



The AAL *Dampier* 18,707DWT approaches Nobby's while arriving in Newcastle, NSW on 15 October last year, carrying a Shiploader. The Australasia Line fleet currently consists of 16 vessels of various configurations. Photo : Austral Asia Line.

STOP PRESS. They just get bigger! It was reported on 20-1-14 South Korea's Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI), the world's largest shipbuilder, has cut steel on the first of five 19,000 TEU containerships for China Shipping Container Lines (Hong Kong) Co. Ltd. These will then be absolutely the worlds biggest ships, but for how long?



One of the worlds largest ships the container vessel *Mærsk McKinney Møller* passing Port Said while transiting the Suez Canal. Commissioned in July 2013 she is the first of 20 similar new-builds to make up the Maersk's triple E class. She measures 174,000GRT, L400m x B60m (1312' x 197') draught 14.5m (48') with a load capacity of 18,000TEU and a sea speed of 22 knots (41k). This draught precludes the use of the Panama Canal but the Suez Canal is available. The Maersk Line Fleet currently numbers over 1000 vessels of which 190 are box ships. Photo: Maersk

THE SEA

Bernard Barton (1784–1849)

**Beautiful, sublime, and glorious;
Mild, majestic, foaming, free, --
Over time itself victorious,
Image of eternity!**

**Sun and moon and stars shine o'er thee,
See thy surface ebb and flow,
Yet attempt not to explore thee
In thy soundless depths below.**

**Whether morning's splendours steep thee
With the rainbow's glowing grace,
Tempests rouse, or navies sweep thee,
'Tis but for a moment's space.**

**Earth, -- her valleys and her mountains,
Mortal man's behests obey;
The unfathomable fountains
Scoff his search and scorn his sway.**

**Such art thou, stupendous ocean!
But, if overwhelmed by thee,
Can we think, without emotion,
What must thy Creator be?**