weather only can realise their tumult and grandeur at the height of a great storm.

Between the upper limit of the tide and low-water mark on a rocky coast, crags and skerries may be noted in every stage of decay. Here rises an outjutting part of the cliff which has been separated, with the breakers meeting and bursting into foam in the narrow passage. Yonder a mass, once evidently connected with the main cliff in the same way, has been sundered by the roof of the tunnel falling in, and it now stands up as a tall massive outwork of the line of rampart behind (see Figs. 11, 13). Lower on the narrow beach, worn, tangle-covered bosses of rock rise out of the shingle and boulders, and run out to sea in low reefs, usually fringed with foam even in the calmest summer day, but rising in places into islets haunted by seal and wild-fowl. Everywhere the eye rests upon proofs of unceasing destruction. We see that the cliffs must once have stretched seaward, at least as far as yonder sea-stack, fully a furlong from their present limit, and how much farther no man can tell. It is impressively taught that the selvage of land which has been cut off has been carried away by the sea. The whole process in all its stages is before our eyes. We note the weather wasting the cliffs above, and the sea battering them below. And it is impossible to doubt, that if in a comparatively short geological period a strip of land, say a furlong broad, has been in this way planed down, there is here revealed to us a power of waste, the effects of which, if unchecked by any other natural force, can have no limit short of the total demolition of the dry land.

In looking more narrowly at the progress of this abrasion, we find it dependent not merely on the prevalent winds and the consequent *fetch* of the breakers, but in large measure upon the varying geological structure of the coast-line.