



FLUFFY RUFFLES

Drawings by Wallace Morgan
Verses by Charles Battell Loomis



SHE LEAVES IRELAND.

Aunt Mary longed again to see the towers of "new" New York,
And Fluffy, anxious to oblige, a steamer took from Cork
The men of Cork spoke very fast to tell her their despair
To think that she was going to leave and would not settle there
And Fluffy, as she left the shore of Queenstown, heaved a sigh
And wished that she might live again the happy days gone by;
But shuffleboard and moonlit walks (with aunty near at hand)
Soon made dear Fluffy quite content to miss the sight of land.

2- The third day out a bishop grand from England's humid shore
Watched Fluffy playing shuffleboard and also kept the score.
All morn she played and as he watched he said, "It's plain to me
That she'd make just the wife I want to dignify my see."
The captain from the bridge looked down and saw the unconscious girl
And to himself he said, "Egad, my heart is in a whirl.
If I could win that lovely maid I'd give up my command
And, wedding here, I'd surely be content to live on land."

3- The good ship's doctor saw her standing at her aunty's side
To watch a school of porpoises that some one had espied
"If I could win that maiden's hand I'd settle down for life
And make her in a score of months a famous doctor's wife."
A stoker, coal begrimed and hot, who'd come to breathe fresh air,
Stood quite transfixed with happiness to see her leaning there
"If I was higher up than I can ever hope to be
I'd ask that angel up aloft if she would marry me."

4- But though the Bishop took a chance and told her what he thought,
And though the Captain cleared his throat and mentioned what he sought,
And though the Doctor hemmed and hawed—then blurted out his passion,
Dear Fluffy smiled on each alike in quite her usual fashion.
"In Ireland," she said to each, in dulcet accents mellow,
"There's one of nature's noblemen, a really charming fellow
I'll say no more." She gives a look and each in turn skedaddles?
Now was the man an Irishman or was it Joseph Traddles?

Charles Battell Loomis.

