



# **Jules Verne and the Heroes of Birkenhead.**

## **Part 4.**

### **Understanding Jules Verne.**

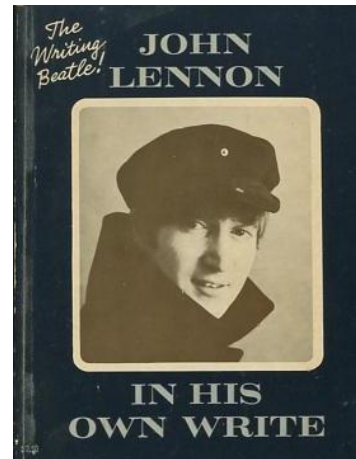
**By John Lamb**

**(Former Head of Geography, The Liverpool Blue Coat School, England).**

## Part 4. Understanding Jules Verne.

In 1964 Liverpool's John Lennon released a book of Edward Lear type nonsense poetry called 'In His Own Write'.

*In his Own Write* by John Lennon (1964).



In the book he wrote the following few words about the Wirral and Liverpool.

*'The Peer Hat is very populace for sun eating and Boots for Nude Brighter is handys when sailing'.*

If you are familiar with the Wirral and Liverpool, then the meaning is immediately obvious.

*The Pier Head is very popular for sunbathing and boats for New Brighton are handy when sailing.*



**Sunbathing at Liverpool's Pier Head in the 1960's and a boat sailing for New Brighton.**

If you are a stranger to Liverpool and Wirral then the phrase makes very little sense.

In the same light, much of the work of Jules Verne makes little sense unless you know the intimate history and geography of Birkenhead and the Wirral Peninsula, and only then do the hidden layers of Verne's narrative come to the surface.

One example is Verne's 1895 novel *The Floating Island* – here the author will use a variety of locations in Birkenhead and Wallasey to drive the nuances of his story line.

Some of the Birkenhead and Wallasey Locations used by Jules Verne in his novel  
*The Floating Island* (1895).



The Wirral Peninsula in c1860

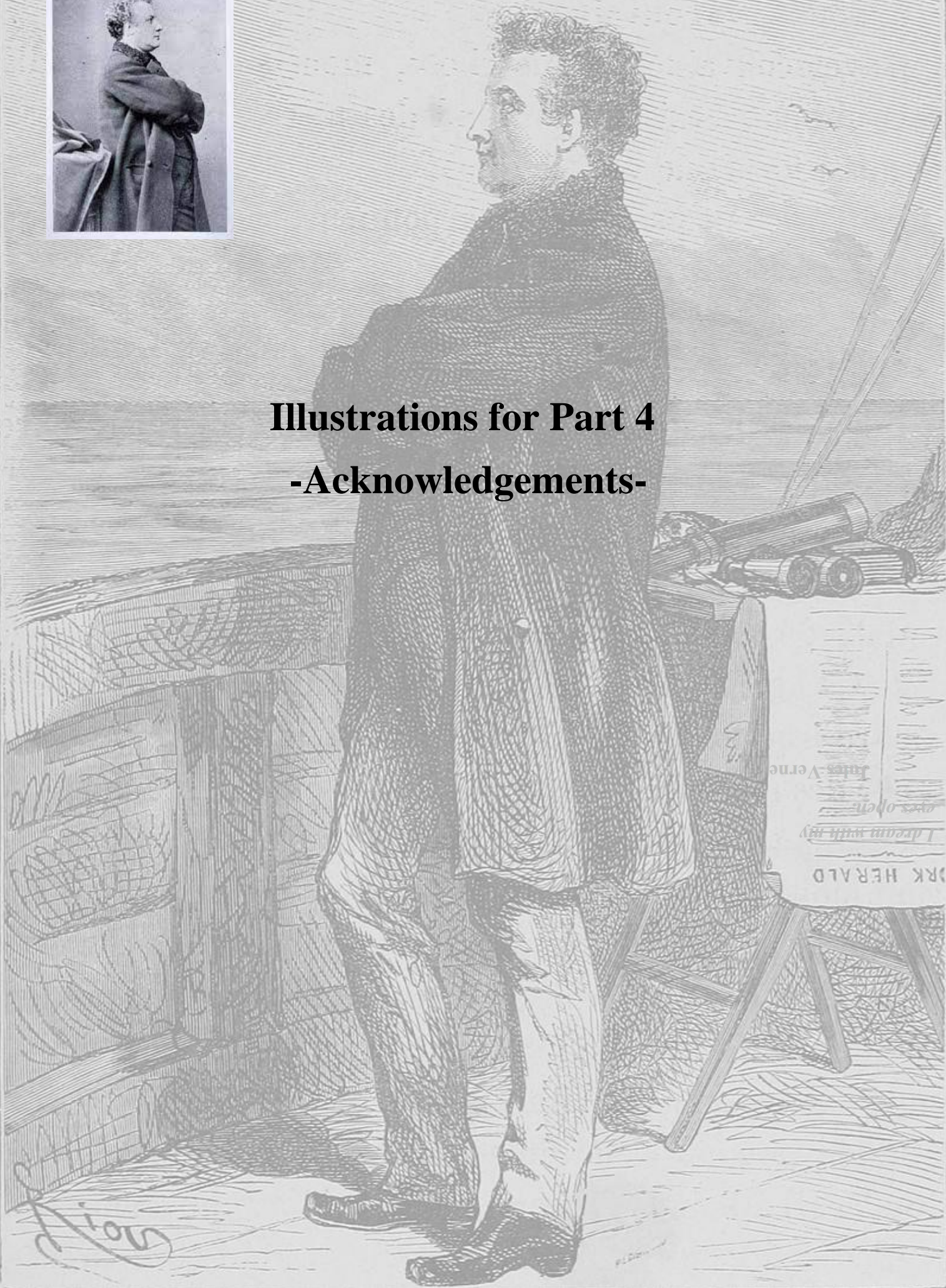
It will be the local historians and ordinary people of Merseyside who will confirm that Jules Verne's *Floating Island* is indeed Birkenhead and Wallasey 'in disguise'.

Next in Jules Verne and the Heroes of Birkenhead

Part 5. Jules Verne sets his novel *The Floating Island* (1895) in Birkenhead.



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