertre, Froment, Gusman, Mathieu, Maylander
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- George Roux - engravers: Barbant, Duplessis, Dutertre, Froment, Gusman, Mathieu, Maylander, Pannemaker
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- Léon Benett - engravers: Barbant, Duplessis, Froment, Gusman, Mathieu, Maylander, Vintraut
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- George Roux - engravers: Barbant, Clément, Duplessis, Dutertre, Froment, Mathieu, Maylander, Vintraut
- **Le Volcan d'or* (1906, *The Golden Volcano*) - 47
- George Roux - engravers: Dutertre, Froment, Maylander
- **L'Agence Thompson and Co.* (1907, *The Thompson Travel Agency*) - 44
- Léon Benett - engraver: Froment
- **La Chasse au météore* (1908, *The Chase of the Golden Meteor*) - 33
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- **Le Pilote du Danube* (1908, *The Danube Pilot*) - 29
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- George Roux
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ABSTRACT

Jules Verne's original *Voyages Extraordinaires* contained over four thousand illustrations—an average of 60+ per novel in the popular Hetzel red and gold “luxury” French editions. These Victorian-looking wood-cut plates and maps constituted an integral part of Verne's early sf oeuvre and, intercalated into the text at intervals of every 6-8 pages, they provided a powerful and omnipresent visual support structure to the text's fictional narrative, its embedded pedagogical lessons, and its “arm-chair voyage” exoticism. The world-wide popularity of Verne's *romans scientifiques* was no doubt at least partly attributable to the presence of these illustrations in his works.

Thus, given the hermeneutic and historical importance of the illustrations in Verne's oeuvre, it is somewhat surprising that, to date, they and the individuals who created them have been virtually ignored in both sf and Vernian criticism.

This article discusses the many varieties and functions of the illustrations in Verne's *Voyages Extraordinaires*, the talented artists and engravers who produced them, their collaborative working relationship with Verne and the editor Hetzel, and the technological evolution of this craft itself from Verne's earliest works in the 1860s to his final posthumous novel published in 1919.

