

PINNOCK'S CATECHISM
OF
GEOGRAPHY:
BEING AN
EASY INTRODUCTION
TO THE
KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD,
AND ITS INHABITANTS;

THE WHOLE OF WHICH MAY BE COMMITTED TO MEMORY AT AN
EARLY AGE.

FROM THE LATEST LONDON EDITION.

TORONTO:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HUGH SCOBIE,
137 KING STREET.

.....
1842.

PRICE NINEPENCE.

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TO THE TEACHER.

THE present edition of this CATECHISM is not a revise of the former ones, but an entirely new work. It has been the writer's aim to keep pace with the improvements introduced into the study of Geography, and to bring the information contained up to the most recent date. A reference to the chapters on the petty States of Asia, on the South American Republics, and on Oceania, will prove that he has laboured to be precise in the latter point: with respect to the former, he would refer more particularly to the introductory chapters to the principal divisions of the globe.

THE PRINCIPAL RIVERS IN THE WORLD.

ASIA.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 1. Yenesei | Siberia. |
| 2. Yang-tse-Kiang | China. |
| 3. Hoang-Ho | China. |
| 4. Obi | Siberia. |
| 5. Burrampooter | Tibet. |
| 6. Volga | Russia. |
| 7. Ganges | Hindustan. |
| 8. Euphrates | Turkey. |
| 9. Indus | Caulbul. |

AFRICA.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 10. Nile | Abyssinia and Egypt. |
| 11. Niger | Nigritia. |
| 12. Senegal | Senegambia. |
| 13. Gambia | Senegambia. |
| 14. Congo | Congo. |
| 15. Orange River | Namaqualand. |

EUROPE.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 16. Shannon | Ireland. |
| 17. Thames | England. |
| 18. Severn | England. |
| 19. Seine | France. |
| 20. Garonne | France. |
| 21. Ebro | Spain. |
| 22. Po | Italy. |
| 23. Rhone | France. |
| 24. Tagus | Portugal. |
| 25. Oder | Prussia. |
| 26. Vistula | Poland. |
| 27. Elbe | Germany. |
| 28. Rhine | Germany. |
| 29. Dwina | Russia. |
| 30. Dnieper | Russia. |
| 31. Danube | Germany. |

AMERICA.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 32. Susquehannah | United States. |
| 33. St. Lawrence | Canada. |
| 34. Orinoko | Columbia. |
| 35. La Plata | La Plata and Brazil. |
| 36. Amazon | Brazil. |
| 37. Mississippi and Missouri | United States. |

A CATECHISM OF GEOGRAPHY.

CHAPTER I.

Q. WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY ?

A. The science which teaches a knowledge of the surface of the earth.

Q. What do you mean by the words "surface of the earth ?"

A. Its appearance to the eye as consisting of land or water, hill or valley ; the situation of the towns and villages erected by man upon it ; its distribution into various parts, as inhabited by different nations ; and the nature of its soil.

Q. Does the earth then consist of land and water ?

A. Certainly ; since every collection of water, whether ocean or river, is alike contained in the hollows of the earth.

Q. What is the shape of the earth ?

A. That of a sphere or globe, with this exception, that it is not exactly round, but flattened at its northern and southern sides (termed its *poles*), like an orange.

Q. How can it be round, when it rises in some parts into lofty mountains, and sinks in others in deep valleys ?

A. Because these inequalities, compared with its size, are no greater and no more interfere with its roundness than do the little roughnesses on an orange with its shape.

Q. What size is the earth then ?

A. More than twenty-four thousand miles round, or in circumference.

Q. If a line could be drawn right through it, from one side to another, what would the length of such a line be ?

A. Nearly eight thousand miles ; the diameter of a round body being about a third of the circumference.

CHAPTER II.

Geographical Terms.

Q. Does the earth present a larger quantity of land or of water on its surface ?

A. It presents a little more than twice the quantity of water that it does of land ; thus on looking at a map of the world, as it is called, it is at once seen that the ocean covers a space twice as large as the land.

Q. You have called the water the ocean; is this its general name?

A. Yes; the great expanse of waters, as may be seen on a map of the world, is united together, and forms one vast whole, termed the Ocean; but for convenience sake it is distinguished into different oceans, which have received distinct names. ✱

Q. Before repeating these names, tell me the terms which geographers use to specify those parts of the water which are more nearly connected with the land than the large spaces called oceans.

A. The spaces of water next in size to oceans, are termed seas, which are large bodies of water running far and wide into the land, and usually entering it through a narrow opening, termed a strait; when the water indents the land, so that the latter forms a curve only, but does not nearly enclose it, it is termed a gulf or bay; when the water runs for some distance inland in a narrow channel, this is termed a creek.

Q. What are those lesser waters termed which run from the land into the sea?

A. Rivers; and towards their mouths, that is near the spot where they fall into the sea, are generally situated the harbours or sea ports, where vessels trade and lie in safety from the wind.

Q. When a smaller river falls into a larger, what is that smaller river termed?

A. The tributary or affluent of the larger.

Q. What term is applied to the tract of country, all the running waters or streams of which flow into and are carried off by one large river?

A. The whole tract of country is called the basin of that river; and the river is said to drain such tract of country.

Q. When a mass of water is entirely enclosed by land, having no visible outlet, what is it called?

A. A lake.

Q. You have now described the principal terms employed to distinguish one portion of water from another; mention those similarly used for the land.

A. The larger masses of the earth are termed continents; the smaller, when entirely surrounded by water, islands; when nearly so, but still connected with the continent by a narrow strip of land, peninsulas; and such a narrow strip of land is termed an isthmus; when a number of islands are clustered together, they are termed a group; and if this

group be enclosed in a narrow sea, such a sea is termed an archipelago.

Q. These terms chiefly relate to the size of the different portions of the land, or to their situation: mention those applied to the inequalities of its surface.

A. The loftiest eminences on the earth's surface are termed mountains; when a series of mountains are connected together, this series is termed a chain; and, when a number of chains run from the same centre, all these chains collectively are termed a system.

Q. But may there not be large tracts of the earth's surface which are very lofty, that is very much elevated, above the level of the sea, and yet not be mountainous, but present a level plain?

A. Yes, and the greater part of the lofty land on the surface of the earth is of this description; and such a tract is called a table land, or *plateau*.

Q. What are the depressions on the surface of the land termed?

A. Valleys; the entrances to which are usually narrow, and if so are termed gorges, or defiles.

Q. When a portion of land runs out into the sea, what is it called?

A. A cape, head-land, or, when very small, a point.

Q. In learning Geography, what are the points to which the learner should chiefly direct his attention?

A. To the mountain systems, the water-basins, the productions and resources of each country.

CHAPTER III.

Of the Earth's Inhabitants.

Q. Do not all men proceed from one common original?

A. Yes; from our first parents, Adam and Eve.

Q. How is it then that men differ so much in complexion, in features, and in stature?

A. The chief cause of these differences is the variety of climate, and more particularly as regards the colour of the skin.

Q. Can you give an instance of this?

A. The most striking is that of the Jews; who, though their religion forbids them to intermarry with other nations, and though they are thus kept a distinct people, yet differ

in complexion according to the parts of the globe in which they are settled.

Q. Give examples ?

A. They are fair in Britain and in Germany, brown in France and in Turkey, swarthy in Spain and in Portugal, tawny or copper coloured in Arabia and Egypt.

Q. Into how many varieties then is man usually classified ?

A. Into five; the Caucasian, the Mongolian, the Ethiopian, the American, and the Malay.

Q. What nations do these five classes each include ?

A. The Caucasian includes all the European nations, except the Laplanders, and the rest of the Finnish race; the inhabitants of Western Asia; and those of Northern Africa, as the Moors.

The Mongolian includes the Fins and Laplanders; the Chinese; Japanese; generally speaking, the inhabitants of all Eastern Asia; and those of the northern extremity of America, as the Esquimaux.

The Ethiopian includes the great majority of the African nation, as the Negroes and Hottentots.

The American includes all the original tribes of America, north and south, except the Esquimaux.

The Malay includes the inhabitants of the peninsula of Malacca in India, (whence the name Malay;) those of the adjoining Asiatic islands; those of New Holland, and of the numberless islands scattered over the South Sea.

Q. Are these classes subdivided into smaller classes ?

A. Yes; and these smaller classes are called families.

Thus the Caucasian is divided into the German and Latin families, &c.

Q. How are men termed in reference to their manner of living ?

A. They are called Savages, when they have no certain mode of living, but depend for food on the chase or on fishing; Nomad, or Wandering, when they derive their subsistence from flocks, which they are obliged to drive for the sake of pasture from one spot to another; civilized when they build towns and apply themselves to agriculture, trade, commerce, the arts, and letters.

Q. What are the forms of government established among civilized nations ?

A. They may be included under two heads; the Monarchical and the Republican. A monarchy is called absolute, when one man is entrusted with power above the laws;

limited, when laws exist which he cannot break; mixed, when the people have a voice in the government.

Q. What is a Republic ?

A. A government chosen by and dependent on the people.

Q. Name the chief religious beliefs which direct the actions, and influence the conduct of men ?

A. Christianity, Mahometanism, Judaism, and Paganism or idolatry.

Q. Does Christianity include many sects or kinds of worship ?

A. Yes; the principal are the Protestant, the Roman Catholic, and the Greek Church.

Q. Do the three other chief classes include different sects likewise ?

A. Certainly; and they are too numerous for enumeration here.

CHAPTER IV.

Of the General Division of the Globe.

Q. INTO how many great divisions is the globe divided ?

A. As regards the land into five; which are called Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Oceania.

Q. How as regards the water ?

A. This is also classified into five great divisions; namely, the Arctic or Frozen Ocean round the North Pole, to the north of Europe, Asia, and America; the Antarctic Ocean (also frozen), surrounding the South Pole; the Atlantic Ocean, dividing America from Europe and Africa; the great Pacific Ocean, between Asia and America; and the Indian Ocean, to the south of Asia.

CHAPTER V.

Of Europe.

Q. WHAT is Europe ?

A. One of the great divisions of the globe, and though larger than Oceania, yet smaller than the rest; Asia and America, each being more than four times larger, and Africa three times larger than it:

Q. How is Europe separated from the other great divisions ?

A. It is separated from America by the vast expanse of the Atlantic Ocean, which bathes the whole of its western shores: from Africa, it is parted by the Mediterranean sea, which bathes the larger portion of its southern shores; its division from Asia, with which it is connected throughout the entire of its eastern side, is formed partly by a natural, partly by an imaginary line.

Q. Can you explain what is meant by a natural, and what by an imaginary line?

A. Yes; beginning from the north, the Ural mountains, and then the river Ural, which runs from these mountains into the Caspian Sea, from the first part of the natural line, which is continued by a line *supposed* to be drawn across the Caspian Sea to the town of Soomgait; the natural line begins here again, being formed by the mountains of Caucasus, which extend from Soomgait to Anapa on the shores of the Black Sea; from Anapa another imaginary line is drawn through the Black Sea and the sea of Marmora, terminating in the Mediterranean.

Q. You have now mentioned the boundaries of Europe on the west, the south, and the east; how is it bounded on the north?

A. By the Arctic or Frozen Ocean.

Q. What is the character of the surface of Europe?

A. Nearly two-thirds of its surface consist of an immense plain; the remaining third is partly mountainous, partly hilly.

Q. What part of Europe does the plain occupy?

A. Its entire eastern part; occupying all Russia, and thence running in a narrow slip between the southern shores of the Baltic Sea and the Carpathian mountains, as far west as Holland and the north of France.

Q. What part of Europe is occupied by mountains and hills?

A. Its north-western and its southern shores.

Q. How do you name its north-western mountains?

A. The Scandinavian*; which extend over Norway and Sweden.

Q. Are there any mountains which may be considered as a kind of link between the north-western and the southern mountains?

A. Yes; those of Great Britain.

* From Scandinavia; the ancient name for Norway and Sweden.

Q. Which are the southern mountains of Europe ?

A. The principal are the Cantabrian,* the Pyrenees, the Alps, the Appennines, the Carpathian, and the mountains of the Balkan. The Uralian mountains on the north-east, and those of Caucasus on the south-east, belong partly to Europe, and partly to Asia.

Q. What are the great natural features of the surface, which yet remain to be considered ?

A. The seas and rivers.

Q. Which seas belong entirely to Europe ?

A. The White Sea, the Baltic Sea, and the sea of Azof.

Q. Which seas belong in part to Europe ?

A. The Mediterranean, the sea of Marmora, the Black Sea, and the Caspian Sea.

Q. What names does the Atlantic Ocean take, as it washes the western shores of Europe ?

A. Between Great Britain on the one side, and Denmark and Holland on the other, it takes the name of the North Sea ; between England and France, it is called the English Channel ; between England and Ireland, it receives the names of St. George's Channel and the Irish Sea ; and where it bathes France and Spain conjointly, it is called the Bay of Biscay.

Q. In what proportion do these seas drain Europe of its waters ?

A. The Black Sea and the Baltic receive each about a fourth ; the Caspian and the Mediterranean seas, about a tenth each ; whilst the Atlantic and the Arctic oceans drain, the first about a sixth, the latter about an eighth.

Q. Name the principal rivers which flow into these various seas.

A. The Caspian sea receives the Ural and Volga ; the Black sea, the rivers Danube, Dniester, Dnieper, and Don ; into the Mediterranean there flow the Po, Tiber, Rhone, Ebro, and many smaller rivers ; the Baltic drains the rivers Oder, Vistula, Niemen, Duna, and Neva ; the North Sea receives the Elbe, Rhine, Forth, Humber, and Thames ; and the White Sea, the rivers Dwina, Mezen, and Petchora.

Q. Which are the largest of these European rivers ?

A. The Volga and the Danube are by far the largest ; but the Thames, which is smaller than most of the rivers

* From Cantabri, the name of the ancient inhabitants of Spain.

just mentioned, is infinitely the most important, if considered in reference to the trade and commerce of which it is the channel.

Q. What is the area or extent of the surface of Europe, calculated in square miles?

A. Three millions nine hundred thousand square miles; of which extent, the great plain above mentioned, occupies about 2,500,000 square miles; the southern mountain region, about 1,100,000; and the Scandinavian mountain region, about 300,000 square miles.

Q. What extent do the islands of Europe, including Iceland and Nova Zembla, occupy?

A. About 280,000 square miles, or one fourteenth of the whole continent.

Q. What are the principal islands?

A. Great Britain, Ireland, and Iceland, in the Atlantic Ocean; and Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily, Candia, and Cyprus in the Mediterranean sea.

Q. What large seas connected with Europe present no islands worthy of notice?

A. The Caspian and the Black Seas.

Q. You have mentioned seas and rivers; are there no other collections of water in Europe?

A. Yes, lakes: four-fifths of which are in the level countries round the Baltic; but those most celebrated for the beauties of their scenery are the Swiss and Italian lakes, and those of our own country,

CHAPTER VI.

Climate, Soil, Productions, and Political Divisions of Europe.

Q. WHAT sort of climate has Europe?

A. A more temperate one than is enjoyed by any other of the great divisions of the world, not being subject to such violent extremes of heat and cold: it nowhere suffers greatly from excess of heat, and only a very small part of it is uninhabitable from intensity of cold.

Q. What are the qualities of its soil?

A. Like the climate, its soil runs into no extreme. If it has not the luxuriant richness of parts of the other great divisions, neither has it the sterility with which they are afflicted in other parts, but over the greater portion of its extent, it well repays the labours of man.

Q. Which are its vegetable productions?

A. Corn of all kinds; flax and hemp; the vine and olive; tobacco; most vegetables and fruits; and the more useful kind of timber trees, as the oak, the pine, the elm, the beech, the poplar, &c.

Q. Which part of Europe is useless for agricultural purposes?

A. Its extreme northern and north-eastern portion, to the extent of about an eighth part of Europe, though even here pasturage and wood are not unfrequently met with.

Q. What proportion of Europe is adapted to the cultivation of wheat?

A. More than one half, which includes all the thickly inhabited parts.

Q. Which are the mineral productions of Europe?

A. All the metals except platina; and more especially the most useful minerals, iron, copper, lead, coal, and salt, in great abundance.

Q. Into how many states is Europe politically divided?

A. Into fifty-eight.

Q. Are all these equally important?

A. No; they may be divided into four classes, according to their strength, resources, and influence.

Q. Which are these classes?

A. First, Britain, France, Russia, Austria, and Prussia; 2nd, Spain, Sweden, and Turkey; 3rd, Holland, Belgium, Portugal, Naples, Bavaria, Sardinia, Denmark, Saxony, Wirtemberg, Hanover, and Switzerland; 4th, Baden, Tuscany, the states of the Church, and the smaller states of Germany and Italy.

Q. What are the kingdoms included in the first class, usually called?

A. The Five *Great Powers*; because it is on their agreement that the peace of Europe depends, and it is by their joint counsels that quarrels or disputes between the other powers are settled.

Q. You have mentioned the political divisions of Europe: how would you arrange these powers according to their situation?

A. Still into four classes, as follows:—

1st, *Lower or Eastern Europe*, comprising Russia, Poland, and Eastern Prussia, and extending from the Urals to the Carpathian mountains, and from the Black Sea to the Baltic Sea, and to the Icy ocean.

2nd, *North-western Europe*, which comprises Iceland, Norway and Sweden, Denmark, and the British isles.

3rd, *Central Europe*, which comprises Holland, Belgium, France, Switzerland, and Germany.

4th, *Southern Europe*, which comprises Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, and Turkey.

Q. What are the general features of the first of these four classes?

A. The surface is a vast, well-watered plain, little elevated above the level of the sea, exceeding all the remainder of Europe together in extent, but thinly peopled in proportion to its size. Its climate is severe. Its inhabitants are chiefly of the Slavonic family.

Q. Describe those of the second.

A. It consists of islands and peninsulas, whose coasts are indented by the sea, and whose surface is mountainous. Its seas are subject to storms, its climate changeable and foggy. The population belong to the great German family.

Q. What are those of the third?

A. The surface consists partly of level, partly of mountainous countries; and its climate presents much variety. The population are also mostly from the German stock.

Q. Name those of the fourth.

A. It consists of three large, mountainous, and fertile peninsulas. The climate is warm; the population chiefly of the Latin stock.

Q. What is the population of Europe?

A. About two hundred and thirty millions.

CHAPTER VII.

Of Russia (in Europe.)

Q. What is the extent of European Russia?

A. It occupies more than half of Europe, covering an extent of upwards of two millions of square miles.

Q. Why do you say Russia in Europe, or European Russia?

A. To distinguish that portion of the Russian empire which lies in Europe from that which lies in Asia.

Q. What are the boundaries of European Russia?

A. The Arctic Ocean on the N.; the Ural mountains, the river Ural, and the Caspian Sea on the E.; the chain of the Caucasus and the Black Sea on the S.; and, on the W., the principality of Moldavia, Austria, Prussia, the Baltic Sea, and Swedish Lapland.

Q. Name the mountains of Russia?

A. With the exception of the Urals, which form part of its eastern boundary, and the Caucasus to the south, it is one immense but undulating plain, towards the west of which some inconsiderable hills occur, called the Valdai hills. The highest part of this range of hills is no more than 373 yards above the level of the sea.

Q. Which are the chief rivers, and by what seas are they drained ?

A. The Icy Ocean, and its principal gulf, the White Sea, receive the rivers Petchora, Mezen, and the Northern Dwina; the Caspian Sea drains the Ural, the Volga, and the Terek; the Don flows into the sea of Azof; the Dnieper, the Bug, and the Dniester, fall into the Black Sea; and the Baltic receives the Niemen, the Southern Dwina (or Duna), the Neva, and the Torneo.

Q. Which is the most important of these rivers ?

A. The Volga; which may be called the principal commercial road of Russia.

Q. In what season is it navigable ?

A. In the summer only; when thousands of barges, built in the well-wooded districts of Northern Russia, convey all kinds of commodities from and through the interior, as far as Astrakhan on the Caspian Sea. Here, after their cargo is discharged, they are usually broken up and sold.

Q. Why ?

A. Because their return up the river against the current, would be so tedious and expensive, that it is cheaper to build new ones in the forests of the north.

Q. What advantage has been taken of the multiplicity of rivers which intersect Russia ?

A. By means of canals which connect the large rivers together, and of others which are cut in parts where the latter are not navigable, a commercial communication by water has been established between the most distant regions of the empire.

Q. Which are the distant points thus united ?

A. The Black Sea and the Baltic communicate by means of three large canals, which connect the rivers drained by those seas; the Baltic and the Caspian seas are united by means of the Volga, and artificial cuts; and the same great river connects the White Sea with the Caspian.

Q. What other natural features of the surface of Russia remain to be noticed ?

A. Its lakes, the largest of which are those of Ladoga and Onega; its forests, which occupy above a third of its

surface; and its *steppes*; or large unwooded plains, chiefly occupied by wandering tribes of Tartars and Cossacks.

Q. Into how many parts is Russia usually divided by geographers ?

A. Into six; namely, the Baltic Provinces, Great Russia, Little Russia, Southern Russia, Western Russia, and Eastern Russia.

Q. Mention the chief towns of each of these.

A. In the Baltic Provinces, St. Petersburg, the present capital of Russia, and the most populous and commercial town of the empire, and Riga, a large seaport of the Baltic. In great Russia, Moscow, the ancient capital, Tula, (the Birmingham of Russia), Archangel on the White Sea, and Nizni-Novgorod, where an immense commercial fair is yearly held. In little Russia, Kief, on the Dnieper, a town of much trade. In Southern Russia, Odessa, the chief commercial port of the Black Sea, Kherson, at the mouth of the Dnieper, and Sevastopol, the station for the Russian fleet in the Black Sea. In Western Russia, Wilna, and Moghilev. In Eastern Russia, Kazan, the centre of the commerce between European Russia and Siberia, and Astrakhan, the principal port of the Caspian Sea.

Q. Where do the chief tribes of the Cossacks reside ?

A. The Don Cossacks in little Russia, where the principal fortress garrisoned by them is that of Tcherkask; the Cossacks of the Ural in Eastern Russia, and their chief military station is Orenburg.

Q. What are the political divisions of Russia ?

A. It is divided into twelve provinces, and these into forty-nine districts, or, as they are styled, governments.

Q. By whom is this vast empire ruled ?

A. By an Emperor, called in the language of the country *Czar*, whose will is absolute.

Q. What are the chief products of Russia ?

A. Corn, hemp, flax, timber, iron, furs, hides, and tallow; all which it has in such abundance, as to be able to export large quantities to other countries.

Q. Which is the chief corn country of Russia ?

A. Podolia; a province in the south-west of the empire, lying between the rivers Bug and Dniester.

Q. What very fertile peninsula belonging to Russia runs out into the Black Sea ?

A. The Crimea; a fine and fertile country, where the vine, the mulberry, (grown for feeding the silk-worm,) and most of the productions of southern climates, are raised in great perfection. Here is the naval arsenal of Sevastopol.

Q. Is not Russia very rich in minerals ?

A. Yes; but, though iron is plentiful in European Russia, the greatest portion of her mineral treasures is found in Asiatic Russia.

Poland.

Q. What can you say of Poland ?

A. Poland was dismembered by Russia, Prussia, and Austria, A. D. 1795. But in 1815, the city and district of Cracow were declared to be for ever free, independent, and neutral, and were placed under the protection of the above mentioned powers.

Q. What is the capital of this republic ?

A. Cracow; pleasantly situated on the banks of the Vistula, and the ancient capital of Poland. Podgorse, in Austrian Galicia, south of Cracow, is also free for commercial purposes.

Q. What is the chief river of Poland ?

A. The Vistula, which rises in the Carpathian mountains flows past Warsaw, (the later capital of the kingdom of Poland,) into Prussia, and falls into the Baltic at Dantzic.

CHAPTER VIII.

Of the Norwegian-Swedish Monarchy.

Q. Of what countries does this monarchy consist ?

A. Of Norway and Sweden, which were united under the same king at the general peace of 1814, and of part of Lapland.

Q. How are Norway and Sweden bounded ?

A. By the Icy Ocean on the N.; by Russia and the Baltic Sea on the E.; by the same sea on the S.; and on the W. by the strait called the Cattegat, and the North Sea.

Q. What natural line partly divides Norway from Sweden ?

A. The Scandinavian mountains; which, beginning at the South of the peninsula, where they are much loftier and wider than elsewhere, run to its northern extremity; a distance of about a thousand miles.

Q. What names does this long mountainous chain take ?

A. For about 300 miles from its commencement at the south of the peninsula, it is called Norska Fiellen, (the Norwegian range;) for about sixty further, the Dovre-Field; and for the remaining 640 miles, the Kiölen.

Q. What are the chief natural features of this great peninsula?

A. Wild and majestic mountains, immense forests, marshes, and desert heaths, together with innumerable lakes and rivers.

Q. Are the latter navigable?

A. Very few; for their course being short, they are rapid, and commonly abound with cataracts. There are, however, some canals; the chief of which, that of Gotha, connects several lakes, and forms a communication between the Cattegat and the Baltic Sea.

Q. In what does the wealth of the Norwegian-Swedish kingdom chiefly consist?

A. In its minerals, particularly in its iron and copper mines and its timber. The Swedish iron is accounted the best in the world; and so abundant is the timber, that numerous ships are yearly built here, and sold to foreign countries.

Q. What is the capital of the kingdom?

A. Stockholm; a fine sea-port on the Baltic, and the centre of the Swedish commerce. Christiana, likewise a port, is the chief town of Norway; but Bergen, a port on the North Sea, is the most commercial town of Norway.

Q. What are the climate and soil of the peninsula?

A. From the length of the winter, which is about two-thirds of the year, the climate is severe; but the air is dry and bracing, though less so in Norway than Sweden. The soil is barren; though cultivated with considerable skill and care, and does not yield grain sufficient for the home-consumption of the entire peninsula.

Q. In what pursuit do the Norwegians chiefly engage?

A. The larger half of the population is occupied in the fisheries off the coast. Most of the lobsters brought to the London market are from Norway.

Q. Are the Swedes the more agricultural people of the two?

A. Yes; and Sweden now raises enough corn for its own supply; but still the Swedes are a very commercial people.

Q. Are the two nations governed by the same laws?

A. No; though under the same king, Norway, according to the terms of its union with Sweden in 1814, retains its ancient constitution.

Lapland.

Q. What part of the Scandinavian peninsula does this country comprise?

A. The northern and north-eastern. It is divided into Norwegian, Swedish, and Russian Lapland, the latter being about one half of the whole territory; and it is now chiefly peopled from these countries, the original inhabitants having been reduced to not more than 7000 in number.

Q. How do the Laplanders get their living?

A. They depend either on the produce of their flocks of rein-deer, or on fishing; and they are hence divided into two classes, the rein-deer Laplanders, and the fishing Laplanders.

Q. Are there no other people that inhabit this country?

A. Yes; the Finmarks or Finlanders, who are settled in that part of the country which is annexed to Norway, and who excel in rearing of cattle and the management of the dairy.

Q. What do the Russian inhabitants of Lapland chiefly engage in?

A. The fisheries, or in trade.

Q. In what do the Norwegians and Swedes.

A. In agriculture; cultivating rye, barley, oats, and potatoes.

CHAPTER IX.

Of Denmark.

Q. Or what does Denmark consist?

A. The continental part of the kingdom consists of Jylland, or Jutland, (divided into North Jutland, and South Jutland or Sleswick;) Holstein, and the small duchy of Lauenburgh. A considerable portion is composed of islands, the principal of which are Zealand, Funen, Laaland, Falster, Femeren, Bornholm, and Anholt. Zealand is the most important island, and contains the metropolis, Copenhagen; Funen is a beautiful and fertile island; Anholt is remarkable for its lighthouse.

Q. What is the aspect of Denmark?

A. The aspect of Denmark is generally that of a rich, well-cultivated country. There are no mountains; and the islands, although diversified with woods, lakes, forests, and corn-fields, scarcely rise above the level of the sea.

Q. What seas or straits surround the peninsula of Denmark, and how is it bounded on the south?

A. The North Sea on the west; the Scaggerac, the Cattegat, and the Sound on the N. and N. E.; the Baltic on the east; and it is bounded on the south by Hanover, and the duchy of Mecklenburg.

CHAPTER X.

Of the Netherlands.

Q. WHAT are the Netherlands, and how bounded ?

A. The Netherlands consist of two kingdoms, Holland and Belgium, bounded on the north and west by the German Ocean, on the east by Germany, and on the south by France.

Q. Which are the chief cities of Holland ?

A. Amsterdam is the capital; Rotterdam, a great commercial city, standing on the Maas; the Hague, a considerable town; and Leyden and Utrecht, famous for their Universities.

Q. Which are the rivers of Holland, and into what seas do they run ?

A. The Rhine rises in the Alps, and nearly loses itself in the sands west of Leyden; the Maas falls into the German Ocean.

Q. What peculiarities in this country are to be noticed ?

A. The enormous dykes, to preserve the country from the inundations of the sea; and the immense number of canals which intersect it.

Belgium.

Q. Which are the chief cities of Belgium ?

A. Brussels, celebrated for its manufactories of lace; Antwerp, situated on the Scheldt, formerly a place of great commerce; Bruges; Ghent; and Ostend on the coast.

Q. Which are the rivers of Belgium ?

A. The Maas, the Scheldt, and the Sambre; all which fall into the German Ocean.

Q. What can you say of the soil and produce of this country ?

A. The soil and its produce are rich, especially in corn, fruits, and flax, and there are abundance of pasture lands; the manufactures of lace are celebrated. Belgium, or Flanders, is a flat country, with scarcely a single hill; it contains many extensive fields of coal.

CHAPTER XI.

Of Prussia.

Q. DESCRIBE Prussia.

A. Prussia is a country of great extent, reaching from the shores of the Baltic to the banks of the Rhine, or, in other words, from the frontiers of Russia to those of France;

it is generally a level and fertile country, producing large quantities of corn, potashes, tallow, linseed, amber, and zinc.

Q. Into what two large divisions is it classified?

A. Into Eastern and Western Prussia.

Q. Which are the principal rivers of Prussia, and into what seas do they flow?

A. The Vistula, a noble river, which falls into the Baltic at Dantzic; the Odër, and the Elbe, considerable rivers: the former runs into the Baltic Sea, the latter into the German Ocean, at Hamburg. These two rivers are connected by canals.

Q. Which are the chief cities of Prussia?

A. Berlin, the capital; Koningsburg, the ancient capital, a great commercial city seated on the Pregel; Dantzic, the great emporium of the foreign trade of Prussia; and Posen, a fortified city.

Q. What are the boundaries of Prussia?

A. Prussia is bounded on the north by the Baltic sea, and the duchy of Mecklenburg; on the east by Poland; on the south by the Austrian empire, and the possessions of the House of Saxony; and on the west by the kingdom of Hanover and the duchy of Brunswick. Prussia has an immense military force, but no navy.

CHAPTER XII.

Of Germany.

Q. How is Germany situated?

A. Germany is situated in the middle of Europe, and composed of several independent states, which are politically united, and form what is called the Germanic Confederation; the kingdoms of Austria, Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony, Hanover, and Wirtemberg, are included in the German Empire.

Of Austria.

Q. What countries are comprehended in the Austrian Empire?

A. Austria, Styria, Tyrol, Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia; Illyria, Galicia, Hungary, Transylvania, Dalmatia, Lombardy and Venice.

Q. What is the capital of Austria?

A. Vienna; it is a magnificent city seated on the Danube.

Q. Which are the chief rivers of Austria, and by what seas are they drained?

A. The Danube, a magnificent river, which rises in Swabia, runs directly east, passes Ulm, Vienna, and Bel-

grade, and falls into the Black Sea. Steam-boats have been established on the Danube, and a rail-road has been commenced to join this river and the Elbe, so that there will be a clear communication between the Black Sea and the German Ocean. The Theiss and the Drave are tributaries to the Danube; the Dniester, the Vistula, the Elbe, and the Oder, rise in Austria.

Q. Which are the principal sea-ports of Austria?

A. The principal sea-ports are Venice and Trieste; the latter in Illyria is the principal port of the empire; Pola, Fiume, Capo d'Istria, and Carlopago, are safe and capacious ports.

Q. What is the physical aspect of this empire?

A. The physical aspect of this empire is exceedingly diversified; displaying mountains, as the Alps which separate it from Switzerland, the Carpathian range to the north, and many minor elevations in the centre: these, with valleys, plains, rivers, lakes, forests, rich agricultural districts, are its principal features.

Q. How is Austria situated with regard to foreign commerce?

A. Austria is unfavourably situated with respect to foreign commerce: its maritime trade centres in the ports of the Adriatic, and is confined principally to the Mediterranean. Austria is a great corn and grazing country; there are also great quantities of minerals, viz. silver, iron, tin, copper, quicksilver, and salt.

Bavaria.

Q. What can you say of Bavaria?

A. Bavaria is a mountainous country, situated in the south of Germany, bordering on Italy and Switzerland. Munich is the capital; it is pleasantly situated on the Iser. The principal rivers are the Danube in the south-west part—the Rhine forming the eastern boundary of the Rhenish subdivision of Bavaria—and the Main.

Q. What other remarkable feature can you mention?

A. The lakes of Bavaria are very large; they are Constance, between it and Switzerland, Chiem-see, and the Ammer-see.

Saxony.

Q. Describe Saxony.

A. The kingdom of Saxony comprises part of the electorate of Saxony, and of Upper and Lower Lusatia, with the duchies of Gotha and Weimar.

Q. Which are its chief towns ?

A. Dresden and Leipzig: the former is a beautiful city, the residence of the king, situated on the Elbe; it is famous for its porcelain, and for its University; Leipzig is celebrated for its three great book-fairs held every year.

Hanover.

Q. How is Hanover situated ?

A. Hanover is situated on the north of Germany, and is composed of the former duchies of Lunenburg, Bremen, Saxe-Lunenburg, &c. It is bounded on the north by the German Ocean, the Danish provinces, and the grand duchy of Mecklenburg; on the east by Prussia, on the south by Prussia and Hesse-Cassel, and on the west by Holland.

Q. Which are its chief towns and rivers ?

A. Hanover, the capital; Gottingen, famous for its University and literature; and Bremen on the Weser. The rivers are the Elbe, which receives the Oste; the Weser and its tributaries, which runs north-west from Hanover, to the German Ocean; and the Ems, which, rising in Westphalia, runs past Emden, its principal commercial port, to the German Ocean.

Wirtemberg.

Q. How is Wirtemberg situated ?

A. The kingdom of Wirtemberg is situated in the south of Germany; it is a small but very fertile kingdom; Stuttgardt is the capital.

Baden.

Q. Where is Baden ?

A. Baden, a small fertile state, is situated between Wirtemberg and the Rhine; its capital is Carlsruhe.

Mecklenburg.

Q. What is Mecklenburg ?

A. Mecklenburg is a small principality situated in the north of Germany, and bounded on the north by the Baltic sea; it is divided into Mecklenburgh-Strelitz and Mecklenburgh-Schwerin. Rostock, situated on the river Warnow, on the shores of the Baltic Sea, is the largest and most populous city.

Styria, Carniola, &c.

Q. What are Styria, Carniola, and Carinthia ?

A. They are Austrian duchies, generally mountainous, but producing large quantities of corn; and Styria is cele-

brated for its iron-mines, which have been known and worked from the time of the Romans.

Q. What is Tyrol ?

A. Tyrol is a very mountainous country; it has rich mines of gold, silver, and lead, several salt-pits, and many precious stones. Inspruck is the capital of the Tyrol. It is bounded on the west by the Grisons.

Hungary.

Q. How is Hungary situated ?

A. Hungary lies to the east of Germany, and the south of Poland, it is well-watered by the Danube, and its tributaries, the Drave, the Waag, the Theiss, &c. This country abounds with mines.

Q. Name the chief towns.

A. Pesth, a town of great commerce; Presburgh, the former capital, on the Danube; and Buda, all lying on the Danube; and Tokay, famous for its wines.

Bohemia.

Q. Describe Bohemia.

A. Bohemia is separated from Bavaria, by the great Bohemian forest; it is an extensive and fertile country, and is the most manufacturing part of the Austrian empire. Prague, the capital, is one of the finest cities in Europe; it is seated on the Vistula.

CHAPTER XIII.

Of France.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries of France ?

A. France is bounded on the N. by the English channel, the straits of Dover, and Belgium; on the E. by Bavaria, the duchy of Baden, Switzerland, and the Sardinian states; on the S. by the Mediterranean Sea, and Spain; and on the W. by the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of Biscay.

Q. What are the political divisions of France ?

A. France is divided into eighty-six departments.

Q. Which are the principal rivers of France, and by what seas are they drained ?

A. The Rhone, which rises in Switzerland, receives the Saone at Lyons, and thence runs due south by Avignon, to the Mediterranean. The Rhine, which forms part of the east boundary of France. The Seine, which flows past Rheims and Paris, and falls into the English Channel not

far from Rouen. The Loire, which rises in the Cevenne mountains, waters Orleans, Blois, Tours, and Angers, and falls into the Bay of Biscay at Nantes. The Garonne, which rises in Spain, and passes by Bordeaux into the Bay of Biscay.

Q. Name the chief cities of France.

A. Paris, the metropolis; it has many remarkable buildings, of which may be mentioned the Louvre, and the Luxemburg. Lyons, the second city of France for commerce and opulence; Bordeaux, celebrated for its wine; Marseilles, a fine commercial port; Calais, the great port for communication with England; and Brest, in the north-west, and Toulon, in the south of France, strongly fortified and great naval stations.

Q. What are the chief mountains of France?

A. The Alps, which divide France from Italy; the Jura, dividing France from Switzerland; the Cevennes in Languedoc; Mount D'Or, in Auvergne; and the Pyrenees, which divide France from Spain.

Q. What can you say of the general situation, aspect, and products of France?

A. France is admirably situated for commerce, from the number and extent of her harbours; she possesses also great internal riches. The surface of France is in general a level, very moderately undulated; the inland navigation is very extensive, but capable of great improvement. France produces silver, copper, tin, coal, and iron, and has all the necessaries of life, and most of its luxuries; among the latter may be mentioned its fine wines and brandy.

CHAPTER XIV.

Of Spain.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries of Spain?

A. Spain is bounded on the N. by the Atlantic Ocean and the Pyrenees, which separate it from France; on the E. by the Mediterranean; on the S. by the Mediterranean, the Straits of Gibraltar, and the Atlantic; and on the W. by Portugal and the Atlantic Ocean.

Q. Which are the chief rivers of Spain, and into what seas do they fall?

A. The Tagus, which flows through New Castile, Estremadura, and Alcantara; and after passing through Portugal, falls into the Atlantic at Lisbon. The Ebro, which rises in

Santander, flows through Navarre, Aragon, and Catalonia, and falls into the Mediterranean. The Douro which passes through Old Castile into Portugal, and falls into the Atlantic at Oporto. The Guadiana and Guadalquivir, which fall into the Atlantic Ocean; the latter not far from Cadiz.

Q. Which are the chief cities and sea-ports of Spain?

A. Madrid is the capital; Toledo is a large commercial city on the Tagus: Cadiz is the emporium of the Spanish foreign trade. Bilbao on the north, and Carthagena on the south, are sea-ports with good harbours. Gibraltar is a strongly fortified rock in the possession of the British.

Q. What can you say of the general appearance, products, and present condition of Spain.

A. The surface of Spain exhibits, generally, mountains usually verdant; vast table-lands; rich and broad valleys, and rapid rivers. Its chief mountains are the Sierra Nevada, and the Sierra D'Estrella. Spain produces corn in abundance and great quantities of fruits and wines. It is likewise celebrated for its breed of sheep, called merinos, which produce the finest wool. From having been so long the seat of war, Spain is greatly behind all the other nations of Europe in knowledge and improvement.

CHAPTER XV.

Of Portugal.

Q. How is Portugal situated?

A. Portugal is bounded on the N. and E. by Spain, and on the S. and W. by the Atlantic Ocean.

Q. What are the rivers of Portugal?

A. The Mondego, the Vonga, and the Sadao; besides the rivers of Spain which fall into the Atlantic.

Q. What are the chief towns of Portugal?

A. Lisbon, the capital, and a great sea-port; Oporto, on the Douro, from which the wine called Port is exported. The productions of Portugal are similar to those of Spain.

Q. What is the state of education in this country?

A. Education and improvement of every kind are in a very backward state.

CHAPTER XVI.

Of Great Britain.

Q. WHAT countries does the British empire comprise?

A. England, Ireland, and Scotland, with the islands adjacent; and colonial possessions of vast importance in nearly every part of the globe.

Q. How is England divided ?

A. England is divided into forty counties or shires.

Q. What are their names ?

Counties.

Chief Towns.

A. Northumberland,	Newcastle.
Cumberland,	Carlisle.
Westmoreland,	Appleby.
Durham,	Durham.
Yorkshire,	York.
Lancashire,	Lancaster.
Cheshire,	Chester.
Derbyshire,	Derby.
Staffordshire,	Stafford.
Warwickshire,	Warwick.
Worcestershire,	Worcester.
Shropshire,	Shrewsbury.
Herefordshire,	Hereford.
Monmouthshire,	Monmouth.
Gloucestershire,	Gloucester.
Oxfordshire,	Oxford.
Buckinghamshire,	Aylesbury.
Bedfordshire,	Bedford.
Huntingdonshire,	Huntingdon.
Northamptonshire,	Northampton.
Rutlandshire,	Okeham.
Leicestershire,	Loughborough.
Nottinghamshire,	Nottingham.
Lincolnshire,	Lincoln.
Norfolk,	Norwich.
Suffolk,	Ipswich.
Cambridgeshire,	Cambridge.
Hertfordshire,	Hertford.
Essex,	Chelmsford.
Middlesex,	London.
Kent,	Canterbury.
Sussex,	Chichester.
Surrey,	Guilford.
Hampshire,	Winchester.
Berkshire,	Reading.
Wiltshire,	Salisbury.
Somersetshire,	Bath.
Dorsetshire,	Dorchester.
Devonshire,	Exeter.
Cornwall,	Launceston.

Q. Which are the chief rivers of England, and by what seas are they drained ?

A. The Thames, which falls into the German Ocean, the Severn into the Atlantic, forming the Bristol Channel; the Medway into the Thames; the Mersey into the Irish Sea at Liverpool; the Trent, Ouse, and Derwent forming the Humber, which falls into the German Ocean.

Q. Which are the most remarkable mountains ?

A. Hevellyn and Skiddaw, in Cumberland; the Peak, in Derbyshire; the Cotswold, in Gloucestershire; the Mendip, in Somersetshire; and the Cheviot, between England and Scotland.

Q. Which are the principal ports of commerce ?

A. London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Gloucester.

Q. Which are the principal dockyards ?

A. Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Chatham.

Q. Which are the principal canals ?

A. The Grand Junction, the Bridgewater, the Kennet and Avon.

Q. Which are the great railroads ?

A. The Liverpool and Manchester; the London and Birmingham; the London and Southampton; and the Great Western.

Q. What are the boundaries of Great Britain ?

A. Great Britain, including England, Wales and Scotland, is bounded on the N. by the Atlantic Ocean; on the E. by the North Sea or German Ocean; on the S. by the Straits of Dover and the English Channel; and on the W. by the Atlantic Ocean, St. George's Channel, and the Irish Sea.

Of Wales.

Q. Of how many counties does Wales consist, and what are they ?

A. Of twelve counties, viz:—

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Chief Towns.</i>
Flintshire,	Flint.
Denbighshire,	Denbig.
Isle of Anglesea,	Beaumaris.
Caernarvonshire,	Caernarvon.
Merionethshire,	Bolgelly.
Montgomeryshire,	Montgomery.
Cardiganshire,	Cardigan.
Radnorshire,	Radnor.
Brecknockshire,	Brecknock.
Glamorganshire,	Cardiff.
Caermarthenshire,	Kidwelly.
Pembrokeshire,	Pembroke.

Q. Is not Wales a mountainous country?

A. Yes; the chief mountains are Snowdon, Cader, Idris, and Plinlimmon.

Q. What are its chief natural productions?

A. Iron, coal, and lead.

Of Scotland.

Q. What are the natural divisions of Scotland?

A. Two: the Highlands and the Lowlands.

Q. Into how many counties is Scotland divided, and what are they?

A. Scotland is divided into thirty-three counties, viz :

Counties.

Chief Towns.

Orkney,	Kirkwall.
Caithness,	Wick.
Sutherland,	Dornoch.
Ross,	Tain.
Cromarty,	Cromarty.
Nairn,	Nairn.
Inverness,	Inverness.
Elgin or Murray,	Elgin.
Banff,	Banff.
Aberdeen,	Aberdeen.
Kincardine,	Bervie.
Forfar,	Montrose.
Perth,	Perth.
Fife,	Cupar.
Kinross,	Kinross.
Clackmannan,	Clackmannan.
Stirling,	Stirling.
Dumbarton,	Dumbarton.
Argyle,	Inverary.
Bute,	Rothsay.
Ayr,	Ayr.
Renfrew,	Renfrew.
Lanark,	Glasgow.
Linlithgow,	Linlithgow.
Edinburgh,	Edinburgh.
Haddington,	Haddington.
Berwick,	Berwick.
Roxburgh,	Jedburgh.
Selkirk,	Selkirk.
Peebles,	Peebles.
Dumfries,	Dumfries.
Kircudbright,	Kircudbright.
Wigton,	Wigton.

Q. What are the principal features of this country ?

A. The Highlands are generally wild and mountainous, with several beautiful lakes; the Lowlands are fertile and well watered. The German Ocean and the Atlantic are connected by means of the Grand Caledonian Canal, and the rivers Forth and Clyde.

Q. What are its chief cities ?

A. Edinburgh is the capital, but Glasgow, seated on the Clyde, is its chief commercial city.

Of Ireland.

Q. What are the great divisions of Ireland ?

A. Ireland is divided into four Provinces : Leinster, Munster, Ulster, and Connaught.

Q. Are these divided into Counties ?

A. Yes; Leinster is divided into twelve, viz :

Counties.

Chief Towns.

Dublin,	Dublin.
Louth,	Drogheda.
Wicklow,	Wicklow.
Wexford,	Wexford.
Longford,	Longford.
Meath,	Trim.
West Meath,	Mullingar.
King's County,	Philipstown.
Queen's County,	Maryborough.
Kilkenny,	Kilkenny.
Kildare,	Naas.
Carlow,	Carlow.

Munster is divided into six counties, viz. :—

Clare,	Ennis.
Cork,	Cork.
Kerry,	Tralee.
Limerick,	Limerick.
Tipperary,	Clonmel.
Waterford,	Waterford.

Ulster is divided into nine counties, viz. :

Down,	Downpatrick.
Armagh,	Armagh.
Monaghan,	Monaghan.
Cavan,	Cavan.
Antrim,	Carrickfergus.

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Chief Towns.</i>
Londonderry,	Derry.
Tyrone,	Omagh.
Fermanagh,	Enniskillen.
Donegal,	Lifford.

Connaught is divided into five counties, viz.:

Leitrim,	Leitrim.
Roscommon,	Roscommon.
Mayo,	Castle Bar.
Sligo,	Sligo.
Galway,	Galway.

Q. What are the natural aspect and resources of the four provinces?

A. Leinster is generally level with the exception of the Wicklow mountains, and commonly fertile; but a large portion of the interior is uncultivated bog. Kilkenny abounds in coal. Munster is the most irregularly diversified of all; with the exception of the great level plains of Tipperary, it is generally unequal and abrupt. Ulster has a broken and rugged surface with deep inlets and lakes; there are plentiful fishing grounds on the north and west. Connaught is remarkable for its wild rugged cliffs, numerous bays and harbours; the valleys in the interior are very fertile.

Q. Which is the chief city?

A. Dublin, seated on the river Liffey.

CHAPTER XVII.

Of Switzerland.

Q. What can you say of Switzerland?

A. Switzerland is a small country lying upon the Alps, between Italy, Germany, and France, and is the highest spot of ground in Europe. The valleys are warm and fruitful, but the higher parts are sharp and piercing, and have a desolate but sublime appearance. The chief mountains are Mount Blanc, St. Bernard, and St. Gothard. The Rhine and the Rhone rise in the Swiss mountains.

Q. What are the political divisions of Switzerland, and which are the chief cities?

A. It is divided into twenty-two cantons. The chief city is Berne, standing on the river Aar. Geneva is one of the most distinguished cities on the Continent for literature; it has a peculiar right of travelling along the great road

called the Simplon. which leads across the Alps to Italy. Basle stands on the Rhine.

Q. Which are the lakes of Switzerland ?

A. Constance, Zurich, Lucerne, and Geneva.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Of Italy

Q. How is Italy bounded ?

A. It is bounded on the N. by the Alps, which separate it from Switzerland and the Austrian empire; on the E. by the Austrian empire, the Adriatic and the Ionian Seas; on the S. by the Mediterranean; and on the W. by the same sea and the kingdom of France.

Q. How is Italy divided ?

A. Italy is divided into several states, of which Austria holds the Venetian states, and all the territory between the Tessin, the Po, and the Adriatic; the kingdoms of Sardinia, and the Two Sicilies; the states of the Church under the government of the Pope; the remaining divisions are duchies.

Q. Which are the principal mountains of Italy ?

A. The Appennines, which run nearly the whole extent of Italy; the Alps on the north; mount Vesuvius near Naples, and Ætna in Sicily.

Q. Name the principal cities of Italy ?

A. Turin, the capital of Piedmont, belonging to the king of Sardinia; Milan, the capital of the duchy of that name—it has a celebrated cathedral, built of white marble; Venice, the capital of the Venetian states, now belonging to Austria, built on seventy-two islands; Florence, a beautiful city, it stands on the Arno; Rome, the capital of the Papal territories—it is situated on the Tiber; Genoa, which lies on the coast, and is famous for its velvets and damasks; Leghorn, which has a good harbour on the Mediterranean, and great commerce.

Q. Which are the rivers of Italy and into what seas do they run ?

A. The Po, which rises in Piedmont, runs through Milan, Parma, and Modena, and falls into the Adriatic; the Tiber, which rises in the Appennines, and flows by Rome into the Mediterranean; the Arno, which passes by Florence and falls into the Mediterranean at Pisa.

Q. Of what does the kingdom of the Two Sicilies consist ?

A. Of Naples and the island of Sicily. Naples, a fine city seated on a splendid bay in the Mediterranean, is the capital of the continental part of the kingdom. Palermo, a large fortified city, situate on the north of the island, is the capital of Sicily.

Q. Describe the air and soil of Italy generally.

A. There is a great variety of temperature: in the north, near the Alps, the air is keen; in the central parts, extremely hot and unhealthy; but the southern parts are very salubrious. The soil of Italy produces the comforts and luxuries of life in great abundance; olive oil and silk form a great part of the commerce of this country.

CHAPTER XIX.

Of Turkey in Europe.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries of Turkey in Europe?

A. Turkey is bounded on the north by the Austrian empire, and part of the Russian empire; on the east by Bessarabia, the Black Sea, the Straits of Constantinople, the Dardanelles, and the Archipelago; on the south by the Archipelago and Greece; and on the west by the Ionian Sea, the Adriatic, and the Dalmatian part of the Austrian dominions.

Q. What are the political divisions of Turkey?

A. Romania, Macedonia, Thessaly, Albania, Bosnia, Servia, Bulgaria, Wallachia, and Moldavia.

Q. Which are the chief cities of Turkey?

A. Constantinople, the capital, and seat of government; Adrianople, seated on the river Maritza; Salonica, on the Vardar; and Belgrade, standing on the conflux of the Danube and Save.

Q. What are the principal mountains and rivers of this country.

A. The rivers are the Danube which falls into the Black Sea by many mouths; the Maritza and the Vardar, which fall into the Archipelago at Salonica, forming the gulph of that name. The mountains are the Hæmus, or Balkan; and the Argentaro and Pindus, which are continuations of the great Carpathian range.

Q. What can you say of the government and produce of Turkey?

A. Turkey is despotically governed by an emperor, who has the title of *Sultan*; his court is called the *Porte*, the government the *Divan*, the prime minister the *Grand*

Vizier; an imperial order is called a *firman*, the governors of the different provinces are Pachas. The religion of the Turks is the Mahometan; their high priest is called *Mufti*, and their churches mosques. The principal products of this country are cattle, wines, tobacco, fruit, copper, and different gums, but their trade is confined principally to the Levant.

Q. Which are the principal Turkish islands?

A. Lemnos, Samos, Rhodes, Candia, Cyprus, and Tenedos.

CHAPTER XX.

Of Greece.

Q. How is the kingdom of Greece situated?

A. It is bounded on the N. by Turkey; W. and S. by the Mediterranean; and E. by the Archipelago.

Q. How is Greece divided?

A. Into three divisions, viz.:—Northern Greece, or Livadia; Peloponnesus, or the Morea; the Islands, or Cyclades.

Q. Name the chief towns.

A. Athens is the capital; the principal commercial towns are Nauplia, Missolonghi, Patras, and the islands of Syra, Hydra, and Spezia. Negropont is a large island on the E. of Greece; its chief town is Negropont. The trade of Greece is principally confined to the Levant.

Q. What can you say of the general appearance of Greece?

A. Its coasts are indented by fine gulfs, and its interior presents beautiful valleys and noble mountains; the chief of the latter are Parnassus, Helicon, and the Maniote or Taygetus. The chief plains are those of Thebes and Marathon. Almost every spot of ground in Greece presents the traveller with the ruins of celebrated antiquity. The rivers are the Aspro, which falls into the Ionian Sea; and the Ere or Eurotas, which falls into the Laconian Gulph.

Of the Ionian Islands.

Q. What are the Ionian islands?

A. The Ionian islands lying S. of the Adriatic, and W. of the coast of Greece, form a republic; the executive government of which is vested in her Britannic Majesty. The principal islands are Corfu, Cephalonia, Zante, Ithaca, and Santa Maura. Corfu, in which is seated the capital, is the key of the Adriatic, and well situated for commerce.

CHAPTER XXI.

Of Asia.

Q. WHAT is Asia?

A. One of the great divisions of the globe. It lies to the E. of Europe and Africa: from the latter it is separated by seas, except at one place, where these two great divisions are joined by the narrow isthmus of Suez; from Europe it is divided by the natural and imaginary lines mentioned in the fifth chapter.

Q. What are the boundaries of Asia, on the N.E. and S.?

A. On the N. the Arctic Ocean; on the E. the North Pacific Ocean, and Behring's Straits; on the S. the Chinese Sea, the Indian Ocean, the Bay of Bengal, and the Arabian Sea.

Q. What is the character of the surface of Asia?

A. Asia exhibits the greatest contrasts on the surface of the globe: its interior presents to our view the most extensive uninterrupted continental formation, and its southern extremity is more split into separate members, and varies more in rapid succession of land and sea, than any other part of the globe of equal extent. The whole mass of the interior continent rises to a considerable elevation above the level of the sea, in immense table-lands; from these the surface descends in gradual slopes and terraces, to the level lowlands which surround them.

Q. Which are the most remarkable ranges of mountains?

A. The Hymalaya, the highest in the world, rising to an elevation of nearly 27,000 feet above the level of the sea; the Altai, the Caucasian, the Yablonoi, the Taurian, and the Ghauts.

Q. What other natural features are to be considered?

A. The great inland seas or lakes, the Caspian, the Aral, and the Baikal; the part of Asia which contains the two former, over an extent of 1800 square leagues, is below the level of the ocean; the Caspian occupies the lowest part of this depression. The great desert of Gobi or Cobi, and the great steppe of Kirghiz, are worthy of note from their elevation and extent.

Q. Which are the principal rivers of Asia, and into what seas do they run?

A. From their great magnitude, the rivers form a striking feature in this immense continent; they are as follow:—the Yenesei, which rises in the Altai range, meets the Angara from lake Baikal, and falls into the Arctic Ocean after a course of upwards of 3000 miles; this river drains

about one million of square miles : the Irtysh, the Obi, and the Tobol, which drain upwards of 1, 300,000 square miles, and fall into the Arctic Ocean: the Hoang-Ho, and Kiang, rivers of China, which fall into the Pacific; the Ganges and the Burrampooter, which rise in the Hymalaya mountains, and flow S. into the Bay of Bengal; the Indus or Sindé, which has its rise in the same range, and falls into the Arabian Sea.

Q. What are the chief vegetable productions of Asia ?

A. Rice, sugar, corn, tea, tobacco, and cotton.

Q. What are the mineral productions ?

A. Gold, silver, iron, copper, tin, and lead.

Q. What is the character of the Siberian region, or northern part of Asia ?

A. The earth is perpetually frozen below the vegetable mould that overlies the surface; animals as well as man perish beneath the dreadful temperature of this region.

Q. Into how many states is Asia politically divided ?

A. At present there may be said to be only six empires of great power and importance, which possess among them the whole continent; the others, of less extent and importance, are either dependent on these six, or at least are subordinate : the six are the Chinese empire, the Russian dominions on the N., the British dominions on the S., Persia, Turkey, and Arabia. In Persia are included Afghanistan and Persia Proper; the Birman empire, and the kingdoms of Siam and Cochín-China, are only of second or third rank.

Q. What are the principal islands of Asia ?

A. Ceylon, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Japan, Celebes, Hainan, Formosa, Loo-choo, and the Aleutian or Fox islands.

Q. What are the religions of the great empires of Asia ?

A. In the Russian dominions the Greek Church is dominant; the Mahomedan religion prevails over Arabia, Turkey, Persia, and Afghanistan; Boodhism and Brahminism extend over India, Tibet, Mongolia, China and Corea; the Japanese and the people of the eastern peninsula of India, as well as many tribes in the Chinese territory, are Pagans.

Q. What is the population of Asia ?

A. About 525,000,000.

Q. What is the area of the surface of Asia ?

A. Seventeen millions and a half of square miles.

CHAPTER XXII.

Of China.

Q. WHAT is the area of China ?

A. Upwards of five millions of square miles.

Q. What are the boundaries of this immense empire ?

A. It is bounded on the N. by Independent Tartary, Asiatic Russia, and the Sea of Okotsk; on the E. by parts of the great Pacific Ocean, viz :—the Sea of Japan and the Chinese Sea; on the south by the same sea, the empires of Siam and Birmah, the kingdom of Nepaul, and British India; and on the W. by Afghanistan and Tartary.

Q. How may the Chinese empire be divided ?

A. Into China Proper and its dependencies.

Q. Name the principal cities and sea-ports of China.

A. Peking, the capital; a very large city, nearly ten leagues in circumference, seated on the river Pe-ho, to the north of the great wall; Nankin, a very grand city for manufactures of cottons and silks, on the great river Kiang. Canton, a large, populous city in the S. E. part of China—its harbour has hitherto been the only harbour frequented by Europeans. Macao, on an island of the same name, at the entrance of the gulph of Canton. There are many excellent harbours on this extensive coast, but by the exclusive policy of the Chinese government, they are closed to all foreign commerce.

Q. Which are the chief rivers of China ?

A. The Amoor or Saghalien meets the Tongari and falls into the sea of Okotsk; the Hoang-Ho flows past the large town of Kay Fong, and falls into the Yellow Sea; the Kian-Ku is the great river of China,—it flows past Nankin; the Hong river flows, past Canton into the Chinese Sea. The lofty mountains which form the N. and S. W. boundaries of this empire give birth to many rivers of great magnitude and consequence.

Q. What are the chief exports of China ?

A. Tea, porcelain, cottons, silks, precious stones, quick-silver, rhubarb, &c. The great article of importation is opium, which although prohibited by the government under heavy penalties, forms at this day two-thirds of the commerce with India.

Q. What can you say of the general appearance of China ?

A. China is an immense table-land, sloping away to the east from the great Hymalaya and Altai ranges. China Proper is extremely fertile, and is traversed by a great

number of canals; the imperial canal is 300 leagues in length. The great wall of China is worthy of notice; it extends along the north of China Proper, separating it from Mongolia and Manchouri for a distance of nearly twelve hundred miles.

Of the Chinese Dependencies.

Q. What countries are tributary to China ?

A. Corea, Monchouri, Mongolia, and Tibet.

Q. Describe Corea.

A. Corea is a peninsula to the N. E. of China, between the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan.

Q. Where is Manchouri ?

A. Manchouri lies to the north of Corea; it is a great country for pasture lands, and is watered by the river Saghalien.

Q. Where is Mongolia ?

A. Mongolia is a large country to the west of Manchouri; it is sterile and thinly peopled; the greater part of it is occupied by the great desert of Cobi; the Altai mountains traverse it N. E. and S. W.

Q. Where is Tibet or Thibet ?

A. Tibet is separated from India by the Hymalaya mountains; it is situate on the highest table-land of Asia. The soil is unfavourable to agriculture, from the extreme rigour of the climate, but it abounds with minerals

CHAPTER XXIII.

Of Japan.

Q. Of what is Japan composed ?

A. The empire of Japan is composed of a chain of isles, separated from the continent by the Sea of Japan: they are Jesso, Nippon, Kiu-siu, and Sikoke, with many small islands. Nippon is the largest.

Q. Which is the seat of government ?

A. Jeddo *in Nippon. Nangasaki in Kui-siu is the principal port of commerce, but the Dutch are the only nation admitted.

Q. What is the general appearance of the country ?

A. The whole face of the country consists of mountains, hills, and valleys. There are several volcanoes, and the sea-coast is rocky and precipitous.

Q. What can you say of the government ?

A. The head of the government is styled *Cubo*, or King; the head of religious affairs is styled the *Dairo*. The Japanese are a very industrious people, and celebrated for their manufactures of iron and copper; the whole of Japan is densely populated.

Q. Is Gold found in Japan?

A. Yes, in large quantities; Japan also abounds in copper, and coal is found in the northern parts.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Of Russia in Asia.

Q. WHAT part of the empire of Russia is in Asia?

A. About two-thirds: in this are included the kingdoms of Kazan and Astrakhan, the Caucasin provinces, the *Stepes* of the Kirghises, and Siberia, with Kamschatka.

Q. How is this region politically divided?

A. It is divided into two great governments; that of Tobolsk in the west, and Irkoutsk in the east.

Q. What are the chief towns of Asiatic Russia?

A. Tobolsk is the most considerable town, it is situated on the confluence of the rivers Tobol and Irtysh; Irkoutsk, the capital of the eastern government; Kiakhta, a considerable town on the Chinese frontier, where the principal part of the Russian and Chinese trade is carried on; Yakoutsks, on the river Lena, and Okotsk, on the sea of that name.

Q. Which are the chief rivers?

A. The Yenesei, the Tobol, the Irtysh, and the Lena.

Q. Of what does the chief commerce consist?

A. In sables and other valuable furs, which are eagerly purchased by the Chinese. The Gold mines of Catharinenberg, east of the Uralian mountains, are very productive.

Q. For what purpose is Siberia used by the Russian government?

A. For the exile of state prisoners. The Russians have a great road which goes through Tobolsk to Kiakhta, and by which the caravans travel from China to Moscow.

CHAPTER XXV.

Of India within and India without the Ganges.

Q. How is India divided?

A. Into British India or Hindoostan, and India without the Ganges.

Q. What does India without the Ganges comprehend?

A. Under this general name is comprehended an immense country, on the E. of the bay of Bengal; which may be divided into the Birman empire, Siam, the empire of Anam or Cochin-China, and the British territories.

Q. Of what does the Birman empire consist?

A. The Birman empire consists of the kingdoms of Ava, and Pegu; it is traversed from N. to S. by the great river Irawaddy. Ava is the capital; Ummerapoora is a considerable town.

Q. Describe Siam.

A. Siam is a fertile valley, watered by the noble river Meinam; the capital, Bankok, is seated at its mouth.

Q. What are the chief divisions of the empire of Anam or Cochin-China?

A. It is divided into the provinces of Tonkin, Cochin-China Proper, and Camboja. The chief river is the May-Kiang, which flows through Camboja; the forests are very extensive, and contain many trees yielding rich gums, particularly that called gamboge. The residence of the sovereign is at Huefoo. Laos is a mountainous country in the interior.

Q. What are the British territories?

A. The British territories consist of Assam, Arracan, Mergui, Tenasserim and Malacca; these countries are in many parts fertile, but rudely cultivated. On a small island at the S. extremity of Malacca, the English have founded a town called Singapore; it is the centre of the trade of the surrounding country.

Of Hindoostan, or India within the Ganges.

Q. What are the boundaries of Hindoostan?

A. Hindoostan is bounded on the N. by Tibet and other countries comprised in the empire of China, from which it is divided by the Hymalaya range; on the E. by the Birman empire and Bay of Bengal; on the W. by Afghanistan, Beloochistan, and the Arabian Sea; and S. by the Indian Ocean.

Q. What are the natural divisions of India, or Hindoostan?

A. It is formed by nature into three great divisions, viz.:—the mountainous, or Hymalaya district; the great central plain, watered by the Ganges and Indus; (this is the finest part of India); and the southern peninsula, stretching in a triangular form, and terminating at Cape Comorin.

This part of India consists of very elevated table-lands, traversed by the mountain ranges of the E. and W. Ghauts, which run parallel to the coasts.

Q. What are the political divisions of Hindoostan ?

A. Hindoostan may be divided into the British territories, those held by her vassals and tributaries, and the few which remain independent.

Q. How are the British dominions divided ?

A. Into three presidencies—Bengal, Madras, and Bombay: Calcutta is the capital, seated on the Ganges. These presidencies comprise the most fruitful of the plains of India: Madras is situated on the E. or Coromandel coast, and Bombay on the W. or Malabar coast. The most flourishing towns are Tanjore, Arcot, Masulipatam, Surat, Cambay, and Poonah. Ceylon is a beautiful island, famous for its cinnamon and pearl fishery; the capital is Candy.

Q. What countries are held in vassalage by Britain ?

A. The Deccan; Hyderabad, a large city, its capital the Mysore territory, in which are the strong cities of Seringapatam and Bangalore; Mahratta, of which Nagpoor is the capital; the kingdom of Oude, lying N. of the Ganges—the capital is Lucknow; and it has a splendid palace; Ajmere, an extensive hilly country to the W. of Agra, governed by the Rajpoot chiefs.

Q. What are the powers still independent of Great Britain ?

A. Scindia, the capital of which is Gwalior, a strong fortress: Nepaul, on the S. side of the Hymalaya mountains—the capital is Khatmandoo; the Sheiks possess Lahore and Moultan, on the Indus, and also Cashmere, a beautiful valley, famous for its manufactory of shawls; Sindé is a flat territory at the mouth of the Indus.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Of Arabia.

Q. WHAT form does Arabia present ?

A. Arabia presents the form of a vast peninsula, connected with the S. W. extremity of the continent of Asia by an isthmus of sandy deserts: it is bounded on the N. by Syria and the Euphrates, on the E. by the Persian gulf, which also bounds it on the S., and the Red Sea and the Straits of Bab-el-mandeb on the W. and S. W.

Q. How is Arabia divided ?

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A. Into three parts, viz.: Arabia Petræa, Arabia Deserta and Arabia Felix.

Q. Which are the chief towns of Arabia ?

A. Mecca, the annual resort of many thousand pilgrims—here Mahomet was born ; Medina, celebrated as the burial place of Mahomet ; Mocha, a place of great trade, particularly in coffee ; Muscat, near the gulf of Ormus, an excellent harbour, well fortified ; it is the most commercial town of Arabia, and the emporium of the trade of Arabia, Persia, and India.

Q. Which are the rivers and mountains of Arabia ?

A. Arabia has no river of any extent. The most noted mountains are Horeb and Sinai, mentioned in the Bible ; but the whole peninsula of Arabia consists of an elevated table-land, declining on the N. towards the Syrian desert.

Q. What are the chief productions of Arabia ?

A. Corn, sugar, tobacco, cotton and coffee ; also, myrrh, cassia, and spices, and the gum called gumarabic.

Q. What are remarkable features in this country ?

A. The great sandy deserts and the pestilential hot wind called *samum* or *samiel*.

Q. What is the government of Arabia ?

A. The country is divided among numerous *Imaums* and *Sheiks*, who are the sole governors of the respective provinces. The Hedjaz, a large territory near the Red Sea, is in possession of the Pasha of Egypt.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Of Turkey in Asia.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries of Turkey in Asia ?

A. On the N. the Dardanelles, the Sea of Mormora, the Black Sea, and Asiatic Russia ; on the E. Asiatic Russia and Persia ; on the S. Arabia ; on the W. the Mediterranean Sea, and the Archipelago.

Q. How is this country divided ?

A. Into seven departments, viz., Armenia, Mesopotamia or Diarbekir, Irac-Arabia, Anatolia, the islands of Turkey in Asia, and Syria.

Q. Which are the chief rivers and mountains of this country ?

A. The Orontes, which falls into the Mediterranean ; the Jordon, which rises in the mountains of Lebanon, and falls into the Dead Sea : the Euphrates and the Tigris,

which two celebrated rivers form by their union, the great Shat-el-Arab, which falls into the Persian gulf. The mountains are Caucasus, Lebanon, Ararat, Hermon, and Taurus.

Q. Which are the chief towns of Asiatic Turkey ?

A. Smyrna, a considerable city of Anatolia; Erzeroum, the capital of Armenia, seated on a branch of the Euphrates; Diarbekir, the capital of Mesopotamia, is on the Tigris; Bagdad, on the Tigris, is a large and commercial city; twenty leagues south of Bagdad are the ruins of Babylon; Bassora, upon the Shat-el-Arab, is a place of great commerce with India; Trebizond, Angora, Tarsus, Aleppo, Damascus, and Jerusalem, so celebrated in sacred history.

Q. For what is Turkey in Asia so remarkable ?

A. For having been the great scene of nearly all the events described in the Bible, the creation of man, and the establishment of Christianity. In Syria is included the Holy Land or Palestine.

Q. What is the government of Turkey in Asia ?

A. From the weakness of the government of European Turkey it can hardly be said to extend its influence into Asia, consequently these provinces are subdivided into governments arbitrarily administered by Pashas. Syria nominally belongs to the Porte; but is virtually in the power of the Pasha of Egypt.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Of Persia.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries of Persia ?

A. On the N. the Russian Empire, the Caspian Sea, and Tartary; on the E. Tibet and Hindoostan; S. and W. the Persian Gulf and Turkey in Asia.

Q. How is Persia divided ?

A. Into Persia Proper and Afghanistan.

Q. What are the chief cities of Persia Proper ?

A. Teheren the capital; Ispahan, the old capital; Shiraz, Nishapore, Mushed, Gambroon, and Bushire on the Persian Gulf.

Q. Which are the chief rivers ?

A. The Kur, Aras, and the Gourgan, which flow into the Caspian Sea, and the Div Roud into the Persian Gulf.

Q. What islands belong to Persia ?

A. Ormus, Kishni, and Bahrein in the Persian Gulf.

Q. What is the government of Persia ?

A. The most unruly military despotism; the country and its inhabitants are considered as the property of the sovereign who governs them by his absolute will. The Mahomedan is the religion professed by the great mass of the population of Persia Proper.

Q. What is the general appearance of this country ?

A. Persia may be called a country of mountains; and where great plains occur, they are generally desert. From its geographical position, Persia is of great importance, as it is the country through which the commercial intercourse between East and West Asia is carried on, which influence is still increased by its neighbourhood to British India.

Afghanistan.

Q. What is Afghanistan ?

A. Afghanistan is a country extending from the Indus on the east to Persia Proper on the west; and from the Hindoo-khoosh mountains on the north, to the Indian Ocean on the south, it is composed of the countries of Balkh, Cashmere, Herat, &c.

Q. Which are the chief towns ?

A. Cabul, the chief city; Peshawar, a large and populous town; Ghuzni, once a splendid city; Candahar, formerly the capital; and Herat, a great commercial town on the west frontier.

Q. What are the character and religion of the Afghanists ?

A. All the large towns are inhabited chiefly by Persians and Indians. An Afghan never keeps a shop, or exercises any trade; the religion is that of the Hindoos, and also the Mahomedan.

Q. What are the government and trade of this country ?

A. An alteration has lately taken place in the government, which has placed it very much under the power of the British. The trade of Afghanistan is small; it consists chiefly of cattle, furs, tobacco, and fruits.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Of Africa.

Q. WHAT is Africa ?

A. One of the great divisions of the globe, forming a vast peninsula, and connected with Asia by the isthmus of Suez.

Q. What are its boundaries ?

A. It is bounded on the north by the Straits of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean Sea; on the east by the Red Sea, the Straits of Bab-el-mandeb and the Indian Ocean; on the south by the Atlantic Ocean; and on the west by the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Guinea.

Q. What is the character of the surface of Africa ?

A. Africa rises in general from the coast into the interior by successive steps, which are spread out in widely extensive plains or table-lands; the great desert of Sahara appears to occupy the whole of the northern interior of this vast continent.

Q. Which are the mountains of Africa ?

A. The Atlas mountains in the north-west corner of the continent; the mountains of Abyssinia, and their continuation; the Moon mountains in the south-west; the mountains of Lupata, in southern Africa; and several mountains near the Cape of Good Hope.

Q. Which are the principal rivers of Africa ?

A. The Nile rising in Abyssinia, and running through Egypt into the Mediterranean; the Niger, or Ioliba-Quorra, which rises not far from Sierra Leone, and flows east and south to the bight of Benin; the Senegal and Gambia in Western Soudan; the Zaire in Congo, the Ganesh in South Africa, and the Zambese on the south-east coast.

Q. Which are the lakes of Africa ?

A. The Tchad in Central Africa; Lake Dibbie, formed by the Ioliba, in Western Soudan, and Lake Dembea in Abyssinia.

Q. Which are the chief gulfs, seas, and bays, of Africa ?

A. The gulfs of Sydra and Khabs on the north; the Red Sea and Mozambique Channel on the N. E. and S. E.; Sal-danha, Table Bay, and False Bay, on the south, and the Gulf of Guinea on the west.

Q. What is the area of Africa ?

A. About twelve millions of square miles.

Q. What are the principal islands of Africa ?

A. The Azores, the Canaries, and the Cape Verd isles belonging to the Portuguese; the Madeiras, belonging to the Spaniards; St. Helena, Madagascar, Mauritius, Bourbon, Comoro, and Socotra.

CHAPTER XXX.

Climate, Soil, Productions, and Political Divisions of Africa.

Q. WHAT is the climate of Africa ?

A. With the exception of a small strip of land N. of the Atlas mountains, and the district near the Cape of Good Hope, every part of Africa is scorched with continual heat, and this continent may therefore be considered as the hottest part of the globe.

Q. What are the qualities of its soil ?

A. Like the climate, it runs into the greatest extremes, the great deserts which occupy so much of the surface being arid and useless, but Egypt is very fertile, and the rich valley of the Nile could grow corn enough to supply all Europe; various other parts contiguous to the coasts are also very productive.

Q. What are its chief productions ?

A. Gold, silver, copper, iron, salt and lead, corn and fruit.

Q. How may Africa be divided ?

A. Into two parts by an imaginary line drawn from Cape Guardafui on the E. to Biafra on the W.

Q. What does North Africa comprehend ?

A. The region of the Nile, or Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia, Mogrib or Barbary, Beled-al-Jerid, and Nigritia.

Q. What does South Africa comprehend ?

A. Congo, Loango, Angola, and Benguela on the W. coast; Ajan, Zanguebar, Mosambique, Sofala, and Caffraria on the E. coast; and the colony of the Cape of Good Hope on the southern extremity. None of the countries above-mentioned have definite boundaries.

Q. What are the prevailing religions of Africa ?

A. The Mahomedan in the North, and Fetishism and idolatry in the South.

Q. What is the population of Africa ?

A. Of the numerical amount of the population of Africa no accurate opinion can be formed, but it has been estimated at 70,000,000.

CHAPTER XXXI.

Of Egypt.

Q. WHAT are the boundaries of Egypt ?

A. Egypt is bounded on the N. by the Mediterranean Sea; on the E. by the isthmus of Suez and the Red Sea;

on the S. by Abyssinia; and on the W. by the great Lybian Desert.

Q. How may Egypt be divided ?

A. Into Upper, Middle or Vostani, and Lower Egypt.

Q. What is Lower Egypt ?

A. Lower Egypt is the district comprised by the branches of the Nile and the Mediterranean, and is called the Delta, from its resembling in form the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet: the chief towns are Alexandria, Rosetta, and Damietta, the principal sea-ports of all Egypt.

Q. What can you say of Vostani, or Central Egypt ?

A. Vostania, or Middle Egypt, is a broad, well-watered vale, comprehending a considerable portion of the valley of the Nile. In this division civilization flourishes in greater perfection than elsewhere, and nature is seen in varied and smiling landscapes. Cairo, the metropolis of all Egypt, is seated on this division, on the banks of the Nile.

Q. Describe Upper Egypt.

A. The Said, or Upper Egypt, is little more than a vast mountain glen; but one so studded with marks of former greatness and magnificence, as to render it the most interesting portion of the country. Siout may be called the chief town of this division.

Q. Which is the great river of Egypt ?

A. The Nile; it rises in the mountains of Abyssinia: for the distance of 1350 miles it flows on without receiving a single tributary stream.

Q. What phenomenon attends this river ?

A. Its annual overflowing the banks on either side, and leaving a deposit which fertilizes the land in a great degree.

Q. What can you say of Egypt generally ?

A. Egypt was formerly one of the greatest nations of the globe, as is proved by the stupendous ruins which are scattered over the country, it is now making rapid progress towards regaining a place among nations, under the active sovereignty of Mohammed Ali the Pasha.

Nubia and Abyssinia.

Q. Describe Nubia.

A. Nubia lies to the S. of Egypt, and is traversed by the Nile; it is separated from the Red Sea by a high range of mountains; Nubia is split into many tribes that are tributary to Egypt.

Q. Describe Abyssinia.

A. Abyssinia lies to the S. of Nubia; its mountains give rise to the Nile. This country is rich in gold dust and ivory; it is in a great measure tributary to Egypt.

CHAPTER XXXII.

Of Barbary or Mogrib.

Q. Of what does Barbary consist ?

A. Barbary consists of the empire of Morocco and the regencies of Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli, with their respective dependencies.

Q. Describe Algiers.

A. The regency of Algiers is bounded on the N. by the Mediterranean, on the E. by the regency of Tunis, on the W. by the empire of Morocco, and on the S. by the Sahara or the Great Desert. This country is in possession of the French, and is likely to become a valuable colony. Algiers is the capital town.

Q. Describe Morocco.

A. Morocco is situated between Algiers and the Atlantic; it is inhabited by the Moors: its chief towns are Morocco and Fez, and Tafiilet; Ceuta, opposite Gibraltar, is in possession of Spain.

Q. Describe Tunis.

A. Tunis lies to the E. of Algiers; Tunis, the capital, is not far from the ruins of ancient Carthage.

Q. Describe Tripoli.

A. In Tripoli is included the province of Barca; it lies between Tunis and Egypt. The chief towns are Tripoli, the residence of the Dey; Mourzouk, capital of the province of Fezzan, which is tributary to Tripoli, and Barca. Tripoli has a good harbour.

Of Beled-al-Jerid.

Q. How is Beled-al-Jerid situated ?

A. Beled-al-Jerid comprehends the country situated between the Desert of Sahara and Barbary, and extending from the Atlantic Ocean to the frontiers of Egypt.

Q. Where is Nigritia or Negroland ?

A. Nigritia is that part of Africa through which the Niger first flows; it lies S. of the Great Desert, and N. of Guinea, but its boundaries on the E. are not ascertained.

Q. What can you say of Guinea ?

A. Guinea lies to the N. of the Gulf of Guinea; the population is considerable, although thousands are annually taken away by the slave trade. The English have a colony at Sierra Leone and at Fernando-Po, an island in the Gulf of Guinea. Guinea is divided into Sierra Leone, Grain Coast, Ivory Coast and Gold Coast. The rivers Senegal and Gambia are in this country, and fall into the Atlantic.

Q. Describe Congo, Loango, Angola, and Benguela.

A. These four may be considered as one country under the name of Congo; they are inhabited by various tribes of Negroes. The Portuguese have colonies here. The great river Niger flows into the Bight of Benin; the Zaire flows between Congo and Loango into the Atlantic.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Of the Eastern Coast of Africa.

Q. How is the E. coast divided ?

A. Into five parts, viz.: Adel from the Straits of Bab-el Mandeb, to Cape Guardafui; Ajan, to the S. of this, inhabited by Arabs; Zanguebar, with the island of that name to the S. of Ajan. In Zanguebar are the towns of Mombaz, Magadoxo and Quiloa. Mombaz is an English colony. Mozambique lies opposite to Madagascar; Mozambique is the chief town, seated on a small fortified island. The Portuguese have a colony here. Sofala to the S. of Mozambique, chief town, Sofala. Natal, to the S., has been of late years esteemed part of the Cape colony.

Of the Cape of Good Hope.

Q. How is this colony bounded on the N. and E. ?

A. On the N. by the snowy mountains, on the E. by Natal or Caffre-land; the northern boundary is inhabited by many tribes of Hottentots.

Q. Describe the colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

A. This colony is very mountainous, but productive; the chief town is Cape Town, at the foot of the Table Mountain, on the shore of Table Bay; it is strongly fortified. In Algoa Bay, to the E., is Port Elizabeth, the shipping and landing place for the E. part of the colony. Further on is Delagoa Bay, where a settlement has been made by Dutch Boors from the Cape. Corn, wine, and brandy are produced at the Cape. It was first colonized by the Dutch, but it now belongs to England.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Of America.

Q. WHAT can you say of America ?

A. America is a great continent, sometimes called the New World; it is divided into two great portions, North and South, which are connected by the narrow isthmus of Darien or Panama.

Q. What great geographical question respecting this continent has recently been solved by British enterprise ?

A. The discovery of the North West Passage, as it is termed; or, in other words, it has been ascertained by Messrs. Dease and Simpson, of the Hudson's Bay Company, in the course of their third expedition for that purpose, last year, (1839), that it is possible for a vessel to enter the Pacific from the Atlantic, coasting the northern shores of America.

Q. What was the object of wishing to discover this passage ?

A. Its shortness for ships sailing from Europe to China and the East Indies, compared with the length of the voyage round the Cape of Good Hope.

Q. Is the North West Passage then likely to be generally chosen by ships so sailing ?

A. No. It will always be too much encumbered with ice to admit of its becoming generally useful.

Of North America.

Q. What are the political divisions of North America ?

A. 1. Danish America, or Greenland. 2. The Russian territory, situated on the north-west peninsula, and separated from Asia by Behring's Straits. 3. British America, comprising all that immense region lying between the Polar Basin and the United States, to the westward of the Rocky Mountains: the boundary is still a matter of dispute. 4. The United States, occupying the middle region of the continent, and extending from the Pacific to the Atlantic. 5. The republic of Texas. 6. The republic of Mexico. 7. The republic of Guatimala. 8. The possessions of the French.

Q. Which are the principal mountains of North America ?

A. The Pacific or Western range, extending from the south of California to Alaska on the north-west; the Apalachian or Alleghany mountains, from Mexico, through the United States, to the Arctic Ocean: these are a continuation of the great Cordilleras system.

Q. Which are the principal seas, bays, and gulfs, of North America?

A. Baffin's and Hudson's Bays, Davis's and Hudson's Straits, on the north and north-east: the Straits of Belleisle and Gulf of St. Lawrence; the Bay of Fundy, between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; Delaware and Chesapeake Bays, on the east coast of the United States; the Gulfs of Florida and Mexico to the south; Queen Charlotte's Sound and the Gulf of California on the west coast; and the Bays of Campeachy and Honduras to the south of the Gulf of Mexico.

Q. Which are the great lakes of North America?

A. Michigan, Huron, Superior, Erie, and Ontario, between the British territory and the United States; and Slave Lake, Bear Lake, Athapascow, and Winepeg, in the British possessions.

Q. Which are the principal rivers and by what seas are they drained?

A. The St. Lawrence flows from Lake Ontario north-east, separates Canada from New Brunswick, passes Montreal and Quebec, and falls into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Mississippi rises in the Rocky mountains, receives the great rivers Missouri and Ohio, and falls into the Gulf of Mexico. The Hudson enters the Sound at the city of New York. The Susquehannah and Potomac fall into the Chesapeake Bay. The St. Croix separates New Brunswick from the district of Maine, and falls into Passamaquoddy Bay. Utawas or Ottawa, flows between Upper and Lower Canada, and falls into the St. Lawrence. The St. John's falls into the Bay of Fundy. The celebrated falls of Niagara are between lakes Erie and Ontario.

Q. What sort of climate has North America?

A. The climate of North America is extremely various, as it extends from the equatorial region to the arctic circle. In general, the heat of summer and the cold of winter are more intense than in the old continent.

Q. What are the qualities of its soil?

A. The United States to the east of the Rocky Mountains, are very fertile and productive; as we proceed farther north, the soil becomes less grateful; to the west of the Rocky Mountains are the arid plains of California.

Q. What is the area of North America?

A. About 7,400,000 square miles.

Q. What extent of surface do the lakes of North America occupy?

- A.* About 92,260 square miles.
Q. What is the prevailing religion of North America ?
A. The Christian religion.
Q. What are the vegetable productions of North America ?
A. North America produces corn in all its varieties ; fruits of all kinds ; the sugar cane, tobacco, coffee, cotton, rice and indigo.
Q. What are the minerals of North America ?
A. Iron, gold, silver, copper, lead, tin, salt, and coal.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Of the British Possessions.

- Q.* How is the British territory divided ?
A. Into the Hudson's Bay or north-west territory, Labrador, Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Honduras in Central America ; and the islands of Newfoundland, Cape Breton, Prince Edward, Anticosti and the Bermudas, or Somers' Isles, in the Atlantic Ocean.
Q. Describe Canada.
A. Canada, to the north of the United States, is divided into the Upper and Lower Provinces,* well watered by the rivers St. Lawrence and Ottawa : part of its southern boundary, on the State of Maine, is disputed by the United States. In Upper Canada, consisting of twenty-five counties the chief part of the population are British ; and in Lower Canada, divided into forty provinces, the majority of the inhabitants are of French origin.
Q. Which are the chief cities of Canada ?
A. Quebec, in Lower Canada, a handsome city, built on a rock, near the river St. Lawrence ; Montreal, standing on an island in the river St. Lawrence, 120 miles south-west of Quebec ; and Toronto, on Lake Ontario.
Q. What is the general aspect of this country ?
A. It is covered with valuable forests, which furnish large quantities of timber : the face of the country is generally mountainous, but there are savannas of great beauty and fertility towards Upper Canada.
Q. What are the chief productions of Canada ?
A. Timber, furs, potash, and fish. The minerals are of little consequence, and very rare.
Q. What can you say of the island of Cape Breton ?

* The two Provinces have since been united by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

A. This island is divided from Nova Scotia only by a strait of one mile in breadth, called the Gut of Canso; it is about 100 miles in length: Louisburg is the capital, and has a good harbour. The soil is unfit for agriculture, and the island is only valuable for its extensive fisheries. There is a bed of coal in the island.

Q. What can you say of Newfoundland?

A. Newfoundland is about 300 miles in length and breadth; it is generally a hilly country, with extensive morasses intervening. The great cod fishery on the banks of Newfoundland, is very valuable: the population of this island is about 60,000.

Q. Describe Nova Scotia.

A. Nova Scotia is a peninsula, joined to the continent at the extremity of the Bay of Fundy; the soil is tolerably fertile: Halifax, the capital, is delightfully situated, and has a fine and secure harbour. The chief exports are timber and fish. This province is about 300 miles in length, and eighty in mean breadth.

Q. What can you say of New Brunswick?

A. New Brunswick lies between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy: Frederickstown is the seat of government, but St. John's is the principal port. From Miramichi considerable quantities of timber are shipped.

Q. Where is the British colony of Honduras?

A. It is situated on the Gulf of Honduras, and called Belize; it has Yucatan on the N. and W. Belize is the chief town.

Q. Of what do the Bermudas consist?

A. Of a cluster of little islands in the Atlantic, about 600 miles from the east coast of America; the chief town is St. George.

Q. How is Prince Edward's Island situated?

A. Prince Edward's Island lies to the N. of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; it is about sixty miles in length by thirty in breadth, and is fertile and well watered.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Of the United States of America.

Q. WHAT are the United States?

A. A federal republic, the joint territory of which is bounded on the E. by the Atlantic Ocean; on the S. by the republics of Mexico and Texas; on the W. by the Pacific Ocean; and on the N. by Canada and other British possessions.

Q. What are the political divisions of the United States?

A. They are divided into twenty-six states, three territories, and one district, viz.:

<i>State.</i>	<i>Chief Town.</i>
Maine,	Portland.
New Hampshire,	Portsmouth.
Vermont,	Bennington.
Massachusetts,	Boston.
Rhode Island,	Newport.
Connecticut,	Hartford.
New York,	New York.
New Jersey,	Trenton.
Pennsylvania,	Philadelphia.
Delaware,	Dover.
Maryland,	Baltimore.
Virginia,	Norfolk.
North Carolina,	Wilmington.
South Carolina,	Charleston.
Georgia,	Savannah.
Alabama,	Tuscaloosa.
Mississippi,	Jackson.
Louisiana,	New Orleans.
Tennessee,	Knoxville.
Kentucky,	Frankfort.
Ohio,	Chillicothe.
Indiana,	Vincennes.
Illinois,	Vandalia.
Missouri,	Jefferson.
Michigan,	Detroit.
Arkansas,	Little Rock.

Q. Name the territories and the district?

A. Florida territory, chief town Tallahassee; Wisconsin territory, chief town Madison; Iowa territory, chief town Burlington; District of Columbia, Washington.

Q. Which are the principal cities of the United States?

A. New York, the largest city in the Union, seated on the mouth of the Hudson, and a port of great commerce; Washington, the seat of government, seated on the river Potomac; Boston, the capital of New England; Charleston, a large and flourishing town; and New Orleans.

Q. What can you say of the soil and climate of the United States?

A. The soil of the States is generally fertile, except where it is covered with thick forests, or in the vicinity of

the Rocky Mountains. The climate is cold and variable to the N. E., mild and agreeable in the central parts, and very hot on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico.

Q. What can you say of the inland navigation of the United States ?

A. No country in Europe possesses a greater number of canals: the principal are, the Grand Erie Canal, between Albany on the Hudson to Buffalo on Lake Erie; the Champlain Canal, from Albany to Lake Champlain, and to the river St. Lawrence; the Pennsylvanian Canal, from Pittsburgh upon the Ohio to the Chesapeake; the Delaware Canal, from the Delaware to New York. Besides these canals, the majority of the rivers are navigable by steam.

Q. Are there any railroads in the United States, and what are the principal ?

A. Yes, the Boston and Albany Railroad—its length is about 200 miles; the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad is eighty miles long; the Ohio and Baltimore Railroad will be, when finished, the longest in the world, viz. rather more than 250 miles.

Q. What are the principal productions of the southern provinces ?

A. Rice, tobacco, cotton, and sugar. There are gold mines in Georgia and Virginia.

Q. What can you say of the original inhabitants of this part of the continent ?

A. They are now reduced to a few wandering tribes, who retreat to the westward as cultivation and civilization advance.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Of the Republic of Texas.

Q. How is the republic of Texas situated ?

A. Texas lies to the S. W. of Arkansas on the Gulf of Mexico, and to the E. of the republic of Mexico.

Q. Which is its chief town ?

A. Houston.

Q. When was Texas declared independent ?

A. In 1836, and General Houston was declared President.

Of the Republic of Mexico.

Q. What is the extent of Mexico ?

A. Mexico extends from N. to S. 2000 miles, and its extreme breadth is about 1200.

Q. What is the general appearance of Mexico?

A. Mexico consists generally of a vast table-land, but it is diversified by grand ridges of volcanic mountains, lakes, rivers, and valleys.

Q. How is Mexico divided?

A. Into twenty-four states. Its chief towns are Mexico, the capital, said to be the oldest town in the New World; Guadalajara, Vera Cruz, Tabasco, Acapulco, Tampico, and Sante Fe.

Q. Which are the rivers of Mexico?

A. The river Bravo-del-Norte, which falls into the Gulf of Mexico; the Colorado, falling into the Gulf of California; and the Santander.

Q. What are the minerals of Mexico?

A. The mineralogy of Mexico is the most valuable in the world. The gold and silver mines are particularly productive. There are also mines of copper, quicksilver, tin, and lead. The mountains also produce gaspar, magnet, alabaster, diamonds, turquoises, and amethysts.

Q. What is the climate of Mexico?

A. The climate of this country is singularly diversified, combining the tropical seasons and rains with the temperature of the middle countries of Europe; earthquakes are frequent though not often destructive.

Of the Republic of Central America.

Q. Of what does Central America consist?

A. It consists of five states, viz. Guatimala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica; the government is a federal republic.

Q. What fertile territory has been ceded to a British Company by this Republic, for the purposes of colonization?

A. The territory of Verapas.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Of the West Indies.

Q. WHAT are the West Indies?

A. The West Indies consist of a number of islands between N. and S. America, and to the E. of the Gulf of Mexico.

Q. How are they divided?

A. Into the*Great Antilles*—Cuba, Jamaica, St. Domingo, Porto Rico.*Little Antilles*—Margarita, Bonaire, Curacao, Aruba.*The Leeward Isles*—Anguilla, St. Martin's, St. Bartholomew, St. Kitt's, Barbuda, Antigua, Montserrat, Nevis, Guadeloupe, Mariegalante, Dominica.*The Windward Isles*—Martinico, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Granada, Barbadoes, Tobago, Trinidad.*The Virgin Isles*—St. Thomas, Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada, St. John's, Santa Cruz.*The Bahamas or Lucaya Islands*—Bahama, Lucaya, Providence, St. Salvador.*Q.* Which are the principal islands belonging to Great Britain?*A.* Jamaica, St. Kitt's, Dominica, Antigua, St. Vincent, Barbadoes, Granada, Tobago, Trinidad.*Q.* Which to Spain?*A.* Cuba, Porto Rico, Margarita.*Q.* Which to France and the Dutch?*A.* Guadeloupe, St. Lucia, Martinico, to France; and Curacao, and several of the Virgin Islands, to the Dutch.*Q.* What can you say of St. Domingo?*A.* St. Domingo, or Hayti, is an independent state governed by blacks; it is a beautiful island, but imperfectly cultivated. The chief towns are St. Domingo, and Port-au Prince.*Q.* For what is the island of Jamaica so valuable?*A.* It is particularly valuable for sugar, rum, molasses, cotton, coffee, ginger, and mahogany. The chief towns are Kingston; Port-Royal, a magnificent harbour; and Spanish Town.*Q.* Describe Cuba.*A.* Cuba is the largest of the West India islands, and produces a large revenue to Spain; it has a large trade in sugar, tobacco, mahogany, and copper.*Q.* For what is the island of Salvador famous?*A.* For its having been the first part of America discovered by Columbus, in 1492.*Q.* What other islands are worthy of mention?*A.* Barbadoes—chief town, Bridge Town—is a highly cultivated and productive island; Barbuda belongs to the Codrington family; Trinidad is an unhealthy but fruitful island.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

Of South America.

Q. WHAT is South America ?

A. South America is an immense peninsula connected with North America by the narrow isthmus of Darien or Panama, which is in some places little more than 33 miles across, and not more than 633 feet above the level of the Pacific.

Q. How is South America physically divided ?

A. Into five distinct regions, viz.—1. The long low country skirting the Pacific. 2. The basin of the Orinoko, surrounded by the Andes and their branches, and forming a country of extensive plains. 3. The basin of the Amazon, a vast plain covered with immense forests. 4. The great southern plain, watered by the river Plate, and spreading out to the south into immense pampas abounding with wild cattle. 5. The high country of Brazil, mountainous in the vicinity of the Atlantic, but sloping inland in llanos or extensive plains.

Q. What are the chief mountains of South America ?

A. The mountain system of South America may be included in one head, the Great Andes, or Cordilleras; they run from the Straits of Magellan, skirting the shores of the Pacific to the isthmus of Darien, whence they are continued under other names the whole length of the north continent. The highest peaks in this wonderful range of mountains are the Nevada de Sorata, Nevada d'Illimani, Chimborazo, Antisana, Cotopaxo, Arequipa, a volcano, and Descabecado ; they range from 18,000 to 25,250 feet in altitude.

Q. What are the rivers of South America ?

A. All the principal streams of this region may be said to flow into the Atlantic by three great rivers, viz. the Amazon, the Orinoko, and the La Plata. No river of any consequence falls into the Pacific. The Magdalena and Cauca fall into the Caribbean Sea. The Araguay, Tocantin, San Francisco, and Gonzuga in Brazil, fall into the Atlantic.

CHAPTER XL.

Of the Republics of South America.

Q. How is New Granada situated ?

A. New Granada is bounded on the north by the Caribbean Sea, and is divided into the following large districts, viz. Panama, Magdalena, Boyacca, Cauca, and Cundinimaraca.

Q. Which are the principal towns ?

A. Bogota is the capital, built upon a plain 8000 feet above the level of the sea; Panama is upon the bay of that name in the Pacific Ocean, and has a pearl fishery; Porto Bello, a very unhealthy place; and Carthagena, which is strongly fortified.

Q. What is the general climate of this republic ?

A. The climate in the northern parts is extremely hot and sultry during the whole year; the rains fall here with an impetuosity and quantity so great that the low lands are frequently flooded.

Of Venezuela.

Q. Of what is the republic of Venezuela composed ?

A. Of the departments of Venezuela, Orinoko, Maturin, and Zulia. This country is watered by the great river Orinoko: the chief towns are Caraccas and Maracaibo.

Of Ecuador.

Q. How is the republic of Equator, or Ecuador situated ?

A. To the south of New Granada.

Q. How is it divided ?

A. Into three departments, viz. : Equator or Quito, Guayaquil, and Assuay. Quito the capital town, is built on a plain 9000 feet above the level of the sea, surrounded with volcanoes; the great Chimborazo, in the vicinity, towers above it: Guyaquil is a port on the Pacific Ocean.

Of Peru.

Q. How is Peru situated ?

A. Peru lies to the south of New Granada and Venezuela.

Q. Into how many departments is Peru divided ?

A. Into seven, viz. : Lima, Arequipa, Puno, Cuzco, Ayachuco, Junin, and Libertad.

Q. Which are the chief towns ?

A. Lima is the capital, a superb city; it has a great commerce through its port, called Callao; Cuzco and Arequipa, both large towns.

Of Bolivia.

Q. What can you say of Bolivia ?

A. Bolivia, originally Upper Peru, is divided into seven departments, viz. :—Potosi, Charcas, Chochabamba, La Paz, Santa Cruz, Moxas, and Chiquitos. The chief city is Chu-

quisaca. The silver mines of Potosi are very valuable. The town of La Paz is placed at the foot of the great mountain Nevada d'Illimani.

Of Chili.

Q. Where is the republic of Chili ?

A. Chili is a narrow country between the Andes and the great Pacific Ocean.

Q. Into how many provinces is Chili divided ?

A. Into eight provinces, viz. :—Santiago, Aconcagua, Coquimbo, Colchagua, Maule, Concepcion, Valdivia, and Chiloe.

Q. Which are the chief towns ?

A. Santiago is the capital, and Valparaiso is the principal commercial port.

Of the Argentine Republic.

Q. What constitutes the Argentine republic ?

A. The country of La Plata and Buenos Ayres.

Q. What are the chief towns ?

A. Buenos Ayres, seated on the river La Plata; Corrientes, on the Parana; and Cordova.

Q. For what is this country remarkable ?

A. For its extensive pampas or plains, which are full of wild cattle.

Q. What are the boundaries of the Argentine republic ?

A. It is bounded on the N. by Bolivia; on the E. by Paraguay and Uruguay; on the S. by the Atlantic Ocean and Patagonia; and W. by the Andes.

Of Uruguay.

Q. How is the Oriental republic, or Uruguay, situated ?

A. Uruguay lies N. of the Rio de la Plata; E. of the river Uruguay; and S. of Brazil.

Q. How is it divided ?

A. Into nine departments; Monte Video is the capital, at the mouth of the La Plata; it is strongly fortified.

Of Paraguay.

Q. Where is Paraguay ?

A. This republic is placed between the rivers Paraguay and Parana, both of which fall into the La Plata.

Q. How is this republic divided ?

A. Into eight departments; the chief city is Assumption, or Assumpcion. Here is produced an herb called Paraguay, which is used all over South America as tea.

CHAPTER XLI.

Of Brazil, Guiana, &c.

Q. WHAT part of South America does Brazil comprise ?

A. Brazil comprises the eastern portion of South America, containing an area of nearly 3,000,000 of square miles.

Q. What countries surround it ?

A. Guiana and New Granada on the N. ; Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia on the W. ; and Uruguay on the S. W. and S.

Q. What are the chief rivers of Brazil ?

A. The Amazon, the Tocantines, the Paraiba, and San Francisco, falling into the Atlantic ; and the Negro, Madeira, Tapajos, and Xingu, great tributaries to the mighty Amazon.

Q. What are the principal cities and ports of Brazil ?

A. Rio de Janeiro is the capital ; it is a great commercial port, and strongly fortified. Bahia, or Salvador, in Bahia de todos Santos (the Bay of All Saints), is a fine commercial port ; Pernambuco, Para, and Maranan, are great ports of trade.

Q. What is the general aspect of this empire ?

A. This country presents to the N. an immense plain, low and unhealthy, but very fertile ; the middle part is more elevated, covered with great forests, and inhabited by tribes of Indians. Brazil is rich in gold, platina, and precious stones.

Of Guiana.

Q. What is the situation of Guiana ?

A. Guiana lies to the N. of Brazil, and to the E. of Venezuela and the river Essequibo.

Q. How is Guiana divided ?

A. Into British, Dutch and French Guiana.

Q. What does British Guiana comprise ?

A. British Guiana comprises an area of 95,000 square miles, and is divided into three settlements of Essequibo, Berbice, and Demerara. This colony is chiefly valuable for its sugar and coffee.

Q. How is Dutch Guiana situated ?

A. Dutch Guiana is situated between British and French Guiana, and the most of its settlements are placed along the river Surinam.

Q. What can you say of French Guiana ?

A. French Guiana is separated from the Dutch colony by the river Maroni ; it is generally called Cayenne, from the island on which the capital of the colony is built.

Of Patagonia.

Q. What is the situation of Patagonia ?

A. Patagonia is situated at the southern extremity of South America, and has never been colonized by Europeans.

Q. What is the character of this country ?

A. It is mountainous and barren, and inhabited by a race of savages that are said to be of gigantic stature.

Of Terra del Fuego.

Q. What is Terra or Tierra del Fuego ?

A. Terra del Fuego is a country situated at the extremity of South America, from which it is separated by the Straits of Magellan.

Q. What is the character of this region ?

A. It is a dreary, barren, and mountainous region, divided by channels and straits into a number of islands and peninsulas, inhabited by savages.

Q. Where is Cape Horn ?

A. Cape Horn is a small island, the most southern part of America.

Q. Where are the Falkland Islands ?

A. The Falkland Islands are to the east of the Straits of Magellan; upon one of them a British settlement has been formed.

Q. What other islands of South America are to be mentioned ?

A. The Gallapagos or Turtle Islands on the Equator, in longitude nine degrees west ; and Juan Fernandez, celebrated as the residence of Alexander Selkirk, the prototype of Robinson Crusoe.

CHAPTER XLII.

Oceania.

Q. How is Oceania divided ?

A. Oceania is divided into Western Oceania, or Malaysia; Central Oceania, or Australasia; and Eastern Oceania, or Polynesia.

Q. What islands are comprised in Western Oceania, or Malaysia ?

A. Sumatra, Java, Borneo, the Moluccas, Celebes, and Gilolo, and the Philippine Islands. The greater part of these islands belong to the Dutch, who have their seat of government at Batavia in Java; the Spaniards have a station at Manilla in the Philippine group.

Q. What islands are comprised in Central Oceania, or Australasia?

A. Australasia includes the great island of New Holland, Papua or New Guinea, New Hebrides, Norfolk Island, New Zealand, Van Diemen's Land, and a number of islands in the vicinity.

Q. What can you say of Australia, or New Holland?

A. This large island contains an area of more than 3,000,000 square miles. Several British colonies have been formed on its shores; the district of Botany Bay on the south-east coast has been used as the destination of convicted felons.

Q. What are the names of the British colonies in this island, and their chief towns?

A. New South Wales: *chief towns*—Sydney, Parramatta, Liverpool, Windsor, and Port Philip. South Australia: *chief towns*—Adelaide and Port Lincoln. Western Australia—divided into fifteen counties: *chief towns*—Perth and Freemantle.

Q. What can you say of Van Diemen's Land?

A. Van Diemen's Land is a large island separated from New Holland by Bass's Straits; Hobart Town is the capital; here is a flourishing British settlement.

Q. Where is Norfolk Island?

A. About 900 miles E. N. E. of Sydney; it is exclusively used as a penal settlement for convicts.

Q. What can you say of New Zealand?

A. New Zealand consists of two large islands, separated by Cook's Straits; the soil is very fertile, and the climate equable; the coasts are indented with excellent harbours, into which many fine rivers flow. These islands are likely to become a flourishing English colony.

Q. What islands are comprised in Eastern Australia?

A. Eastern Australia, or Polynesia, comprises an innumerable number of islands in the great South Pacific Ocean; the principal groups are, The Society Islands, including Otaheite; the Sandwich Islands, the Low Islands; the Marquesas, the Navigator's, the Friendly, and Feejee Islands; the Carolines, the Ladrões, Easter Islands, &c. &c. These islands are inhabited by numerous tribes, who speak various dialects of one common language.

APPENDIX.

Of the Form of the Earth.

Q. WHAT is the figure of the Earth ?

A. The figure of the earth is that of a sphere or globe.

Q. What is a sphere or globe ?

A. A sphere or globe is a round body, every part of the surface of which is equally distant from the centre.

Q. What proofs have we that the earth is globular ?

A. One proof is, that when a ship goes out to sea, we first lose sight of the hull, then of the lower yards and sails, and lastly the tops of the masts. This could not be the case if the ocean were a plain surface.

Q. What other proof is there ?

A. Another proof is from the shadow of the earth on the moon during a lunar eclipse, the dark part being invariably bounded by a circular line, and none but a spherical body can in all situations cast a circular shadow.

Q. Can you mention any other proof ?

A. Yes; another proof is from analogy; for, as all the planets which comprise the solar system appear globular, when viewed through a telescope, it is reasonable to suppose that the earth, which is part of that system, should be of the same form as the rest.

Of the Artificial Globe.

Q. What is the best representation of the earth ?

A. An artificial globe.

Q. How are the lines on an artificial globe divided ?

A. Into greater and less circles.

Q. Describe what a greater circle is; also a lesser circle.

A. A great circle is that which divides the earth into two equal parts; a lesser circle is that which divides the earth into two unequal parts.

Q. What are the great circles ?

A. The equator, the ecliptic, and the meridians.

Q. What are the lesser circles ?

A. The polar circle, the two tropics, and parallels of latitude.

Q. How is the equator divided ?

A. The equator is divided, as all great circles are, into 360 parts, called degrees.

Q. How is a degree divided ?

A. A degree is divided into sixty minutes, and each minute into sixty seconds.

Q. What is the ecliptic ?

A. The ecliptic is a circle lying immediately under a line or circle, so named in the heavens. The line in the heavens is the path which the sun appears to describe in the course of the year; during this period the sun twice crosses the equator.

Q. What is the arctic circle ?

A. The arctic circle is that which encompasses the north pole, at a distance of $23\frac{1}{2}$ degrees from it.

Q. What is the antarctic circle ?

A. The antarctic circle is that which encompasses the south pole, at the distance of $23\frac{1}{2}$ degrees from it.

Q. What do you call the two tropics ?

A. The tropic of Cancer, a circle $23\frac{1}{2}$ degrees north of the equator; and the tropic of Capricorn, $23\frac{1}{2}$ degrees south of the equator.

Q. How do the two tropics and the polar circles divide the earth ?

A. By them the earth is divided into five zones or belts.

Q. What are they ?

A. The north frigid, which lies between the arctic circle and the north pole; the south frigid, which lies between the antarctic circle and the south pole; the north temperate, between the arctic circle and the tropic of Cancer; the south temperate, which lies between the antarctic circle and the tropic of Capricorn; and the torrid zone, which is enclosed by the two tropics.

Q. What is the admeasurement of a degree in a *great circle* ?

A. A degree in a great circle contains 60 geographical, or $69\frac{1}{2}$ English miles.

Q. What is a mile called in geography ?

A. A minute.

Q. How many degrees make an hour of time ?

A. Fifteen.

Of Latitude and Longitude.

Q. What is meant by the latitude of a place ?

A. The latitude of a place is its distance N. or S. of the equator; every place which is not on the equator, is said to have latitude.

Q. What is the greatest latitude a place can have ?

A. Ninety degrees.

Q. What is meant by the longitude of a place ?

A. The longitude of a place is its distance E. or W. of a fixed meridian.

Q. What are meridians ?

A. Meridians are lines drawn from pole to pole, intersecting the equator.

Q. Where have the British fixed their meridian ?

A. At Greenwich.

Q. From what point do other nations reckon their first meridian ?

A. Generally from their capitals: the Portuguese reckon their first meridian from the Faroe Islands.

Tabular View of the Population of the World.

EUROPE.	
COUNTRIES.	POPULATION.
Great Britain	23,400,000
Denmark	1,950,000
Norwegian-Swedish Monarchy,	2,866,000
Sweden	2,800,000
Norway	1,050,000
France	32,000,000
Switzerland	1,920,000
Germany	13,900,000
Austria	32,000,000
Prussia	12,434,000
Holland	2,302,000
Belgium	3,316,000
Sardinia	4,300,000
Duchy of Parma	444,000
Duchy of Modena	380,000
Duchy of Lucca	143,000
Duchy of Tuscany	1,275,000
States of the Church	2,590,000
Two Sicilies,	7,420,000
Portugal	3,530,000
Spain	13,900,000
Russia	56,500,000
Russia. (properly so called)	52,575,000
Poland	3,900,000
Republic of Cracow	114,000
Ottoman Empire	7,100,000
Servia	380,000
Wallachia	970,000
Moldavia	450,000
Greece	600,000
Ionian Isles	176,000

COUNTRIES.	ASIA.	POPULATION.
China		170,000,000
Japan		25,000,000
Annam		12,000,000
Siam		3,600,000
Birman Empire		3,700,000
Scindia		4,000,000
Nepaul		2,500,000
Confederation of Seiks		3,000,000
Sinde		1,000,000
Kaboul		4,200,000
Belouchti		2,000,000
Herat		1,500,000
Persia		9,000,000
Bokhara		2,500,000
Yemen		2,500,000
Muscat		1,600,000
Anglo-Indian Empire		114,430,000
Territory of the East India Company		30,300,000
Countries tributary to the East India Company ..		32,000,000
Hydrabad		10,000,000
Nagpoor		3,000,000
Mysore		3,000,000
Oude		3,000,000
Ceylon		330,000
Turkish Asia with Arabia		12,500,000
Russian Asia		3,600,000
Portuguese Asia		500,000
French Asia,		209,000
Danish Asia		35,000

AFRICA.

Morocco	6,000,000
Tunis	1,300,000
Tripoli	660,000
Bornou	1,200,000
Felatah	1,700,000
Ashantee	3,000,000
Madagascar	2,000,000
Turkish Africa	3,000,000
Portuguese Africa	1,400,000
French Africa	1,600,000
English Africa	270,000
Spanish Africa	208,000
Arabian Africa	100,000

AMERICA.	
COUNTRIES.	POPULATION.
United States	11,800,000
Mexico.....	7,500,000
Guatemala.....	1,650,000
South American Republics.....	10,000,000
Brazil	5,000,000
British America	1,900,000
Spanish America.....	1,000,000
French America	240,000
Dutch America.....	114,000
Danish America	110,000
Russian America.....	50,000
Oceania	14,427,000

Except in the case of the European kingdoms, and of the United States of America, the above estimates of the population are to be considered merely as the best *guesses* at the truth.

Colonial and Foreign Possessions of England.

IN EUROPE:—the small island of Heligoland, Gibraltar, Malta, and Gozo, and the Ionian Islands.

IN AFRICA:—Gambia, Sierra Leone, Accra, Fernando Po, St. Helena, Ascension, Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, Seychelles, Monbassa.

IN ASIA:—Ceylon, Singapore, and the East India Company's territories.

IN OCEANIA:—New South Wales, Western Australia, (Swan River,) Southern Australia, Port Philip, Van Diemen's Land, Melville Island, and New Zealand.

IN AMERICA:—The North-west Territory, Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, Prince Edward's Island, Newfoundland, and the larger number of the West India Islands.

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