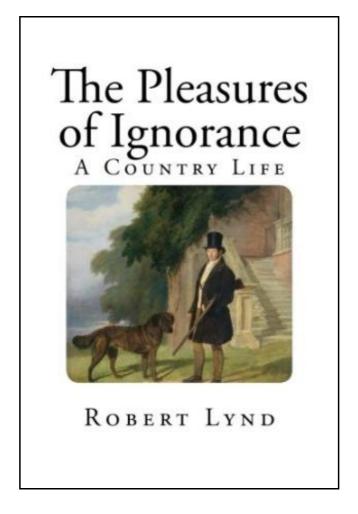
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THE PLEASURES OF IGNORANCE



CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 180 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.4in.A delightful escape from modern life. The Pleasures of Ignorance By Robert Lynd. THE PLEASURES OF IGNORANCE. It is impossible to take a walk in the country with an average townsmanespecially, perhaps, in April or Maywithout being amazed at the vast continent of his ignorance. It is impossible to take a walk in the country oneself without being amazed at the vast continent of ones own ignorance. Thousands of men and women live and die without knowing the difference between a beech and an elm, between the song of a thrush and the song of a blackbird. Probably in a modern city the man who can distinguish between a thrushs and a blackbirds song is the exception. It is not that we have not seen the birds. It is simply that we have not noticed them. We have been surrounded by birds all our lives, yet so feeble is our observation that many of us could not tell whether or not the chaffinch sings, or the colour of the cuckoo. We argue like small boys as to whether the cuckoo always sings as he flies or sometimes in the branches of a treewhether Chapman drew on his fancy or his knowledge of nature in the lines: When in the oaks green arms the cuckoo sings, And first delights men in the lovely springs. This ignorance, however, is not altogether miserable. Out of it we get the constant pleasure of discovery. Every fact of nature comes to us each spring, if only we are sufficiently ignorant, with the dew still on it. If we have lived half a lifetime without having ever even seen a cuckoo, and know it...

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