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978-1-108-06712-6 - *Observations on the Coasts of Hampshire, Sussex, and Kent: Relative Chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, Made in the Summer of the Year 1774*

William Gilpin

Frontmatter

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### **Observations on the Coasts of Hampshire, Sussex, and Kent**

Clergyman, schoolmaster and writer on aesthetics, William Gilpin (1724–1804) is best known for his works on the picturesque. In his *Essay on Prints*, published in 1768 and reissued in this series, he defined picturesque as ‘a term expressive of that peculiar kind of beauty, which is agreeable in a picture.’ First published in 1804, the present work is one of a series which records his reflections on the picturesque across British landscapes. It traces the journey he made in 1774, equipped with notebook and sketching materials, along England’s south coast from Portsmouth to Dover and Canterbury via Brighton, Rye and Romney Marsh. He describes his impressions of famous landmarks such as the South Downs, Petworth House, Dover Castle and Canterbury Cathedral, and includes several reproductions of his pen-and-wash drawings. The companion volumes of *Observations* on other parts of Britain are also reissued in the Cambridge Library Collection.

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By WILLIAM GILPIN, M.A.

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[More information](#)

## CONTENTS.

## SECTION I. Page 1.

WATER essential in landscape—its several uses—forest scenery, and ruins excepted—river scenery—lake scenery—sea-coast views—their distinct characters—grand ideas which belong to coast views—coast of England compared with those of Norway and the Mediterranean—how a coast view should best be taken.

## SECT. II. p. 9.

Retrospect of Guildford—road to Godalmin—town of Godalmin—country between Godalmin and Petersfield—another road by Haslemere—singular piece of ground—fir groves—part of Waltham forest—view of the sea—timber—beautiful road through part of Bare forest—view of Portsmouth and its environs from Portsdown hill—*island of Portsea.*

## SECT. III. p. 17.

Portsmouth—gentleman who shewed it to us—fortifications, docks, &c.—deception in the perspective of the rope-walk—harbour—remarks on the ornamental part of naval architecture—Vigilant, man of war, how adorned—Spithead—magazine of naval stores burnt by lightning.

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Relative Chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, Made in the Summer of the Year 1774

William Gilpin

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

( vi )

SECT. IV. p. 27.

Island of Haling—Havant—Warblington castle—description of the coast to Chichester—Chichester—Goodwood—Halnecker—road to Arundel.

SECT. V. p. 31.

Arundel castle—Bevis—description of the castle—of the country around it—Caen stone—church at Arundel—popish priest—picture by Janeiro—queen Ediliza—the empress Maud—sieges of the castle—Chillingworth—retrospect of Arundel castle.

SECT. VI. p. 39.

Road to Petworth—view from the heights of Bury—Petworth house—South Downs—Sizeburgh—Bramber—Southwick—Shoreham—Brighthelmstone—the coast and country around it—mackerel fishing.

SECT. VII. p. 45.

Approach to Lewes—castle of Lewes—cattle of Lewes—Lewes priory—letter to Lord Cromwell—road to Battel—Hurstmonceaux castle—approach to Battel abbey—account of it—pedigree roll—description of the abbey—the great barn—remarks on the situation of the abbey.

SECT. VIII. p. 57.

Winchelsea—the action of the sea upon coasts—Rye—Romney—Romney marsh.

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Relative Chiefly to Picturesque Beauty, Made in the Summer of the Year 1774

William Gilpin

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

( vii )

SECT. IX. p. 67.

Road between Romney and Hyth—this flat coast described—sea-banks described—church at Hyth—charnel-house—Sandgate castle.

SECT. X. p. 71.

Road from Folkstone to Dover—high ground of chalk and rock, intersected with vallies—knights templars—Rodigunda's abbey—story of Rodigunda.

SECT. XI. p. 77.

First view of Dover castle—comparison between the sea, and land, rock—remarks on Shakspeare's description of Dover cliff—best view of it—connection between different countries—Dover—the harbour—the castle—a Roman pharos—curious brass cannon—the noisy bustle, which attends the sailing of the packet—the harbour by moonlight.

SECT. XII. p. 85.

Cæsar's invasion—the coast—castle—different stiles of military architecture—Sandwich—the Downs—effect of a violent storm in the Downs—unpicturesque appearance of the north and south Forelands—Ramsgate harbour—Mr. Smeaton—effect of his contrivance.

SECT. XIII. p. 97.

Kingsgate—Margate—isle of Thanet—the Sarre—Reculver-abbey—passage of the Wantsum—grand view near Minster.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

( viii )

SECT. XIV. p. 103.

Canterbury—ruins of Austinfriars—great church—Becket's monument—French protestant church—Bishop Chichely's monument—Dean Fotherby's—road to Rochester—Sir Thomas Randolph—Sittingborn—view of Sheppy-island—Broughton-hill.

SECT. XV. p. 109.

Rochester—Bishop Gundulph's tower—the cathedral—the bridge—grand view of the Medway from Frimsbury—Dutch fleet—another view of the Medway from the windmill.

SECT. XVI. p. 115.

View of the Thames from Gadshill—from Ingress—remarks on river-scenery—view from Shooters-hill—remarks on Sir George Young's pictures at Foot's-cray.

SECT. XVII. p. 125.

Chislehurst—Camden—Bishop Gibson—Bromley—Bishop of Rochester's palace—Croydon—Archbishop Seldon's monument—Beddington—Queen Elizabeth's Walk—Carshalton—the curious river there—Mr. Walpole's—Mr. Scawen's.

SECT. XVIII. p. 129.

Another road from Canterbury, through the middle of Kent—Chilham castle—Mr. Knight's woods—Lord Winchelsea's Park—Leeds-castle—Maidstone—Mereworth-castle—Tunbridge—Knowl-park—portrait of Sir Edward Sackville—beautiful views near Sevenoaks—Squirries—general idea of this part of Kent.

OBSER-