

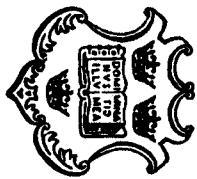
Cancelled, unincorporated stanza of *Don Juan*, possibly intended for Canto I, beginning 'I would to heaven that I were so much clay'. (For a text of the stanza see 'Canto I. Unincorporated Stanzas', printed below at the end of Canto I.)

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The Complete Poetical Works

JEROME J. MCGANN
EDITED BY

VOLUME V
Don Juan



CLARENDON PRESS · OXFORD

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LORD BYRON

So black the long worn Lion's hide in hue
You'd swear his very heart had sweated through.

55

B. [Headpiece Stanza in 1832 Edition]

I would to Heaven that I were so much Clay—
As I am blood—bone—marrow, passion—feeling—
Because at least the past were past away—
And for the future—(but I write this reeling
Having got drunk exceedingly to day
So that I seem to stand upon the ceiling)
I say—the future is a serious matter—
And so—for Godsake—Hock and Soda water.

5

55 <I mean / That is the linen next it, for the Skin / for the skin / for the Lion's skin> <That
is the shirt, the hide / swarthy hide without> / So black <both hide and linen in their hue /
at least the Lion's hide in hue> / the... hue 56 <Is filthy as his / Is black as if he
were / had burned> / <Twere best to bleach both shirt and? hide no doubt> / <Now black
as though he turned his inside / if you had turned him inside out>

B. [Headpiece Stanza in 1832 Edition]. Copy text: *M.S. P.M.*, where the stanza is cancelled

¹ I would to <God> that ² bone—<ashes> passion

3

I can't say that it puzzles me at all,
If all things be consider'd: first, there was
His lad¹, mother, mathematical,
A——never mind; his tutor, an old ass;

20

Had he but been placed at a public school,
In the third form, or even in the fourth,
His daily task had kept his fancy cool,
At least, had he been nurtured in the north;
Spain may prove an exception to the rule,
But then exceptions always prove its worth—
A lad of sixteen causing a divorce
Puzzled his tutors very much, of course.

2

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In the third form, or even in the fourth,
His daily task had kept his fancy cool,
At least, had he been nurtured in the north;

10 Spain may prove an exception to the rule,
But then exceptions always prove its worth—

15

Canto II. Copy text: *Prof. 1* (for sts. 1-71); *Prof. 2* (for sts. 72-161, 180-216); *first edn.*
(for sts. 162-79); collated with *MSS. P.M.*; the early Murray edns. Unless otherwise
indicated, variants are from *M.S. P.M.*

¹ teach the ingenuous] <have to teach> ² Holland] <Whether> ³ upon all]
well on ⁶ In ... were] <We sometimes see are> ⁷ <For in> ⁸ Lost
that most precious stone of stones—his Modesty ⁹ at] in ¹⁰ <Beginning>
¹¹ task] tasks *P.M.*, cor. in *M.* ¹³ prove an] <be an> ¹⁴ exceptions
<all> always ¹⁶ <Puzzling his private / Disgraced> his tutors ²⁰ A... an old
<Her> A... <a dull>

A pretty woman—(that's quite natural,
Or else the thing had hardly come to pass);
A husband rather old, not much in unity
With his young wife—a time, and opportunity.

4

Well—well, the world must turn upon its axis,
And all mankind turn with it, heads or tails,
And live and die, make love and pay our taxes,
And as the veering wind shifts, shift our sails;
The king commands us, and the doctor quacks us,
The priest instructs, and so our life exhales,
A little breath, love, wine, ambition, fame,
Fighting, devotion, dust,—perhaps a name.

5

I said, that Juan had been sent to Cadiz—
A pretty town, I recollect it well—
‘Tis there the mart of the colonial trade is
(Or was, before Peru learn'd to rebel)
And such sweet girls—I mean, such graceful ladies,
Their very walk would make your bosom swell;
I can't describe it, though so much it strike,
Nor liken it—I never saw the like:

6

An Arab horse, a stately stag, a barb
New broke, a camelopard, a gazelle,
No—none of these will do;—and then their garb!
Their veil and petticoat—Alas! to dwell

Upon such things would very near absorb
A canto—then their feet and ankles—well,
Thank heaven I've got no metaphor quite ready,
(And so, my sober Muse—come, let's be steady—
Chaste Musel—well, if you must, you must)—the veil
Thrown back a moment with the glancing hand,
While the o'erpowering eye, that turns you pale,
Flashes into the heart:—All sunny land
Of love! when I forget you, may I fail
To—say my prayers—but never was there plann'd
A dress through which the eyes give such a volley,
Excepting the Venetian Fazzioli.

7

But to our tale: the Donna Inez sent
Her son to Cadiz only to embark;
To stay there had not answer'd her intent,
But why?—we leave the reader in the dark—
‘Twas for a voyage that the young man was meant,
As if a Spanish ship were Noah's ark,
To wean him from the wickedness of earth,
And send him like a dove of promise forth.

8

Don Juan bade his valet pack his things
According to direction, then received
A lecture and some money: for four springs
He was to travel; and though Inez grieved,
(As every kind of parting has its stings)
She hoped he would improve—perhaps believed:

9

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According to direction, then received
A lecture and some money: for four springs
He was to travel; and though Inez grieved,
(As every kind of parting has its stings)
She hoped he would improve—perhaps believed:

²³ a husband *<in the vale of years>* ²⁶ or] *<and>* ²⁹ *<The Priest and King>* ²⁷ *<doctor quacks>* Doctor's] *quack* ³⁰ *<instructs>* *<conducts>* ³¹ A little *<love>* *breadth* *M* ³² *love, wine>* *wine—love* ³³ *<is where the best>* *P/M* *<is where the Mart M* ³⁴ *<is where the Mart>* *Tis where d—n me—if I ever saw>* the like ³⁵ *<is where the Mart>* *Tis where d—n me—if I ever saw>* the like ³⁶ *<before the Per>* *Peru* ³⁷ *<Before the Per>* *Peru* ³⁸ *<But <thrown back upon its haunches>>* *<New broke>* ³⁹ *<New broke>* *<thrown back upon its haunches>>* *<New broke>* ⁴⁰ *<But <man>>* *<that this her son>>* / her only son ⁴¹ *An Arab]* *<A Barbary>* ⁴² *New broke]* *<A Barbary>* ⁴³ *<A Camelopard—then their simple>* *Garb* ⁴⁴ *Alas]* *Oh Lord*

A letter, too, she gave (he never read it)

Of good advice—and two or three of credit.

10

In the mean time, to pass her hours away,
Brave Inez now set up a Sunday school
For naughty children, who would rather play
(Like truant rogues) the devil, or the fool;
Infants of three years old were taught that day,
Dunces were whipt, or set upon a stool:
The great success of Juan's education,
Spurr'd her to teach another generation.

11

Juan embark'd—the ship got under way,
The wind was fair, the water passing rough;
A devil of a sea rolls in that bay,
As I, who've cross'd it oft, know well enough;
And, standing upon deck, the dashing spray
Flies in one's face, and makes it weather-tough:
And there he stood to take, and take again,
His first—perhaps his last—farewell of Spain.

12

I can't but say it is an awkward sight
To see one's native land receding through
The growing waters; it unmans one quite,
Especially when life is rather new:
I recollect Great Britain's coast looks white,
But almost every other country's blue,
When gazing on them, mystified by distance,
We enter on our nautical existence.

95

16

So Juan wept, as wept the captive Jews
By Babel's waters, still remembering Sion:

71 *<She added too a>* 73 *<And now>* *PM* hours] years *PM*, cor. in *M*
77 three ... that] two years old spelt on that *PM* three years old Spelt on that *M*, cor. in *M*
Prof,
78 or *sel*] and put
79-80 Their manners mending, and their morals curing,
She taught them to suppress their vice and urine. *PM*, *M*, cor. on *Prof*,
84 *<As I who've sailed>* 91 waters] *<distance>* 92 when Life<s> is
93 *<it>*

So Juan stood, bewilderd, on the deck:
The wind sung, cordage strain'd, and sailors swore,
And the ship creak'd, the town became a speck,
From which away so fair and fast they bore.
The best of remedies is a beef-steak
Against sea-sickness; try it, sir, before
You sneer, and I assure you this is true,
For I have found it answer—so may you.

75

80

14

Don Juan stood, and, gazing from the stern,
Beheld his native Spain receding far:
First partings form a lesson hard to learn,
Even nations feel this when they go to war,
There is a sort of unexpressed concern,
A kind of shock that sets one's heart ajar:
At leaving even the most unpleasant people
And places, one keeps looking at the steeple.

105

15

But Juan had got many things to leave,
His mother, and a mistress, and no wife,
So that he had much better cause to grieve
Than many persons more advanced in life,
And if we now and then a sigh must heave
At quitting even those we quit in strife,
No doubt we weep for those the heart endears—
That is, till deeper griefs congeal our tears.

115

16

120

101 remedies is] *<Consolation's>* 103 sneer ... this] *<laugh—but / for>* I assure you
it *PM* sneer ... this *M* 104 found it answer] tried it well—and
<looking> 107 form] are 110 sets] set's, *Prof*,
<places> 112 one keeps looking] *<One looks crying>* 114] his 117 we]
one 119 weep ... heart] *<cry downright for>* weep for *<those>* / whom the
heart 120 till] till *PM* congeal] freeze up *PM*. *M*, cor. on *Prof*,

I'd weep, but mine is not a weeping Muse,
And such light griefs are not a thing to die on;
Young men should travel, if but to amuse
Themselves; and the next time their servants tie on
Behind their carriages their new portmanteau,
Perhaps it may be lined with this my canto.

17

And Juan wept, and much he sigh'd and thought,
While his salt tears dropp'd into the salt sea,
'Sweets to the sweet,' I like so much to quote;
You must excuse this extract, 'tis where she,
The Queen of Denmark, for Ophelia brought
Flowers to the grave); and sobbing often, he
Reflected on his present situation,

And seriously resolved on reformation.

18

'Farewell, my Spain! a long farewell!' he cried,
'Perhaps I may revisit thee no more,
But die, as many an exiled heart hath died,
Of its own thirst to see again thy shore:
Farewell, where Guadalquivir's waters glide!
Farewell, my mother! and, since all is o'er,
Farewell, too dearest Julia!—(here he drew
Her letter out again, and read it through.)

19

'And oh! if e'er I should forget, I swear—
But that's impossible, and cannot be—
Sooner shall this blue ocean melt to air,
Sooner shall earth resolve itself to sea,

145

140

He felt that chilling heaviness of heart,
Or rather stomach, which, alas! attends,
Beyond the best apothecary's art,
The loss of love, the treachery of friends,
Or death of those we doat on, when a part
Of us dies with them as each fond hope ends:
No doubt he would have been much more pathetic,
But the sea acted as a strong emetic.

21

Love's a capricious power; I've known it hold
Out through a fever caused by its own heat,
But be much puzzled by a cough and cold,
And find a quinsy very hard to treat;
Against all noble maladies he's bold,
But vulgar illnesses don't like to meet,
Nor that a sneeze should interrupt his sigh,
Nor inflammations redder his blind eye.

170

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175

¹²⁶ and ... time] and when they bid *PM, cor. in M* ¹²⁷ <Their>
he sight'd and] <thus> he <thoug> said or *PM, cor. in M* ¹²⁸ *thee*] <you>
<waves> ¹²⁹ die ... hath] <never yet reluctant Exile> ¹³⁰ sea] ¹³¹ see]
again> its ... to see again] <his> ... again to see ¹³² she] <raves> ¹³³ the] <her>
thou more> ¹⁴³ <More> Than all—dear—dearest Julia—(here he drew
148 resolve ... to] <confound ... with>

Than I resign thine image, Oh! my fair!
Or think of any thing excepting thee;
A mind diseased no remedy can physic—
(Here the ship gave a lurch, and he grew sea-sick.)

20

'Sooner shall heaven kiss earth'—(here he fell sicker)
'Oh, Julia! what is every other woe?—
(For God's sake let me have a glass of liquor,
Pedro, Battista, help me down below.)
Julia, my love!—(you rascal, Pedro, quicker)—
Oh Julia!—(this curst vessel pitches so)—
Beloved Julia, hear me still beseeching!
(Here he grew inarticulate with reaching.)

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23

But worst of all is nausea, or a pain,
About the lower region of the bowels;
Love, who heroically breathes a vein,
Shrinks from the application of hot towels,
And purgatives are dangerous to his reign,
Sea-sickness death: his love was perfect, how else
Could Juan's passion, while the billows roar,
Resist his stomach, ne'er at sea before?

26

'Twas not without some reason, for the wind
Increased at night, until it blew a gale;
And though 'twas not much to a naval mind,
Some landsmen would have look'd a little pale,
For sailors are, in fact, a different kind:
At sunset they began to take in sail,
For the sky show'd it would come on to blow,
And carry away, perhaps, a mast or so.

97

The ship, call'd the most holy 'Trinidad,'
Was steering duly for the port Leghorn;
For there the Spanish family Moncada
Were settled long ere Juan's sire was born:
They were relations, and for them he had a
Letter of introduction, which the morn
Of his departure had been sent him by
His Spanish friends for those in Italy.

24

185 At one o'clock the wind with sudden shift
Threw the ship right into the trough of the sea,
Which struck her aft, and made an awkward rift,
Started the stern-post, also shatter'd the
Whole of her stern-frame, and ere she could lift
190 Herself from out her present jeopardy
The rudder tore away: 'twas time to sound
The pumps, and there were four feet water found.

27

195 One gang of people instantly was put
Upon the pumps, and the remainder set
To get up part of the cargo, and what not,
But they could not come at the leak as yet;
At last they did get at it really, but
200 Still their salvation was an even bet:
The water rush'd through in a way quite puzzling,
While they thrust sheets, shirts, jackets, bales of muslin,

25 His suite consisted of three servants and
A tutor, the licentiate Pedrillo,
Who several languages did understand,
But now lay sick and speechless on his pillow,
And, rocking in his hammock, long'd for land,
His headache being increased by every billow;
And the waves oozing through the port-hole made
His birth a little damp, and him afraid.

28

204 <It made> 'Twould make most

205 not ... naval] <fair enough> to a <naval>

206 began ... in] took in a deal of *PM, cor. in M*

207 <deadly> 208 vein' <deadly> 209 <deadly> 210 <Shattered

211 <deadly> 212 <deadly> 213 <deadly> 214 <deadly>

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219 <deadly> 220 <deadly> 221 <deadly> 222 <deadly>

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771 <deadly> 772 <deadly> 773 <deadly> 774 <deadly>

775 <deadly> 776 <deadly> 777 <deadly> 778 <deadly>

29
Into the opening; but all such ingredients
Would have been vain, and they must have gone down,
Despite of all their efforts and expedients,
But for the pumps: I'm glad to make them known
To all the brother tars who may have need hence,
For fifty tons of water were upthrown
By them per hour, and they had all been undone
But for their maker, Mr. Mann, of London.

225

30

As day advanced the weather seem'd to abate,
And then the leak they reckon'd to reduce,
And keep the ship afloat, though three feet yet
Kept two hand and one chain-pump still in use.
The wind blew fresh again: as it grew late
A squall came on, and while some guns broke loose,
A gust—which all descriptive power transcends—
Laid with one blast the ship on her beam ends.

240

31

There she lay, motionless, and seem'd upset;
The water left the hold, and wash'd the decks,
And made a scene men do not soon forget;
For they remember battles, fires, and wrecks,
Or any other thing that brings regret,
Or breaks their hopes, or hearts, or heads, or necks:
Thus drownings are much talk'd of by the divers
And swimmers who may chance to be survivors.

245

32

Immediately the masts were cut away,

250

Both main and mizen; first the mizen went,

229 To all thel *(For all my) PM* *(For)* To all the *M*
cds. 233 abate *(moderate)* 234 *(A little)* And the leak *(was in conse-*
quence reduced) 235 reckon'd to thought they could 235 And . . . though] *(A little*
<Gust> . . . several PM, cor. in M 239 which all *(my power o)* 243 men
do not] *(they / they will)* nor 247 Thus *(drownings are remember-*

250 *(Mizen and)* 250 *(Mizen and)*

The mainmast follow'd: but the ship still lay
Like a mere log, and baffled our intent.
Foremast and bowsprit were cut down, and they
Eased her at last (although we never meant
To part with all till every hope was blighted),
And then with violence the old ship righted.

255

33

It may be easily supposed, while this
Was going on, some people were unquiet,
That passengers would find it much amiss
To lose their lives as well as spoil their diet;
Days nearly o'er, might be disposed to riot,
As upon such occasions tars will ask
For grog, and sometimes drink rum from the cask.

260

There's nought, no doubt, so much the spirit calms

34

35

As rum and true religion; thus it was,
Some plunder'd, some drank spirits, some sung psalms,
The high wind made the treble, and as bass
The hoarse harsh waves kept time; fright cured the qualms
Of all the luckless landsmen's sea-sick maws:
Strange sounds of wailing, blasphemy, devotion,
Clamour'd in chorus to the roaring ocean.

265

Perhaps more mischief had been done, but for
Our Juan, who, with sense beyond his years,
Got to the spirit-room, and stood before
It with a pair of pistols; and their fears,

275

222 As if *(she fain would)* old Ocean baffled *(our / their)* our intent *PM, cor. in M*
223 till . . . was] until all hopes were 221 *(The fight cured all their qualms)*
224 sometimes *(tap the)* able
seamen] *(Seamen hardy)* 222 Days *(at)* nearly 224 sometimes *(tap the)*
225 till . . . was] until all hopes were 221 *(The fight cured all their qualms)*
226 spirits] *(brandy)* 222 Days *(at)* nearly 224 sometimes *(tap the)*
drink 227 The . . . time] *(The dashing / chiming waves*
its pause] and as] with their 226 The . . . time] *(The dashing / chiming waves*
filled up] / *(The hoarse harsh waves chiming loud / chimed loud)* 2270 the
landsmen] *(luckless)* 221 *(And a)* 223 more . . . done] *(the whole would*
have got drunk) / *(the whole had tipsy been)* / Perhaps more mischief *(there)* had

As if Death were more dreadful by his door
Of fire than water, spite of oaths and tears,
Kept still aloof the crew, who, ere they sunk,
Thought it would be becoming to die drunk.

A glimpse of sunshine set some hands to bale—
The stronger pump'd, the weaker thrum'd a sail.

36

'Give us more grog,' they cried, 'for it will be
All one an hour hence.' Juan answer'd, 'No!
'Tis true that death awaits both you and me,
But let us die like men, not sink below
Like brutes.'—and thus his dangerous post kept he,
And none liked to anticipate the blow;
And even Pedrillo, his most reverend tutor,
Was for some rum a disappointed suitor.

37

The good old gentleman was quite aghast,
And made a loud and pious lamentation;
Repented all his sins, and made a last
Irrevocable vow of reformation;
Nothing should tempt him more (this peril past)
To quit his academic occupation,
In cloisters of the classic Salamanca,
To follow Juan's wake like Sancho Pance.

38

But now there came a flash of hope once more;
Day broke, and the wind lull'd: the masts were gone,
The leak increased; shoals round her, but no shore,
They tried the pumps again, and though before
Their desperate efforts seem'd all useless grown,

39

Under the vessel's keel the sail was past,
And for the moment it had some effect;
But with a leak, and not a stick of mast,
Nor rag of canvas, what could they expect?
But still 'tis best to struggle to the last,
'Tis never too late to be wholly wreck'd:
And though 'tis true that man can only die once,
Tis not so pleasant in the Gulf of Lyons.

40

There winds and waves had hurl'd them, and from thence,
Without their will, they carried them away;
For they were forced with steering to dispense,
And never had as yet a quiet day
On which they might repose, or even commence
A jurymast or rudder, or could say
The ship would swim an hour, which, by good luck,
Still swam—though not exactly like a duck.

41

The wind, in fact, perhaps was rather less,
But the ship labour'd so, they scarce could hope
To weather out much longer; the distress
Was also great with which they had to cope
For want of water, and their solid mess
Was scant enough: in vain the telescope
Was used—nor sail nor shore appear'd in sight,
Nought but the heavy sea, and coming night.

²⁷⁷ *<Although>* As if ... by *<that>* door
<them> still ... <on the borders> / while they sunk ²⁷⁹ Kept still ... ere they sunk] Kept
know that we must die both] ²⁸⁰ Tis ... both you *<me>* and me ²⁸¹ more] ²⁸² some] ²⁸³ (1
And none *<wished>* to ²⁸⁴ Or leave] ²⁸⁵ In *<quiet / choirs of>* cloisters ²⁸⁶ *<Pedrillo / His tut>
though ²⁸⁷ *<glimpse>* ²⁸⁸ Was for *<a glass of rum / of / a baf>* ²⁸⁹ and] ²⁹⁰ and] ²⁹¹ *<the* Wind
shore] ²⁹² *<and / the / out of sight of shore>* / *<and near a rocky shore>* ²⁹³ To *<out>* weather ... *<and>* the distress
shore ²⁹⁴ 300 The ... she] Yet still the vessel swum and ²⁹⁵ swam] ²⁹⁶ M ²⁹⁷ *<shoals ...*
<eff / worn-out> ²⁹⁸ *<eff came>* Yet still the vessel swum and ²⁹⁹ swam] ³⁰⁰ M ³⁰¹ Their
³⁰² Their*

³⁰³ to *<bail>* ³⁰⁴ *<And others>* ³⁰⁵ *<ugly dying>* in
³¹³ hurried ... from] *<carried them and / drove them and from* ³¹⁴ *<yet>* by good luck ³¹⁵ Still swam] ³¹⁶ *<She>* swum *P/M* Still swum
yet she swum] ³¹⁷ *<their solid>* ³¹⁸ *<Heaven M* ³¹⁹ an hour—*<and* ³²⁰ *<out>* weather ... *<and>* the distress ³²¹ *<their solid>* ³²² *<Heaven*
knows our] ³²³ To *<out>* weather ... *<and>* the distress ³²⁴ *<their solid>* ³²⁵ *<Heaven*
Was *<scant / very short allowance>* ³²⁶ *<scant / very short allowance>* ³²⁷ *<appear'd>*
<cer came> now seemed *P/M* *<cer came / yet came>* ³²⁸ Nought but the *<some large>* heavy *P/M* coming] *<cloudy>* ³²⁹ M

42

Again the weather threaten'd,—again blew
 A gale, and in the fore and after hold
 Water appear'd; yet, though the people knew
 All this, the most were patient, and some bold,
 Until the chains and leathers were worn through
 Of all our pumps:—a wreck complete she roll'd,
 At mercy of the waves, whose mercies are
 Like human beings during civil war.

330

335

Some lash'd them in their hammocks, some put on
 Their best clothes, as if going to a fair;
 Some cursed the day on which they saw the sun,
 And gnash'd their teeth, and, howling, tore their hair;
 And others went on as they had begun,
 Getting the boats out, being well aware
 That a tight boat will live in a rough sea,
 Unless with breakers close beneath her lee.

45

43

Then came the carpenter, at last, with tears
 In his rough eyes, and told the captain, he
 Could do no more; he was a man in years,
 And long had voyaged through many a stormy sea
 And if he wept at length, they were not fears
 That made his eyelids as a woman's be,
 But he, poor fellow, had a wife and children,
 Two things for dying people quite bewildering.

340

345

The ship was evidently settling now
 Fast by the head; and, all distinction gone,
 Some went to prayers again, and made a vow
 Of candles to their saints—but there were none
 To pay them with; and some look'd o'er the bow;

Some hoisted out the boats; and there was one
 That begg'd Pedrillo for an absolution,
 Who told him to be damn'd—in his confusion.

44

47

The worst of all was, that in their condition,
 Having been several days in great distress,
 'Twas difficult to get out such provision
 As now might render their long suffering less:
 Men, even when dying, dislike inanition;
 Their stock was damaged by the weather's stress:
 Two casks of biscuit, and a keg of butter,
 Were all that could be thrown into the cutter.

350

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355

But in the long-boat they contrived to stow
 Some pounds of bread, though injured by the wet;
 Water, a twenty gallon cask or so;
 Six flasks of wine; and they contrived to get
 A portion of their beef up from below,
 And with a piece of pork, moreover, met,
 But scarce enough to serve them for a luncheon—
 Then there was rum, eight gallons in a puncheon.

329 again [the] blew 332 the most were] *<they all were>* 334 a wreck
 complete] *<and now a wreck>* 336 beings [when] during 341 they were not] 354 *<Their best clothes—others>* / Their
 (twas not his) 342 That [filled his eyes / filled his stern old] made 342 *<most>* 355 *<new> clothes* 357 *<And others>* But [most]
 ... people] *<Which in a gale of wind is>* 345 The <?> ship 358 well] quite
 <and some> again 349 them] it 350 <And> Some 359 *<all at>* all
 Who <asked> P.M <Who> begged M 352 <But> Who <bade go> told 360 *<the> breakers* 361 *<at>* all
 362 several
 363 *<many>* 364 now] *<still>* 365 *<However>* Men <think> will <grow> / prove
 hungry even when next perdition, P.M, cor. in M 366 *<But>* 367 *<But two*
 small casks of biscuit—one> 368 slow] *<throw>* 370 though <damage>
 injured 371 *<A twenty gallon cask of water too>* 372 *<Five quarts of rum>*
 and they 373 beef] *<pork>* 374 And ... moreover] They ... too also
 376 eight] six

The other boats, the yawl and pinnace, had
Been stove in the beginning of the gale;
And the long-boar's condition was but bad,
As there were but two blankets for a sail,
And one oar for a mast, which a young lad
Threw in by good luck over the ship's rail;
And two boats could not hold, far less be stored,
To save one half the people then on board.

380

At half-past eight o'clock, booms, hencoops, spars,
And all things, for a chance, had been cast loose
That still could keep afloat the struggling tars,
For yet they strove, although of no great use:
There was no light in heaven but a few stars,
The boats put off o'ercrowded with their crews;
She gave a heel, and then a lurch to port,
And going down head foremost—sunk, in short.

"T'was twilight, and the sunless day went down
Over the waste of waters; like a veil,
Which, if withdrawn, would but disclose the frenzied
Of one whose hate is masked but to assail;
Thus to their hopeless eyes the night was shown.
And grimly darkled o'er their faces pale,
And the dim desolate deep; twelve days had Festered
Been their familiar, and now Death was here.

Some trial had been making at a raft,
With little hope in such a rolling sea,
A sort of thing at which one would have laugh'd,
If any laughter at such times could be,
Unless with people who too much have quaff'd,
And have a kind of wild and horrid glee,
Half epileptical, and half hysterical:—
Their preservation would have been a miracle.

53

And first one universal shriek there rush'd
Louder than the loud ocean, like a cra-
Of echoing thunder; and then all was hu-
Save the wild wind and the remorseless
Of billows; but at intervals there gush'd
Accompanied with a convulsive splash
A solitary shriek, the bubbling cry

382 «had thrown in» I threw in by *«accident o'er»* the 383 «And these two boats
I could not far still 385 twilight, and] *«Evening—and»* / twilight, for
M., M., Proof 1, 1st edn., cor. in letter to Murray, 8 November 1819 387 Which
being withdrawn discloses but the frown

India for Books

DON JUAN

CANTO II 1819

107

The boats, as stated, had got off before,

And in them crowded several of the crew;

And yet their present hope was hardly more

Than what it had been, for so strong it blew

There was slight chance of reaching any shore;

And then they were too many, though so few—

Nine in the cutter, thirty in the boat,
Were counted in them when they got afloat.

54

Left him so drunk, he jump'd into the wave
As o'er the cutter's edge he tried to cross,
And so he found a wine-and-watery grave;

They could not rescue him although so close,

Because the sea ran higher every minute,

And for the boat—the crew kept crowding in it.

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Though on the wave's high top too much to set,
They dared not take it in for all the breeze;
Each sea curl'd o'er the stern, and kept them wet,
And made them bale without a moment's ease,
So that themselves as well as hopes were damp'd,
And the poor little cutter quickly swamp'd.

9

Nine souls more went in her: the long-boat still
Kept above water, with an oar for mast,
Two blankets stitch'd together, answering ill
Instead of sail, were to the oar made fast:
Though every wave roll'd menacing to fill,
And present peril all before surpass'd,
They grieved for those who perish'd with the cutter,
And also for the biscuit casks and butter.

29

The sun rose red and fiery, a sure sign
Of the continuance of the gale: to run
Before the sea, until it should grow fine,
Was all that for the present could be done:
A few tea-spoonfuls of their rum and wine
Was served out to the people, who begun
To faint, and damaged bread wet through the bags,
And most of them had little clothes but rags.

୮

They counted thirty, crowded in a space
Which left scarce room for motion or exertion;
They did their best to modify their case,
One half sat up, though numb'd with the immersion;
While t'other half were laid down in their place,

495

'Tis thus with people in an open boat,
They live upon the love of life, and bear
More than can be believed, or even thought,
And stand like rocks the tempest's wear and tear.
And hardship still has been the sailor's lot,
Since Noah's ark went cruising here and there.
She had a curious crew as well as cargo,
Like the first old Greek privateer, the Argo.

At watch and watch; thus, shivering like the tertian
Ague in its cold fit, they fill'd their boat,
With nothing but the sky for a great coat.

३

'Tis said that persons living on annuities
Are longer lived than others,—God knows why.
Unless to plague the grantors,—yet so true it is,
That some, I really think, *do* never die;
Of any creditors the worst a Jew it is,
And *that's* their mode of furnishing supply:
In my young days they lent me cash that way,
Which I found very troublesome to pay.

三

470 <i>sawed</i> <i>out</i>	477 <i>For the Sea curfed oer the stern / As each curling</i> Each Sea curfed <i>P/M</i> Each <i>Sea / Wave</i> Sea curfed <i>M</i>	478 a moment's] <i><repose</i> <i>or></i>
480 <i>(As for)</i>	485 <i><and the / While></i>	486 And present peril
<i><seemed to mark the></i>	488 And . . . the] As well as for the <i>(ir)</i> <i>P/M</i> , cor. in	
<i>M</i>	489 a sure sign] a <i><bad></i> / Sign	494 <i>Was</i>] Were <i>1822</i> and all later edas, except <i>DJV</i>
<i>full></i> / counted	495 To faint – <i><they had a></i> and	497 They <i><were in all</i>
	501 <i><And></i> 'other half <i><then></i> were	

502 thus] <white> 509 still ... the] <don't despair — for then> the
|Or] <white> 511 recovery's the] 512 miseries] sufferings *PM*, *M.*, *car. on*
Proof, 516 do *PM*, *M.*, *cor. on PM*,
man's 519 <When> In 522 the love] <the> / love 517 any] <every> all
<Mariner's> 526 <Exposed> Since ... ark <was> cruising 525 And
perhaps for man than an Embargo] curious] <queer old> 527 <Better
well as the> 528 Like ... old] <As

But man is a carnivorous production,

And must have meals, at least one meal a day;
He cannot live, like woodcocks, upon suction,

But, like the shark and tiger, must have prey:

Although his anatomical construction

Bears vegetables in a grumbling way,

Your labouring people think beyond all question,

Beef, veal, and mutton, better for digestion.

67

And thus it was with this our hapless crew,

For on the third day there came on a calm,
And though at first their strength it might renew,

And lying on their weariness like balm,

Lull'd them like turtles sleeping on the blue

Of ocean, when they woke they felt a qualm,

And fell all ravenously on their provision,

Instead of hoarding it with due precision.

68

The consequence was easily foreseen—

They ate up all they had, and drank their wine,
In spite of all remonstrances, and then

On what, in fact, next day were they to dine?

They hoped the wind would rise, these foolish men!

And carry them to shore; these hopes were fine,

But as they had but one oar, and that brittle,

It would have been more wise to save their victual.

70

The fourth day came, but not a breath of air,
And Ocean slumber'd like an unwean'd child:

69

They lay like carcases; and hope was none,

Save in the breeze that came not; savagely

They glared upon each other—all was done,

Water, and wine, and food,—and you might see

The longings of the cannibal arise

(Although they spoke not) in their wolfish eyes.

73

At length one whisper'd his companion, who
Whisper'd another, and thus it went round,
And then into a hoarser murmur grew,
An ominous, and wild, and desperate sound,

And when his comrade's thought each sufferer knew,

72

The seventh day, and no wind—the burning sun

Blister'd and scorch'd, and, stagnant on the sea,

They lay like carcases; and hope was none,

Save in the breeze that came not; savagely

They glared upon each other—all was done,

Water, and wine, and food,—and you might see

The longings of the cannibal arise

(Although they spoke not) in their wolfish eyes.

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532 and] or 533 Although his *frame* is of a 534 Admits of vegetables /
Accords with vegetable> 536 That Beef and mutton's better 537 crew,] crew;
all adjs. 539 strength] <hope> 540 lying on] <lay upon> 541 <And
slept> like Turtles <floating> on 542 fel[!] had 543 all] <so> 544 The
Consequence may easily be seen 548 in . . . were] next day in fact were 545 The
not] and <there> not 554 And <the> Ocean 553 but

556 <And> The Sea and Air were 557 <They> 559 his] <all>
562 refused] <held out> 563 <It was his father!> creature] <spaniel> 565 re-
morse <althou> 568 longing] <wishing> 570 Blistered <their hands> 571 lay
<and> like 572 Save] But 573 glared] looked 575 longings] workings
PM, cor. in M 578 went] ran 579 <Until at> 581 And <then at
length the common thought they> when <each> comrade's

With their one oar (I wish they had had a pair)

What could they do? and hunger's rage grew wild—

So Juan's spaniel, spite of his entreating,

Was kill'd, and portion'd out for present eating.

The fifth day, and their boat lay floating there,
The sea and sky were blue, and clear, and mild—

With their one oar (I wish they had had a pair)

What could they do? and hunger's rage grew wild—

So Juan's spaniel, spite of his entreating,

Was kill'd, and portion'd out for present eating.

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80

Their numbers were much thinn'd by this infliction,

And all the rest were thin enough, heaven knows;

And some of them had lost their recollection,

Happier than they who still perceived their woes;

But others ponder'd on a new dissection,

As if not warn'd sufficiently by those

Who had already perish'd, suffering madly,

For having used their appetites so sadly.

81

And next they thought upon the master's mate,

As fattest; but he saved himself, because,

Besides being much averse from such a fate,

There were some other reasons; the first was,

He had been rather indisposed of late,

And that which chiefly prov'd his saving clause,

Was a small present made to him at Cadiz,

By general subscription of the ladies.

82

Of poor Pedrillo something still remain'd,

But was used sparingly,—some were afraid,

And others still their appetites constrain'd,

Or but at times a little supper made;

All except Juan, who throughout abstain'd,

Chewing a piece of bamboo, and some lead:

At length they caught two boobies, and a noddy,

And then they left off eating the dead body.

83

And if Pedrillo's fate should shocking be,

Remember Ugolino condescends

639 suffering] *as we said so*

641 They thought *<of>* about the Master's mate

<who was>

642 *The> fattest*

644 first] *great*

646 And *this*

was> that which

647 Was *<that he got the / his malady at>* Cadiz

648 *(By*

liking a variety of ladies / A present liberally made by ladies)

652 Or but! Still

they

653 *who <through all>*

654 *<And chewed>* a

657 *<And if>*

Pedrillo's *<doom>*

84

To eat the head of his arch-enemy
The moment after he politely ends
His tale; if foes be food in hell, at sea
'Tis surely fair to dine upon our friends,

When shipwreck's short allowance grows too scanty,
Without being much more horrible than Dante.

640

And the same night there fell a shower of rain,
For which their mouths gaped, like the cracks of earth

645

When dried to summer dust; till taught by pain,
Men really know not what good water's worth;

If you had been in Turkey or in Spain,
Or with a famish'd boat's-crew had your birth,

Or in the desert heard the camel's bell,
You'd wish yourself where Truth is—in a well.

650

It pour'd down torrents, but they were no richer
Until they found a ragged piece of sheet,

Which served them as a sort of spongy pitcher,

And when they deem'd its moisture was complete,

They wrung it out, and though a thirsty ditcher

Might not have thought the scanty draught so sweet

As a full pot of porter, to their thinking

They ne'er till now had known the joys of drinking.

655

And their baked lips, with many a bloody crack,

Suck'd in the moisture, which like nectar stream'd;

Their throats were ovens, their swollen tongues were black,

As the rich man's in hell, who vainly scream'd

To beg the beggar, who could not rain back

655

667 till <we are> by 668 what <could> good 670 <boat> boat's
642 <The> fattest 644 first] *great* 671 <You'de> Or in the desert <feit> 673 pour'd down] fell in 674 found
646 And <this 675 moisture] fullness 676 moisture] fullness 677 thought<t a
was> that which 647 Was <that he got the / his malady at> Cadiz 648 *(By* 678 thought ... so] deemed ... <to> 679 porter]
liking a variety of ladies / A present liberally made by ladies) 652 Or but! Still labour / ditcher>^a 680 till <know> now 681 baked ... many] parched lips <which in>
they 653 *who <through all>* 654 *<And chewed>* a 657 *<And if>* Meix's 682 till <know> now 683 baked ... many] parched lips <which in>
many 684 till <the> beg ... not <send> back 685 To <the> beg ... not <send> back

Our shipwreck'd seamen thought it a good omen—

It is as well to think so, now and then;

'Twas an old custom of the Greek and Roman,

And may become of great advantage when

Folks are discouraged; and most surely no men

Had greater need to nerve themselves again

Than these, and so this rainbow look'd like hope—

Quite a celestial kaleidoscope.

93

About this time a beautiful white bird,

Webfooted, not unlike a dove in size

And plumage, (probably) it might have err'd

Upon its course) pass'd oft before their eyes,

And tried to perch, although it saw and heard

The men within the boat, and in this guise

It came and went, and flutter'd round them till

Night fell:—this seem'd a better omen still.

94

About this time a beautiful white bird,

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95

But in this case I also must remark,

'Twas well this bird of promise did not perch,

Because the tackle of our shatter'd bark

Was not so safe for roosting as a church;

And had it been the dove from Noah's ark,

Returning there from her successful search,

Which in their way that moment chanced to fall,

They would have eat her, olive-branch and all.

96

With twilight it again came on to blow,

But not with violence; the stars shone out,

760

The day before, fast sleeping on the water,
They found a turtle of the hawk's-bill kind,

And by good fortune gliding softly caught her,

Which yielded a day's life, and to their mind

Proved even still a more nutritious matter,

Because it left encouragement behind:

99

760

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765

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And by good fortune gliding softly caught her,

Which yielded a day's life, and to their mind

Proved even still a more nutritious matter,

Because it left encouragement behind:

And then of these some part burst into tears,
And others, looking with a stupid stare,
Could not yet separate their hopes from fears,
And seem'd as if they had no further care;

While a few pray'd—(the first time for some years)—

And at the bottom of the boat three were

Asleep; they shook them by the hand and head,

And tried to awaken them, but found them dead.

98

As morning broke the light wind died away,
When he who had the watch sung out and swore,
If 'twas nor land that rose with the sun's ray
He wish'd that land he never might see more;
And the rest rubb'd their eyes, and saw a bay,
Or thought they saw, and shaped their course for shore,
For shore it was, and gradually grew
Distinct, and high, and palpable to view.

97

The boat made way; yet now they were so low,
They knew not where nor what they were about;
Some fancied they saw land, and some said 'No!'
The frequent fog-banks gave them cause to doubt—
Some swore that they heard breakers, others guns,
And all mistook about the latter once.

739 an old *one good* 741 *(We)* are 743 *look'd like] gave them*
 745 time *<too>* 747 And plumage—*<whether or no it be>* 748
 Upon ... pass'd] And missed its course) came *PM, cor. in M* 752 fell) came *PM,*
cor. in M 755 *<Within the precincts> of* 761 *<And with the night again it*
grew to blow> 769 *Was even still a <far> more*

763 *<And> the boat <was> sailed—but their Spirits were so low PM soj <all> so M*
 764 *nor] or* 765 *fancied] thought* 766 *<And to say truth>* 770 *sung*
 out] rose up 771 *that <skirted> rose* 773 *rubb'd ... a] <rose and saw a*
distant> 776 *Distinct <and different from the> and ... palpable <in hue> 777 some*
... into] <the most part burst in> 781 *a few] others* 784 *waken] <awaken>*
waken 789 *Was even still a <far> more*

103

They thought that in such perils, more than chance
Had sent them this for their deliverance.

100

The land appear'd a high and rocky coast,
And higher grew the mountains as they drew,
Set by a current, toward it: they were lost
In various conjectures, for none knew
To what part of the earth they had been toss'd,
So changeable had been the winds that blew;
Some thought it was Mount Aetna, some the highlands
Of Candia, Cyprus, Rhodes, or other islands.

101

Meantime the current, with a rising gale,
Still set them onwards to the welcome shore,
Like Charon's bark of spectres, dull and pale:
Their living freight was now reduced to four,
And three dead, whom their strength could not avail
To heave into the deep with those before,
Though the two sharks still follow'd them, and dash'd
The spray into their faces as they splash'd.

102

Famine, despair, cold, thirst and heat, had done
Their work on them by turns, and thinn'd them to
Such things a mother had not known her son
Amidst the skeletons of that gaunt crew,
By night chill'd, by day scorch'd, thus one by one
They perish'd, until wither'd to these few,
But chiefly by a species of self-slaughter,
In washing down Pedrillo with salt water.

815

791 They thought <that after such escapes> 798 changeable] <variably / vari-
able / varying> 799 <So> Some ... Mount (Atlas) 800 Of (the
Morean—Crete—or the Greek) Islands 804 living] former *PM, cor. in M*
805 <Besides three dead> Three dead too whom *PM, cor. in M* 806 deep <the
Gunwale o'er> 807 dash'd] <lashed> 808 <The surface with tails as on they
dashed> 809 thirst] <Hunger> 811 Such <wretched> things 812 gaunt] 821 fell ... eyes] <fanning their glazed / hot eyelids> /
lost 813 Chilled by the Night—and blackened by the Sun 814 They died
away till thus reduced to few 816 < Eating Pedr>

As they drew nigh the land, which now was seen
Unequal in its aspect here and there,
They felt the freshness of its growing green,
That waved in forest-tops, and smooth'd the air,
And fell upon their glazed eyes like a screen
From glistening waves, and skies so hot and bare—
Lovely seem'd any object that should sweep
Away the vast, salt, dread, eternal deep.

104

The shore look'd wild, without a trace of man,
And girt by formidable waves; but they
Were mad for land, and thus their course they ran,
Though right ahead the roaring breakers lay:
A reef between them also now began
To show its boiling surf and bounding spray,
But finding no place for their landing better,
They ran the boat for shore, and overset her.

105

But in his native stream, the Guadalquivir,
Juan to leave his youthful limbs was wont,
And having learnt to swim in that sweet river,
Had often turn'd the art to some account:
A better swimmer you could scarce see ever,
He could, perhaps, have pass'd the Hellespont,
As once (afeat on which ourselves we prided)
Leander, Mr. Ekenhead, and I did.

825

835

840

845

818 <To vary> in 821 fell ... eyes] <fanning their glazed / hot eyelids> /
any object> Lovely <was> seemed 824 vast—dull—dread—<unbroken>
Deep 825 wild <and people'd> without 830 its <sur> boiling 831 <But
still the / And there they ran their boat on / they ran their boat and overset her> / But
<seeing> no 832 ran the<in> boat *M* 833 <Juan whose hat> 836 <The
art had practised> 838 pass d] crossed 839feat] act

106

So here, though faint, emaciated, and stark,
He buoy'd his boyish limbs, and strove to ply
With the quick wave, and gain, ere it was dark,
The beach which lay before him, high and dry:
That carried off his neighbour by the thigh;
As for the other two they could not swim,
So nobody arrived on shore but him.

107

Nor yet had he arrived but for the oar,
Which, providentially for him, was wash'd
Just as his feeble arms could strike no more,
And the hard wave o'erwhelm'd him as 'twas dash'd
Within his grasp; he clung to it, and sore
The waters beat while he thereto was lash'd;
At last, with swimming, wading, scrambling, he
Roll'd on the beach, half senseless, from the sea:

108

There, breathless, with his digging nails he clung
Fast to the sand, lest the returning wave,
From whose reluctant roar his life he wrung,
Should suck him back to her insatiate grave:
And there he lay, full length, where he was flung,
Before the entrance of a cliff-worn cave,
With just enough of life to feel its pain,
And deem that it was saved, perhaps, in vain.

109

With slow and staggering effort he arose,
But sink again upon his bleeding knee

110

~~841 faint] weak~~ 842 He buoy<ish limbs and strove> M 843 With the
<embracing> wave to <where some mark> 844 <Of smoother> which lay] he
saw 845 The] His 846 his neighbour's leg and> thigh 847
Nor yet <sav> had 852 as it dashed 854 The <Conflict> waters ... he
to it was 856 <Reeled to> the beach <scarce> senseless 859 From
<which> reluctant 861 lay <like / at> length 865 and <catching> ef-
fort 866 bleeding] naked P.M. cor. in M

123

And quivering hand; and then he look'd for those
Who long had been his mates upon the sea,
But none of them appear'd to share his woes,
Save one, a corpse from out the famish'd three,
Who died two days before, and now had found
An unknown barren beach for burial ground.

845

846 As fair a thing as e'er was form'd of clay.

111

And as he gazed, his dizzy brain spun fast,
And down he sunk; and as he sunk, the sand
Swam round and round, and all his senses pass'd:
He fell upon his side, and his stretch'd hand
Droop'd dripping on the oar, (their jury-mast)
And, like a wither'd lily, on the land
His slender frame and pallid aspect lay,
As fair a thing as e'er was form'd of clay.

112

How long in his damp trance young Juan lay
He knew not, for the earth was gone for him,
And Time had nothing more of night nor day
For his congealing blood, and senses dim;
And how this heavy faintness pass'd away
He knew not, till each painful pulse and limb,
And tingling vein, seem'd throbbing back to life,
For Death, though vanquish'd, still retired with strife.

113

His eyes he open'd, shut, again unclosed,
For all was doubt and dizziness; methought
He still was in the boat, and had but dozed,
And felt again with his despair o'erwrought,

865

868 Who ... mates] Who <had been> / were his mates so long
<some years> 874 sunk ... sunk] <fell ... lay> 875 Swum round <round>
and 877 <lay drooping o'er the Oar which served for mast> 878 And like
<a Lily broken> 883 had] <left> 884 and <stiffening limb> M
885 how <close> this 886 <And> He ... till <his> painful <limb> pulse
888 And <leave> Death <drew back but yet drew back with strife> 889 again] <and
then> 890 methought] he thought <832 and all later eds.