

bank-holiday, lose, with the loss of religion, nothing that they wish to keep. But for men and women at large religion has never been this. They don't take their religion neat. You look on it as a dram of absolute alcohol. For others it is alcohol pervading a bottle of Burgundy—or like salt in soup—or like sugar in a cup of tea. They mayn't think about it as a thing by itself. They may be hardly conscious that it's there. But for all that when it's gone, they become aware of its absence. The food loses its savour. The wine ceases to stimulate. If you want to know what the sun does for the world generally, you can see it better by studying the colour of lilies and roses than you can by staring at the disc of the sun itself. If you want to know what religion does generally for human life—what its presence gives, and what its absence takes away—you can see this better by watching the shallowest human beings—even the silly women laden with sins, who are often so amusing to talk to, and who yet are such absolute fools—than you can by dazzling your eyes with the direct vision of God. I assure you that in the babble of the most frivolous dinner-table, or even in the verbal libretto of the most illicit flirtations, you may often hear enough unconscious theology to furnish a Bampton lecturer with materials for the lucubrations of a lifetime. However, when our friends arrive, you will find that out for yourself. And so meanwhile let us get off our high horse. It's nearly twelve already. I have a proposal to make to you. I think you are a good sailor? That stomach of yours, which, as you say, is only real as related to your mind, wouldn't annoy your mind by misbehaving itself in a steam launch?"

"Certainly not," replied Seaton. "I was never sea-sick in my life."

"Then we'll have the launch," said Glanville, "we'll take our luncheon with us, and we'll go to an odd little watering-place about fifteen miles from here. It belongs to me. I've a bit of business to do there; and it contains one object at least which will possibly interest both of us. And listen," he said, as they both prepared to move, "I hope you understand now that what I've