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PENCIL STUDIES

BY

CHARLES ROWBOTHAM.



LONDON

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BEACH SKETCHES.

PENCIL STUDIES,

BY

CHARLES ROWBOTHAM.

THE subjects of the following Sketches are taken from the beach, which, in affording so many picturesque objects for study, forms a valuable sketching-ground for the artist.

Of the many useful spots that are to be met with on our coasts, Hastings, with its quaint huts and fishing boats, is a fair example. Here the artist may find free scope for testing his abilities, in an abundance of good material for his sketch-book.

The first of the two following sketches from Hastings beach represents a fishing boat—an example of beach-study that demands careful treatment on the part of the student. He should commence by putting in the line of the horizon, as this will assist him in securing the proper inclination of the boat. Having next ascertained the exact positions and relative proportions of the objects comprised in the sketch, their general form should be lightly sketched in. Next, the planking of the boat should be indicated, care being taken to preserve the gradual increase and decrease in width of the planks as they extend from stem to stern.

The masts and rigging may now be introduced, together with the net slung over the side of the boat, the side ropes, &c. The distant breakwater having likewise been indicated, the student may proceed to put in the outline of the boat in a firm, clear manner, and then, with a soft pencil, give shape and roundness to the craft by introducing boldly the shadow underneath, as also that thrown by the overhanging nets.

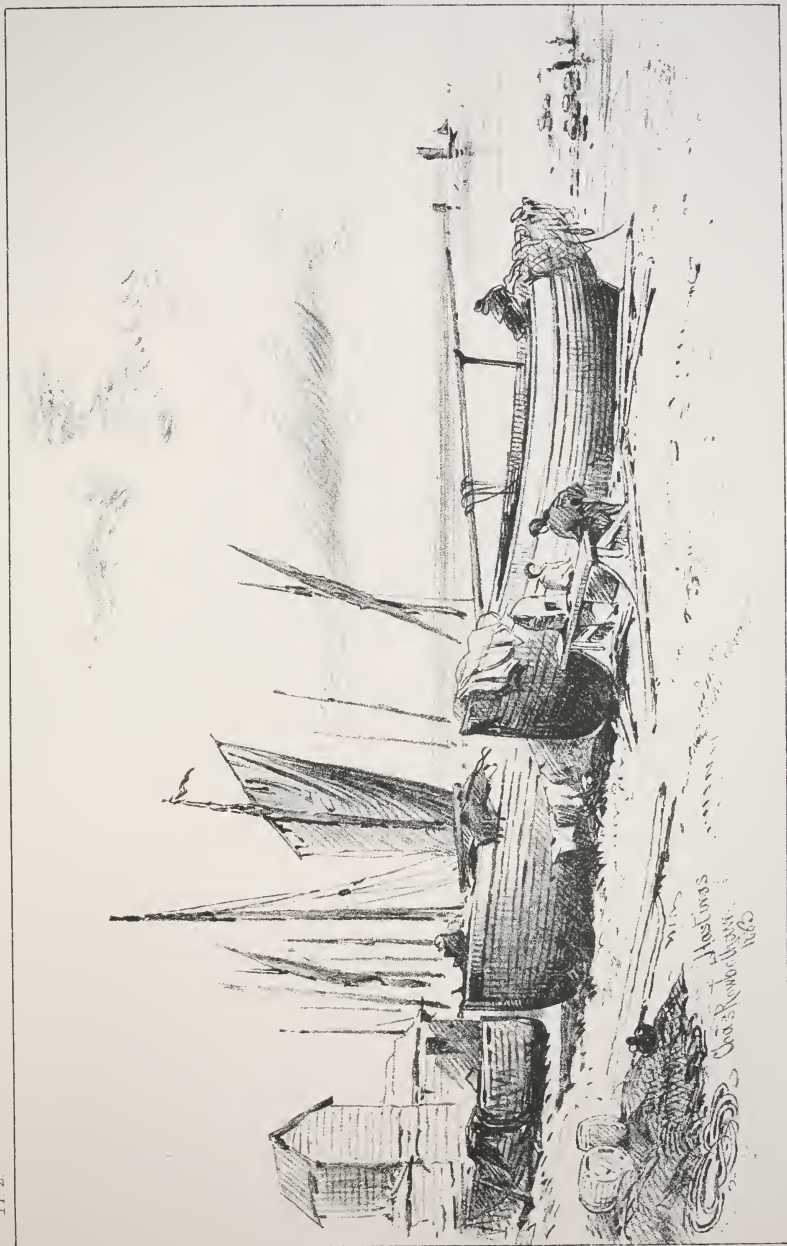
The shadows beneath each plank, as it overlaps the one below it, may next be put in with firm and effective strokes, the result being to impart a natural appearance to the surface of the boat.

The net should now be toned, and the netting indicated by sharp lines here and there. This done, the interior of the boat may be proceeded with, decided touches being given to the different portions where needed. The canvas lying on the fore-deck, the mizen mast, sail, &c., having received due attention, and the shingled beach suggested by vigorous touches, the sketch should present a very fair copy of the original.

THE practice that the student will have gained from the preceding study should enable him to do battle with the somewhat more difficult subject presented by our second sketch.

The same course of procedure must be followed with this as in the first subject. The horizontal line and the relative positions and proportions having been determined, and a firm and careful outline made, the student may proceed to deal with the several boats in the foreground, carefully noting that whilst the upper line of the foremost craft is concave, that of the boat immediately behind it is convex in appearance; the difference arising from the fact that the first boat is inclined towards the spectator, whilst the position of the second is reversed. The masts, &c., having been introduced, together with the hut and netting in the foreground, the shading may be proceeded with, commencing with the foremost boat and the capstan. The prow of the boat should be put in with a soft pencil, and the shadow beneath being carried along to the stern, with deep touches indicating the timber lying by its side, the netting slung over the stern, and the reclining mast.

Pl. 2.







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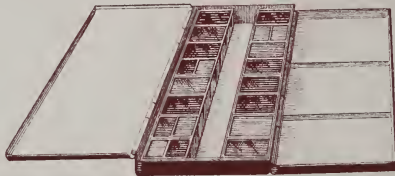
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