

# PLEASANT HOURS

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## SAUNTERINGS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

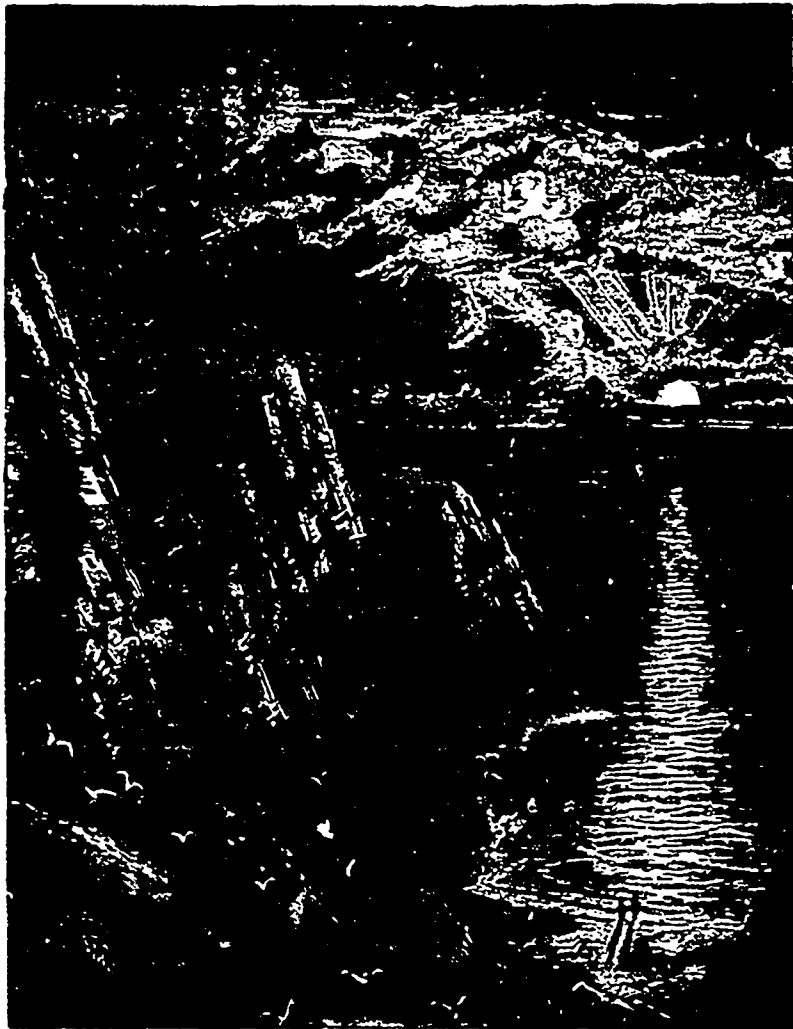
THE word saunter is said by the philologists to come from the phrase *Sainte Terre*—the Holy Land—and derives its significance from the leisurely way in which the pilgrims to Palestine wended their way from place to place through Europe on their wandering journey to its sacred scenes. The word admirably describes the easy-going way in which we propose to ramble and loiter through some of the most picturesque portions of England and Wales.

We first visit some of the south coast of England. The white chalk cliffs lift their gleaming front from the sea like castellated walls. It was these that gave to Britain its ancient name of Albion. On every side, far as eye can reach, roll in majesty "those ancient and unsubsidized allies, the waves that guard her coast." Sheltered in a quiet bay, and enjoying an almost Mediterranean climate, lies the lovely Isle of Wight, the favourite home of our beloved Queen, and rich in historic memories and poetic associations. The many "chines" or ravines, with their tinkling rivulets and waterfalls, the breezy chalk downs, the romantic undercliff that runs for miles along the sea—all these are potent memories to those who have visited this charming spot, of which old Drayton thus has written:

Of all the Southern isles she holds the highest place,  
And evermore hath been the greatest in Britain's grace;  
Not one of all her nymphs her sovereign favoureth thus,  
Embraced in the arms of old Oceanus.

One of the most interesting aspects of the scenery of the south coast is that presented by the Needles, which are the terminating western cliffs of the Isle of Wight. They are wedge-like masses of hard chalk running out to sea. They do not now much resemble their name, but among them in earlier years there was a conspicuous pinnacle, a veritable needle, 120 feet high, that fell in 1764. The headland is crowned by an old fort several hundred feet above the sea. The contrast between the white cliffs, the green turf with which they are covered, and the sapphire sea that laves their base, presents a symphony of colour that will delight an artist's eye.

Another of the remarkable rocky headlands of Great Britain is that at the extreme south-west of England known



LAND'S END, CORNWALL.

as Land's End. It consists of stern granite crags, against which the ceaseless surges of the broad Atlantic have been dashing for ages. Some idea of their gigantic size may be inferred from the diminutive appearance of the figures on the sea-shore, and in the little boat, as shown in our engraving. The clouds of seabirds which make these lonely rocks their home will be observed. Near by is an inn bearing the inscription, "The First and Last Inn in England." A deep poetic interest is given to this scene from the fact that here it was, far out on the precipitous crags, with the surges or the ocean breaking at their base on either side, that Charles Wesley composed that noble hymn containing the lines:

Lo! on a narrow neck of land,  
'Twixt two unbounded seas I stand,  
Secure, insensible:  
A point of time, a moment's space,  
Removes me to that heavenly place,  
Or shuts me up in hell.

O God, my inmost soul convert!  
And deeply on my thoughtful heart  
Eternal things impress;  
Give me to feel their solemn weight,  
And tremble on the brink of fate,  
And wake to righteousness.

## WHY I LOVE THE JUNIOR SOCIETY.

1. Because it teaches us to love our Bible more, and to love to read it. Thus we are storing our minds with useful knowledge that is as lasting as eternity.

2. Because it teaches us to love Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and to strive to do what we think he would like to have us do.

3. Because it teaches us to work for the unsaved, and to have courage to talk with them about Christ, and show them how

very sinful they are, and that they are on their way to ruin. Try to get them to serve the Lord, our God.

4. Because it teaches us to love our Church more, and to attend its Sunday and mid-week services more regularly than we have ever done before.

5. Because it teaches us to love our pastor more, to visit the sick and afflicted, and to love one another more.

6. Because it teaches us to lead in prayer, so, if we are called upon, we can respond at once.

7. Because it has a pledge that will be more to us than we can tell, if we will follow it, as a help in leading good lives and working for Christ.



THE NEEDLES—ISLE OF WIGHT.