

THE BRITISH EMPIRE

As of

1905

Edited by

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Introduction

The following table and list outline the constituent countries that comprised the British Empire in 1905:

COUNTRY	Acquisition Date	Area in Sq. Miles	Population
Great Britain and Ireland		121,027	42,372,556
Gibraltar	1704	2	27,460
Malta	1800	117	188,141
EUROPE Total		121,146	42,588,157
Cyprus	1878	3,584	237,022
British India (inc. Native States)	1757-1895	1,766,797	294,360,356
Ceylon	1795	25,365	3,565,954
Straits Settlements	1786-1895	1,472	572,249
Hong Kong	1841	406	399,392
Malay States	1873-95	26,960	735,000
North Borneo	1877	34,000	200,000
Labuan	1846	30	8,411
Wei-hai-wei	1898	285	124,000
Sarawak	1842-91	50,000	600,000
ASIA Total		1,908,899	300,802,384
Victoria	1851	87,884	1,201,341
New South Wales	1787	310,700	1,359,133
Queensland	1859	668,497	496,596
South Australia	1836	903,690	362,604
Western Australia	1829	975,920	184,123
Tasmania	1803	26,215	172,475
New Zealand	1845	104,471	772,719
New Guinea	1884	90,540	350,000
Tonga and Pacific Islands		800	30,000
Fiji Islands	1874	7,740	120,124
AUSTRALASIA Total		3,088,573	3,847,774
Gambia	1664	3,619	103,811
Sierra Leone	1787	34,000	76,655
Lagos	1861	26,700	1,066,141
Gold Coast	1662-1872	119,300	1,487,400
Somaliland	1886	60,000	168,000
North and South Nigeria	1884-96	372,700	20,000,000
Zanzibar	1888	1,020	200,000

COUNTRY	Acquisition Date	Area in Sq. Miles	Population
Uganda	1890-94	86,000	4,000,000
East Africa	1888	200,000	4,000,000
Central Africa	1891	42,217	970,00
Rhodesia	1888	580,000	1,000,000
Bechuanaland	1885	380,000	130,000
Cape Colony	1814-89	276,995	2,404,878
Natal	1843-87	36,170	1,040,000
Basutoland	1880	10,293	303,000
Transvaal	1900	111,700	1,000,000
Orange River Colony	1900	50,000	585,000
Mauritius and Dependencies	1810	729	378,195
Seychelles	1810	148	18,237
St Helena	1673	47	3,342
Ascension	1815	35	400
AFRICA Total		2,391,673	38,921,059
Canada	1627-1760	3,619,820	5,371,315
Newfoundland and Labrador	1583-1713	162,734	220,249
British Honduras	1786	7,562	37,479
Bahamas	1629	4,404	53,735
Bermuda	1609	19	17,535
Jamaica and Turk's Islands	1655	4,373	771,853
Leeward Islands	1632-73	700	127,336
Windward Islands	1763-83	500	160,869
Barbados	1605	166	195,588
NORTH AMERICA Total		3,800,278	6,955,959
British Guiana	1803-14	109,000	293,958
Falkland Islands & S. Georgia	1771-1833	7,500	2,050
Trinidad and Tobago	1763-97	1,868	273,898
SOUTH AMERICA Total		118,368	569,906
TOTAL OF BRITISH EMPIRE		11,428,937	393,685,239

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The British Empire as of 1905

Abaco, the second in size of the Bahamas. See BAHAMAS

Acadia, Name for an ancient province of French Canada, represented by the modern Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and ceded to Great Britain 1713. First settled by Scots, 1622.

Aden, at southern extremity of Arabia, acquired 1839. The settlement of Aden includes Aden, Little Aden, Shaikh Othman, Perim, Socotra and the Kuria Muria Islands. Political Resident under Bombay Government.

Alberta, district in the North West Territories of the Dominion of Canada. Created 1882. Elected into a Province 1905. Capital Edmonton.

Aldabra Islands, group in the Indian Ocean, N of Mozambique Channel. Dependency of The Seychelles.

Amirante Islands, group in the Indian Ocean Dependency of The Seychelles.

Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands, SE of Bay of Bengal. Annexed 1792. Chief Commissionership of Indian Government.

Andros Largest of the Bahamas see BAHAMAS

Anegorda See VIRGIN ISLANDS

Anguilla, Leeward Islands. Unit in the presidency of St Kitt's (q.v.)

Ascension, Island in S Atlantic 700m NW of St. Helena. Annexed 1815. Naval Station under the Admiralty

Ashanti, Territory on the W coast of Africa. Annexed 1901 Chief Commissioner under The Gold Coast Colony.

Assam, a Chief Commissionership in the Government of India, NE of Bengal, Capital Shillong. Territory acquired 1825. Assigned to Bengal until 1874. Joined to Eastern Bengal in 1905.

Assiniboia and Athabasca Districts in the NW provinces of the Dominion of Canada, Created 1882.

Auckland Islands, group S. of New Zealand, Dependency of New Zealand since 1842.

Australia, Commonwealth of, A federation of the six colonies, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania. Created by 63 & 64 Vict c12 Jan 1 1901. Responsible Federal Self Government.

Aves, islands W of Wind ward Islands. Annexed 1904.

Bahamas, group of islands in the W Indies. Capital Nassau. Discovered by Columbus. Assigned to Sir H. Gilbert 1578. First Settled 1612. Definitely assigned to Great Britain 1783. Crown Colony.

Bahrein Islands, group in the Persian Gulf. Capital Moharek. Protectorate since 1847. Political Resident (Bushire).

Baluchistan, Country to the W of India. Divided (1876- 99) into 3 divisions (1) British Territory (2) Native States of Kalat and Las Bela (3) Tribal Areas. Agent for the Governor-General of India.

Barbados, most easterly of the West Indies. 100m E of St Vincent. Chief town

Bridgetown. First occupied 1605. Crown Colony.

Barbuda, Leeward Is. Dependency of Antigua (q.v.) Settled 1661-1662.

Baroda, most westerly of the four principalities in British India controlled by an Agent of the Governor-General. The head is The Gaiikwar. British Resident 1780.

Basidu, British port in the island of Kishm, near the entrance to the Persian Gulf. Persian Gulf Political Residency.

Basutoland, territory in S. Africa SE of Orange River Colony. From 1871 to 1884 part of Cape Colony. Since 1884 under a Resident Commissioner, under the High Commissioner of South Africa.

Bechuanaland, territory of S. Africa, divided into colony of British Bechuanaland, annexed (1895) to Cape of Good Hope, and Protectorate under Resident Commissioner. Protectorate first proclaimed 1885.

Bengal, Province of British India under a Lieutenant-Governor. Capital Calcutta. Comprises Behar, Orissa, Chotia Nagpur. Established 1854. Reconstructed 1905.

Berbice, district of British Guiana. Settled by Dutch 1624. Ceded to England 1814.

Bermudas or Seiner's Is. Group in N Atlantic 360 m from N Carolina. Capital Hamilton. Discovered by Bermudez about 1527. Settled 1609-1612, Crown Colony.

Bhutan. Independent state in E Himalayas. Capital Punakha. Since 1865 British sphere of influence regulated by treaty and subsidy.

Bombay. A Presidency in British India, under a Governor. Capital Bombay. Established as a presidency 1668.

British Central Africa. Protected country on Shire River and W. side of Lake Nyasa. Capital Blantyre. Protectorate proclaimed 1891. Commissioner under Foreign Office.

British Columbia, province in the Dominion of Canada. Capital Victoria. Constituted a Crown Colony 1858. Incorporated in the Dominion 1871.

British East Africa. Protectorate on the E coast of Africa. Capital Mombasa. 1888-1895, administered by Chartered Imperial British East Africa Company 1895, transferred to British Government under Foreign Office 1904. Commissioner and Consul-General under the Colonial Office.

British Guiana. Colony in S. America. Capital Georgetown. Includes Demerara, Essequibo and Berbice. First English settlement 1604. Finally ceded to England 1814. Since 1891 a Crown Colony with a council partly elective.

British Honduras, Colony on E coast of Central America. Capital Belize. Discovered by Columbus 1502. English settlers 1630-1798, undisputed British possession since 1798; 1862 constituted a colony. Since 1870 a Crown Colony.

British New Guinea, SE part of the island of New Guinea. Chief town Port Moresby. Discovered by Antonio di Abrea 1511. British Protectorate 1884 transferred to the Australian Commonwealth 1901. Crown Colony under Governor-General of Australia.

British North Borneo, territory at NE of island of Borneo. Chief town Sandakan. Since 1882 under British North Borneo Company.

Brunei. Native state between British N. Borneo and Sarawak. Chief town, Brunei. Since 1888 Protectorate under the Governor of the Straits Settlements.

Burma, province of a Lieut-Governor in farther India under Indian Government, comprises Lower Burma, (annexed (1825-1852) and Upper Burma (1886). Constituted a Lieutenant-Governorship 1888.

Caicos Islands. See TURK'S and CAICOS ISLANDS.

Canada, Dominion of, self-governing Federation of British colonies (save Newfoundland) in N. America and composed of Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and the N W Provinces (1867-1898). Province of Saskatchewan, Alberta created 1905, Federal capital and seat of Dominion Parliament Ottawa.

Cape Breton Island, island forming part of the province of Nova Scotia . Capital Sydney. Taken from French 1758. Separate colony 1784-1819. Assigned to Nova Scotia 1820.

Cape of Good Hope, self-governing colony at S. extremity of Africa. Includes twelve islands off Angra-Pequena (1874), Kaffraria (1879) Walfisch Bay (1878), Griqualand W. (1880), Tembuland (1881), Pondoland (1894), British Bechuanaland (1895). Capital Cape Town. Dutch settlement 1648-1795; 1814 finally ceded to England. Responsible self-governing Colony since 1872.

Cayman Islands, three islands NW of Jamaica. Dependency of Jamaica.

Central Provinces (India), province in central British India under a Chief Commissioner of Govt. of Indian and includes Berars. Created 1861.

Ceylon, island off southern extremity of India. Capital Colombo. 1507-1658 Portuguese settlement; 1658-1795 Dutch settlement; 1795 annexed by Great Britain. 1801 a separate colony. Crown Colony.

Channel Islands (Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, Herm, Jethou). An appendage of the Duchy of Normandy. United to English Crown since 1066. Autonomous government under British Crown.

Chatham Islands, group of islands to east of New Zealand. Dependency of New Zealand.

Christmas Island. 200m SW of Java. Dependency of the Straits Settlements since 1889.

Cocos Islands. See KEELING ISLANDS.

Cook Islands, group in S. Pacific Dependency of New Zealand.

Coorg, the smallest province of British India. Capital Merkara, Annexed 1834. Under a Chief Commissioner.

Cyprus, island in the Levant. Capital Nicosia. Under Lusignan family, 1192-1489; under Venice, 1489-1571; under Ottoman Sultan 1571-1878; transferred by treaty to Great Britain 1878. Crown Colony

Diego Garcia, in Chagos group in the Indian Ocean. Dependency of Mauritius.

Dindings, The, or the islands of Pangkor. Ceded 1826. Pan of the Straits Settlement.

Dominica, Leeward Islands, W Indies. Capital Roseau or Charlottetown. Discovered by Columbus 1493; 1763 assigned to Great Britain [1778-1783 in French possession]. Crown Colony. The Presidency of the Leeward Islands.

Demerara, district of British Guiana. Dutch 1624-1814; ceded to Great Britain 1814.

East Griqualand, province of the colony of The Cape of Good Hope (q.v.)

Egypt, a State whose territory includes the Libyan Desert. The English occupation dates from 1882. The State is governed by the Khedive, nominally dependent on the Sultan of Turkey, subject to the advice of the British Agent and Consul-General and the rights of Great Britain regulated by Convention of London, 1885 and defined by Anglo-French Convention, 1904. British Agent Consul-General. Virtual Protectorate.

Ellice Islands, group of nine islands in S. Pacific. High Commissioner for the W. Pacific.

Essequibo, District of Brit. Guiana. Dutch 1624-1814; ceded to Great Britain 1814.

Falkland Islands, group in the S. Atlantic, 300m E. of Magellan Straits. Discovered by Davis 1592 and finally annexed by Great Britain 1832. South Georgia is a dependency; discovered in 1675, and occupied 1775. Crown Colony.

Fanning Islands, N. Pacific. Commissioner of the W. Pacific.

Fiji Islands, group with the dependent island Rotumab in S. Pacific. Capital Suva. Discovered by Tasman 1643, and definitely annexed 1874. Crown Colony.

Franklin, a district of the NW. Territories in the Dominion of Canada. Created in 1895.

Friendly Islands. See TONGA.

Gambia, Settlement and Protectorate on the W. coast of Africa. Capital, Barhurst. English trade connections date from 1588. New settlement, 1816; a separate colony, 1843; 1866-1888, part of the W. African Settlements; separate govt. 1888. Protectorate organised 1894-1901. Crown Colony.

Gibraltar, Fortress at the W. entrance to the Mediterranean. Captured 1704 and ceiled to Great Britain 1713. Crown Colony under a Military Governor.

Gilbert Islands, group in the Pacific. High Commissioner for the W. Pacific.

Gold Coast, colony on the Guinea coast of Africa. Capital, Accra. English trade relations date from 1618. The Royal Africa Company lasted 1672-1752. 1821-1851, a dependency of Sierra Leone. Finally, 1874 a separate colony. Crown Colony.

Gozo. See Malta

Graham Land, peninsula in the Antarctic Region S. of Falkland Islands.

Grenada, one of the Windward Islands, West Indies. Capital St. George. Discovered by Columbus 1498. French occupation, 1650-1762, 1779-1783; British, 1762-1779, and from 1783. Crown Colony.

Grenadines, group of small islands in the West Indies. The largest Carriacou, is annexed to Grenada, the others to St. Vincent.

Griqualand West, district incorporated in the colony of Cape of Good Hope since 1880.

Harvey Islands, See COOK ISLANDS.

Hong Kong, island at the mouth of the Canton River in China. Ceded to Britain 1841. British Kowloon on the mainland was ceded in 1861 and extended 1898. Crown colony.

Haidarabad, the chief of the Mahometan feudatory states in British India. The head is the

Nizam. British Resident since 1803.

Hudson Bay Company. Founded in 1670 to trade to Hudson's Bay (discovered by H. Hudson, 1609-10.) The company territories transferred to the Dominion of Canada in 1869.

India, British, that part of the Indian Peninsula which is under British rule and influence and includes districts under direct administration and the native states. It is divided into 9 Provinces and certain minor charges 1600-1858, administered by The East India Company. In 1858 the Crown resumed its sovereign rights. The supreme executive and legislative power in India is vested in the Governor-General in Council, subject to the Secretary of State for India in Council, who is responsible to the Crown in Parliament. In 1876 the Crown of Great Britain took the title of Emperor of India.

Isle of Man, an Island in the Irish Sea. Under Norse Parliaments and Norwegian Crown, 890-1265. Rival claimants, 1265-1406. Held by the House of Stanley, 1406-1765. Under British Crown from 1765. Autonomous self-government by a Governor, with a Council and the House of Keys.

Jamaica, the largest of the British West Indian Islands. Capital Kingston. Discovered by Columbus, 1494. In Spanish Possession till 1655, when it was captured by an English force, Crown Colony.

Jask, port on the Persian coast in the Gulf of Oman. Persian Gulf Political Residency.

Johore, native state at S. extremity of Malay Peninsula. Protectorate proclaimed 1885; under the Governor of the Straits Settlements.

Kashmir, a native feudatory state in NW. of British India. Capital, Sringar. British Political Resident since 1846.

Keeling (or Cocos) Islands, group about 700 m. SW. of Sumatra. Annexed 1878 and, 1886, made a dependency of Singapore.

Keewatin, district in the NW. Territories of the Dominion of Canada. Created 1876. Kermadec Islands, group in the S. Pacific. Dependency of New Zealand.

King Edward VII. Land, a country of unknown extent in the Antarctic regions of the E. of Victoria Land. Discovered 1902.

Kowloon. See HONG-KONG.

Kuria Muria Islands, five islands off S. coast of Arabia. Acquired 1884. Part of the Settlement of Aden (q.v.).

Labrador, coast territory from Cape Chudleigh to Strait of Belle Isle. Discovered by Norsemen in ninth century, and by Cabot 1487; ceded to England 1763; annexed to Quebec 1773-1809. Since 1809 a Dependency of Newfoundland.

Labuan. island off the coast of Brunei, North Borneo. Ceded to Great Britain 1846. British North Borneo Company.

Laccadive Islands, group of islands 200m. W. of Malabar coast, Annexed to Madras Presidency.

Lagos, island on the Guinea Coast of W. Africa. Capital, Lagos. It includes Abeokuta, Yoruba, and Ikorodu. Erected into a separate colony 1886. The protectorate was formed 1865-1895. Crown Colony.

Lantao Islands, annexed to Hong-Kong.

Leeward Islands West Indies. The English Leeward Islands, in 1871 were constituted a Federal Colony, in five Presidencies - Antigua, Montserrat, St. Kitt's and Nevis, Dominica, and the Virgin Islands. Administrative capital, St. John's, Antigua. Crown Colony.

Lema Island. See HONG-KONG

Lord Howe Island, in the Pacific. Dependency of New South Wales.

Lower Canada. See QUEBEC.

Mackenzie, district in the NW Territories of the Dominion of Canada. Created 1895.

Madras, as the Presidency of Fort St. George, is the oldest of the Provinces of British India. Founded 1639. Under a Governor appointed direct by the Crown, and subordinated to the Governor-General.

Malacca, a province of the Straits Settlements (q.v.). Capital, Malacca, Occupied by Portuguese, 1511-1641. Held by Dutch, 1641-1795. Captured by British, 1795. Returned to the Dutch, 1818-1824, then exchanged in 1824 for Sumatra.

Malay States, a Federation of Protected Malay States - Perak, Salangor, Negris-Sembilan, Pahang - under the Commissioner for the Straits Settlements, Protectorate.

Maiden Island, coral island in the Pacific.

Maldive Islands, group lying 500m. W. of Ceylon. Dependency of Ceylon.

Malta and Gozo, island in the Mediterranean, 60m. S. of Sicily. Capital, Valetta. 1190- 1530, under House of Aragon; 1530-1798, under the Knights of St. John; 1798-1800, in the hands of the French; from 1800 British. Crown Colony.

Manahiki Islands, group in the Pacific. Dependency of New Zealand

Manitoba, province in the Dominion of Canada. Capital Winnipeg. Formerly the Red River Settlement of the Hudson Bay Company. Created a province 1870.

Mashonaland, a district of Rhodesia (Southern) (q.v.).

Matabeleland, a district of Rhodesia (Southern) (q.v.).

Mauritius, island in the Indian Ocean 500m. E of Madagascar. Capital Port Louis. Discovered by Portuguese, 1509; Dutch, 1598-1721; French (with name of Isle of France), 1721-1810; British from 1810. The Chagos Islands, the St. Brandon, and Rodrigues are dependencies. Crown Colony

Montserrat, one of the Leeward Islands. Capital Plymouth. Discovered by Columbus, 1493. French 1664-1668, 1782-1784; English, 1632-1664, and since 1668. A Presidency in the Crown Colony of the Leeward Islands.

Mysore, a native feudatory state in South of British India. Capital, Mysore. Created by British Government in 1779. In 1831 the Rajah was deposed. In 1881 the State was restored to a native dynasty. British Political Resident.

Natal, colony on the coast of South Africa. Includes Zululand (q.v.). Vryheid, Utrecht, and part of Wakkerstroom (1903). Capital, Pietermaritzburg. Constituted a separate colony, 1850. Responsible self-governing Colony since 1893.

Negri-Sembilan, a Federation of small Malay States, forming part of the Malay States Protectorate (q.v.). organised 1882-1895.

Nepal, Kingdom in the Himalayas. Capital Kathmandu. British sphere of influence regulated by treaty since 1815. British Political Resident.

Nevis, one of the Leewards. Capital Charlestown. Discovered by Columbus, 1498. English since 1628. Part of the Presidency of St. Kill's (q.v.).

New Brunswick, province in the Dominion of Canada. Capital Fredericton. Formerly part of the French Province of Acadia (q.v.). Ceded to England 1713. Separated from Nova Scotia 1784. Incorporated in the Dominion-1867.

Newfoundland, an island colony at the mouth of Gulf of St. Lawrence. Capital, St. Johns. Discovered by John Cabot, 1497; annexed by Gilbert, 1578; settled 1623; finally ceded to England 1713. Claims to be the Premier Colony of Great Britain. Responsible self-government since 1855. See LABRADOR.

New Providence, one of the Bahamas (q.v.). Capital Nassau.

New South Wales, a colony in the E. of Australia. Capital Sydney. In 1770 Cook named it New South Wales. First settlement, 1788. Responsible self-government established in 1855. A self-governing State in the Federal Commonwealth of Australia, 1901.

New Zealand consists of North and Middle Islands, with Stewart Island. Capital, Wellington. The Auckland, Chatham, Kermadec and Cook Islands are dependencies. New Zealand, discovered by Tasman, 1642; circumnavigated by Cook, 1769; sovereignty ceded to Great Britain, 1840; self-government 1852. Responsible self-governing Colony.

Nicobar Islands, group of Islands S. of the Andaman Islands. Annexed 1869. Together with the Andaman Islands they form a Chief Commissionership under the Indian Government.

Nigeria, See NORTHERN NIGERIA and SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Norfolk Islands, about 900 m. from Sydney. Discovered by Cook 1774. Pitcairn Islanders removed to it 1859. Dependency of New South Wales.

Northern Nigeria, territory on the Benue and Middle Niger, West Africa. Capital Zungeru. Secured to Great Britain by the Royal Niger Company from 1881, and by international convention, 1885-1898. Administration transferred from the Company to the Crown, 1900. Protectorate under a High Commissioner. North-West Provinces. See UNITED PROVINCES AND OUDH.

North-West Frontier Province (India), an administrative district on NW. frontier of India, composed of Hazara District and four districts, Peshawar, Kohat, Bannu, Dera Ismail. First established 1901. Agent to the Governor-General of India.

Northern Territories, The (West Africa). The territories to the N. of Ashanti. constituted a separate district with this title under a Commissioner, 1897. Delimited, 1898, 1899, and 1901 -1902. Placed under the Gold Coast Government, 1901. Chief Commissioner.

North-Western Territories of Canada, a province in the Dominion of Canada, formerly part of Rupert's Land, and composed of Alberta, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Keewatin, Athabasca, Yukon, Mackenzie, Ungava and Franklin. First formed 1876; re-organised 1882; further re-organised 1895, 1897, and 1905.

Nova Scotia (with Cape Breton), province of the Dominion of Canada. Capital Halifax. Discovered by John Cabot, 1497; ceded by France to England, 1713. Cape Breton captured, 1758; added to Nova Scotia, 1819; incorporated in the Dominion, 1867.

Oman, an independent State in the SE. Arabia. Capital, Muscat. In 1856 the Sultanate was separated from that of Zanzibar (q.v.). Since 1856 the Sultan has entered into close relations with the Indian Government, and Oman is claimed as a sphere of British influence. A Political Agent resides at Muscat. Persian Gulf Political Residency.

Ontario (formerly Upper Canada), a self-governing colony in the Dominion of Canada. Capital Toronto. Ceded to Great Britain, 1763; a separate province, 1791; re-united with Lower Canada, 1840; incorporated in the Dominion as a separate province, 1867.

Orange River Colony, a colony in S. Africa, north of the Orange River, and S. of the Vaal River. Capital, Bloemfontein. Settlement began after 1836. In 1854 the independence of the Orange Free State was recognised by Great Britain. As a result of the Boer War the State was annexed, May 28, 1900, and constituted as the Orange River Colony, 1902. Temporarily a Crown Colony.

Orkney and Shetland Islands, a group of islands to the N. of Scotland. Capital, Kirk wall. Under Norwegian jarls, 872-1231; nominally under the King of Norway, 1231-1471; annexed to Scotland since 1471.

Oudh (see also UNITED PROVINCES), formerly a native kingdom, now part of the Lieut.-Governorship of the United Provinces in British India. Capital Lucknow. Annexed 1856; a separate province until 1877, when it was united with the North-West Provinces. Lieutenant-Governor. Pahang, the largest of the Protected Malay States (q.v.). Pemba, island, in the Protectorate of Zanzibar.(q.v.)

Penang, island formerly called Prince of Wales Island, and first British Settlement in Malay Peninsula. Ceded in 1785. See STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Penryhn Island or Tongarewa, in the S. Pacific. Dependency of New Zealand. Perak, the most northerly of the Protected Malay States (q.v.). Capital, Kwala Kangsa. British Resident since 1874.

Perim, an island in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb. Occupied since 1857, and annexed to the Settlement of Aden.

Persian Gulf Political Residency. The principal ports are Bander Abbas, Lingah and Bushire. Basidu and Jask are British. Political Agents reside at Muscat and Bushire, and the Gulf is claimed to be a British sphere of influence under the Chief Political Agent for the Persian Gulf to the Government of Bombay resident in Bushire.

Pitcairn Island, South Pacific. Discovered by Cartaret, 1767-1780. Occupied by the mutineers of H.M.S. Bounty. British colony by settlement. High Commissioner for the Western Pacific. See NORFOLK ISLAND.

Prince Edward Island, island province in the Dominion of Canada. Capital Charlottetown. Discovered by Sebastian Cabot, 1497. Taken from French, 1758. A separate colony, 1770. Responsible self-government 1881. Incorporated in the Dominion, 1873.

Prince Rupert's Land, historic name for the districts assigned in 1670 to the Hudson Bay Company, of which Prince Rupert was the first governor. It is roughly represented by the North-West Territories in the Dominion of Canada.

Province Wellesley, district in the Malay Peninsula opposite Penang. Acquired 1798.

Punjab, a province under a Lieutenant-Governor in the NW. of British India. Roughly conforms to the territories of the former Sikh kingdom. Capital Lahore. Annexed 1849.

Quebec (formerly Lower Canada), a self-governing province in the Dominion of Canada. Capital, Quebec. With Ontario ceded to Great Britain 1763, created a separate province 1791, reunited with Upper Canada 1840, incorporated in the Dominion as a separate province 1867.

Queensland, colony in the NE. of Australia. Capital, Brisbane. Moreton Bay Settlement formed from New South Wales, 1824. Separate colony of Queensland, 1859, when self-government was granted. Since 1901 a responsible self-governing State in the Federal Commonwealth of Australia.

Rajputana, in British India, consists of 19 Principalities, besides Ajmer-Merwara (the chief of which are Mawar, Marwar, Bikanir, Jaipur), under British suzerainty and control. The formation of this political area under British control dates from 1818.

Redonda, one of the Leeward Islands. Dependency of the Presidency of Antigua (q.v.).

Rhodesia, territories in South Africa extending north from the Transvaal and Bechuanaland to Congo Free State and Lake Tanganyika. Capital Salisbury. Named after Cecil J. Rhodes, founder of British South Africa Company, 1889. The territories were acquired 1889-1901. Organised into Southern Rhodesia (Mashonaland and Matabeleland) and Northern Rhodesia (NE and NW. Rhodesia). The British South Africa Company. Rodrigues, in the Indian ocean, 350m. E. of Mauritius. Dependency of Mauritius. Rotumah, island in the South Pacific. Dependency of Fiji.

St. Helena, island in the South Atlantic. Capital Jamestown. Discovered by Castella, 1502. Held by Dutch, 1645-1650; by East India Company, 1651-1834. Transferred to the Crown, 1833. Crown Colony.

St. Kitt's (or St. Christopher) a Presidency in the Leeward Islands, which includes Nevis and Anguilla. Capital Basseterre. First settled 1623 but not permanently British until 1713. Crown Colony.

St. Lucia, one of the Windward Islands. Capital Castries. Discovered by Columbus, 1502, first settled by English, 1639. Possession disputed with France, 1642-1802. From 1803 permanently British. Crown Colony.

St. Vincent, one of the Windward Islands. Capital Kingstown. Discovery attributed to Columbus 1498. First settled 1722. Possession disputed with France until 1783 when it was assigned to Great Britain. Crown Colony

Sarawak, a State on the W. Coast of Borneo. Capital, Kuching. Founded by Sir J. Brooke, 1842, and extended 1861, 1882, 1885. British Protectorate proclaimed 1888. Protectorate under the Rajah of Sarawak.

Saskatchewan, district in the North-West Territories in the Dominion of Canada. Created 1882. Erected into a Province 1905. Capital, Regina.

Selangor, one of the protected Malay States. Capital, Kwala Lumpur. British Resident since 1874.

Seychelles, group in the Indian Ocean, 900m. N. of Madagascar, Capital Port Victoria in Mahe, the largest island. Discovered 1505. In the French possession 1740-1794, when captured by British. Organised as a British colony 1810, and separated from Mauritius as a separate colony 1903. Crown Colony.

Shetland Islands. See ORKNEY AND SHETLAND ISLANDS.

Sierra Leone, colony on the W. Coast of Africa, with a Protectorate attached. Capital Freetown. Founded 1788, and subsequently extended by a series of treaties. Protectorate over the Hinterland proclaimed, 1896. Crown colony.

Sikkim, Indian Feudatory State in the Himalayas. Proclaimed a Protectorate 1889. Resident British Political Agent

Singapore, island at the S. extremity of the Malay Peninsula. Occupied in 1819 and 1826, united with Penang and Malacca as a Presidency under the East India Company until 1867, when it was erected into a separate Crown Colony.

Socotra, island about 150 m. E. of Cape Guardafui, East Africa. Capital, Tamarido. British Protectorate since 1886, annexed to the Settlement of Aden.

Soloman Islands, group in the Pacific, under British protection, proclaimed 1893. Choiseul and Isabel are the chief islands.

Somaliland (British), territory in NE. Africa. Capital Berbera. Proclaimed a Protectorate 1884. Transferred, 1897, from Indian Government to the Foreign Office.

Somer's Islands. See BERMUDAS.

South Australia, colony on the S. coast of Australia. Capital Adelaide. First Settlement 1836. Responsible Government 1856. The Northern Territory added 1861-1863. Since 1901 responsible self-governing State in the Federal Commonwealth of Australia.

South Georgia, uninhabited island S Atlantic, SE of the Falkland Islands. Dependency of the Falkland Islands.

South Orkneys, a group of islands in the Antarctic.

South Shetlands, a group of islands in the Antarctic north of Graham Land.

Southern Nigeria, territory including Benin and the Oil Rivers, lying between the Lagos Protectorate and the Cameroons. Capital Old Calabar. British Protectorate proclaimed, 1885; constituted as Southern Nigeria, 1900. Protectorate under a High Commissioner.

Straits Settlements, a Crown Colony in the Malay Peninsula, constituted in 1867, when it was separated from the Indian Government. It comprises Singapore, Malacca, The Dindings, Christmas Island and the Protectorate of the Malay States. Administrative capital, Singapore.

Sudan, Anglo-Egyptian, country S of the frontier of Egypt, which includes Dafur and Kordofan. Capital, Khartoum. Under rule of Egypt till 1882; under the Mahdi and Khalifa, 1882-1899. Recovered by Anglo-Egyptian army, 1896-1899. British rights secured by the Anglo-Egyptian Convention, 1899. Administrative Protectorate under Governor-General.

Sungel-Ujong, protected Malay State incorporated with Negri Sembilap (q.v.).

Tasmania, island separated from Australia by the Bass Straits (explored 1797). Discovered by Tasman, 1642, it was called Van Diemen's Land till 1853. Occupied by England, 1803. Responsible government, 1856. Since 1901 responsible self-governing State in the Commonwealth of Australia.

Tibet, a State under the suzerainty of China, to the north of British India. Capital, Lhasa. From 1890 to 1903 relations with the Indian Government were regulated by Treaties of 1890, 1893. 1903-1904, the British Tibetan Expedition. A new convention was arranged in 1904 at Lhasa.

Tobago, island in the N. Atlantic 20 m. NE of Trinidad. Capital, Scarborough. Discovered by Columbus, 1498. British flag hoisted, 1580. Possession disputed until 1684, when it was declared

neutral. 1763-1781, British. 1781-1793, French. Finally ceded to Great Britain, 1814. Amalgamated with Trinidad, 1889. Crown Colony.

Tonga Islands (or Friendly Islands), group in the S. Pacific to the E. of Fiji. Capital Nakualofa. High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Torola, chief of the Virgin Islands (q.v.).

Transvaal Colony, The, extends from the Vaal River N. to the Limpopo River. Capital Pretoria. First settled, 1836-1848. Organised as the South African Republic, 1884; annexed to Great Britain, 1877-1881; relations to Great Britain regulated by Conventions of 1881 and 1884, and finally annexed and constituted the Transvaal Colony, 1900. A Crown colony under a Governor until 1905, self-government is in the process of organisation.

Travancore, a native feudatory State in the extreme S. of British India. Capital,

Trivandrum. Under British protection from 1795. British Political Resident

Trinidad, island north of the Orinoco River, South America. Capital, Port of Spain. Discovered by Columbus, 1498. Spanish until 1797, when it was captured by Great Britain and was ceded by Spain, 1802. Amalgamated with Tobago, 1889. Crown Colony.

Tristan da Cunha, a small group in the South Atlantic (Gough's Island, Inaccessible, and Nightingale). Occupied between 1816 and 1821. There is no Government and no crime.

Turk's and Caicos Islands, the two SE. groups of the Bahamas, W. Indies. Capital Grand

Turk. Discovery attributed to Columbus, 1493. Claimed by Spain until 1799, when they were annexed to the Bahamas. Constituted a separate dependency of Jamaica since 1848.

Uganda, a territory lying N. of Victoria Nyanza. Administrative centre, Entebbe. Protectorate proclaimed 1894, and extended 1896, Railway from Port Florence to Mombasa completed 1903. Commissionership in the British East African Protectorate.

Ungava, district in the North-Western Territories of the Dominion of Canada. Created 1895.

United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, a province under Lieut-Governor, formerly called the North West Provinces, as being to the NW. of Calcutta and Lower Bengal. Capital Allahabad. They became British 1705-1801. Organised as a Presidency in 1833, and then as a Lieut-Governorship, 1858. Oudh was added in 1877.

Upper Canada. See ONTARIO.

Vancouver, an island in the province of British Columbia, in the Dominion of Canada. Discovered by Juan de Fuca, 1592. Surveyed by Cook and Vancouver, 1778-1785. First settlement, 1843. United with British Columbia, 1866.

Victoria, colony in Australia. Capital Melbourne. First permanent settlement, 1834. Created a separate colony, 1851, with responsible government, 1855. Since 1901 a responsible self-governing State in the Commonwealth of Australia.

Victoria Land, The Coast of Victoria Land, in the Antarctic region, lies south of the southern extremity of New Zealand, and runs from about 71 to at least 83 degrees S. - i.e. measures about 300 miles.

Virgin Islands, a group in the Leeward Islands. Chief town. Roadtown (Tortola). Discovered by Columbus, 1493. English since 1666. Presidency in the Colony of the Leeward Islands.

Walfisch Bay, a harbour with adjacent territory in German South-West Africa. Annexed by Great Britain, 1878. Dependency of the Cape of Good Hope.

Wei-hai-Wei, in the province of Shantung, in China. The port, with its adjacent islands and territory, was leased by China to Great Britain in 1898 for as long a period as Port Arthur should remain in the possession of Russia.

Western Australia, colony occupying the continent of Australia, west of S. Australia. Capital Perth. First settlement, 1827. The colony was formally established, 1829. Responsible government, 1890. Since 1901 responsible self-governing State in the Commonwealth of Australia.

Western Pacific, The, a High Commissionership created by Order in Council in 1877 over all islands in the W. Pacific, not within limits of Fiji, Queensland, and New South Wales, nor under the jurisdiction of any civilised Power. Fiji High Commissioner. Windward Islands, a group in the West Indies. They consist of St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Barbados, the Grenadines, Grenada, Tobago, Trinidad. See separate notices. Yukon, district in the North-West Territories of the Dominion of Canada. Created 1895.

Zanzibar, with Pemba, a Sultanate off the coast of German E. Africa. In 1856 the Sultanate was separated from that of Muscat. The British Protectorate was established in 1890. Protectorate with British Political Agent, under the Foreign Office.

Zululand, province in the colony of Natal. Annexed 1897.

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Lost Possessions of the British Crown

Anjou, one of 36 ancient provinces of France. United with the English Crown 1154-1204.

Aquitaine. This province in France was acquired by Henry II by his marriage with Eleanor of Aquitaine 1152. The title of Duke of Aquitaine was resumed by Henry V 1418. After many vicissitudes the duchy was definitely lost 1453.

Auvergne, a province in France which formed part of the dominions of Henry II of England between 1158 and 1180.

Bencoolen, a settlement in the island of Sumatra. Exchanged in 1824 for Malacca.

Britanny, a duchy in NW. France. Acquired by Henry II 1159, and lost in 1203.

Calais, captured by Edward III 1347, retaken by the French 1558.

Cayenne (or French Guiana), captured by British 1809, and restored to France 1814.

Curacoa, in the Caribbean Sea, captured 1807, and restored to the Dutch 1814.

Dunkirk, captured 1658. Sold by Charles II to Louis XIV 1662.

Florida, now one of the States in the United States of America. Ceded to Great Britain 1763, it was re-ceded to Spain in 1783.

Gascony, a part of the historic Aquitaine (q.v.), S. of the R. Garonne. United with the English Crown 1154; after many changes it was finally lost, 1451.

Goree, Nr Cape Verd in W. Africa. Taken 1758, 1779, 1800, 1804, Ceded to France 1814.

Hanover, The Electorate of Hanover in N. Germany. United with the Crown 1714-1837.

Havana, in the island of Cuba, captured 1761, and re-ceded to Spain 1763.

Heligoland, island in the N. Sea, captured from Denmark 1807, ceded to Germany 1890, Ionian Isles, captured 1809-1813. Under British Protectorate until 1863.

Java, in the Eastern Archipelago. Capitulated to British 1811, restored to the Dutch 1814.

Manila (Philippines), captured 1761, re-ceded to Spain 1763.

Maine, province in the NW. of France. Seized by William the Conqueror 1169, it was lost 1204. Held also by Edward III. 1357-1360.

Minorca, island in the W. Mediterranean. Captured 1708, definitely ceded to Spain 1783.

Moluccas, The, an archipelago in the Indian Ocean. Held by Great Britain 1810-1814, and then restored to the Dutch.

Netherlands, The, united with the English Crown 1689-1701.

Normandy, a Duchy in the N. of France, united with the English Crown 1066, and held, with the exception of 1135-1154, until 1204. Re-conquered 1418, finally lost in 1453.

Poitou, province in France united with the English Crown 1154-1203, and 1360-1369.

Pondicherry, captured 1761, 1778, 1793, 1803, and restored to France 1815.

Portobello, on the Isthmus of Panama. Captured 1739, ceded 1748.

Reunion, captured 1810, restored to France 1815.

Senegal, captured 1758, 1800, and restored to France 1814.

Sumatra, Dutch possessions in the island captured 1811, restored 1816.

Surinam (Dutch Guiana), captured 1802, 1804, and restored to the Dutch 1814.

Tangier, on the NW. coast of Africa. Held by England 1662-1684.

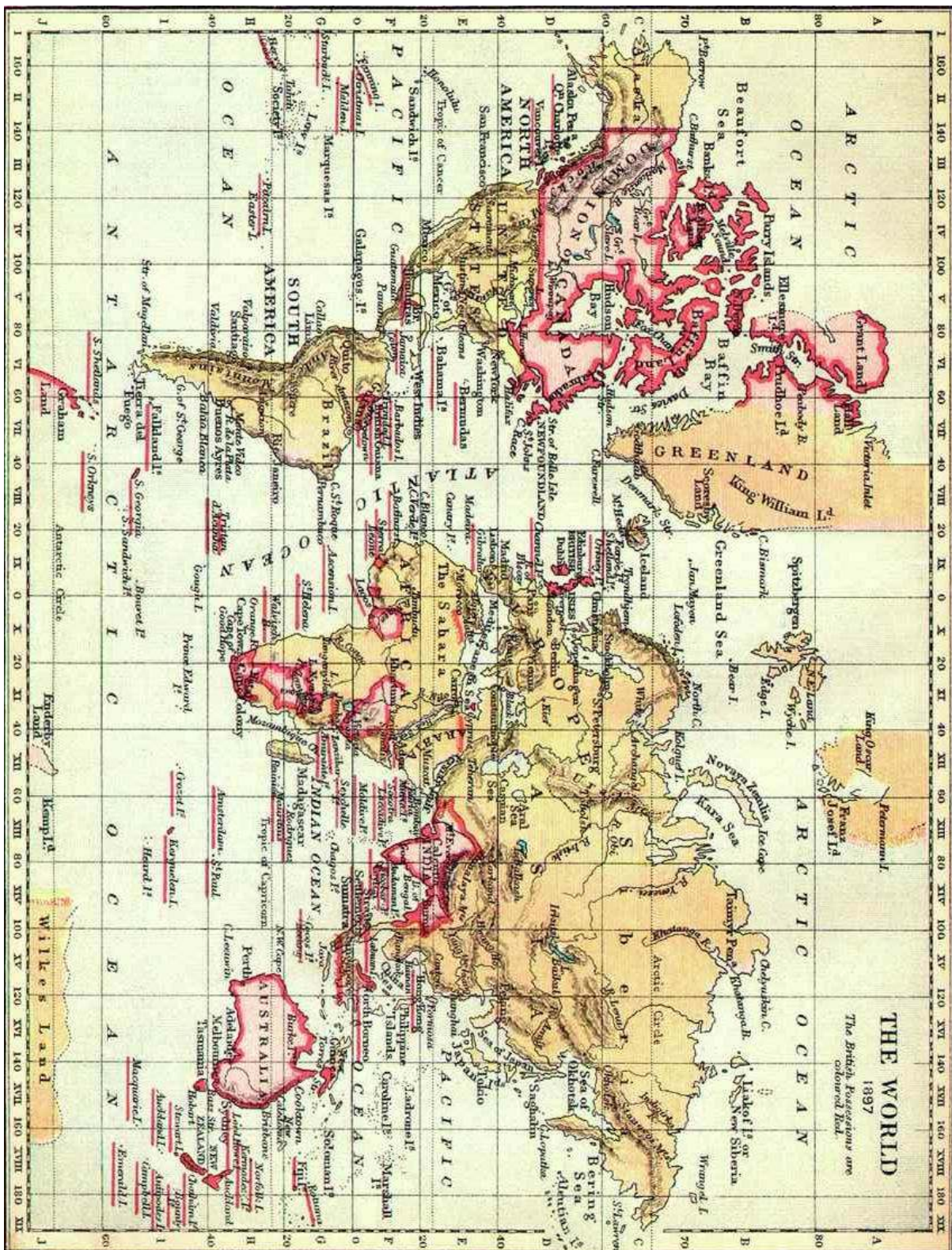
Touraine, a province in France united with the English Crown 1154-1203.

United States of America. The 13 colonies (New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Georgia, founded between 1609 and 1732) which issued the Declaration of Independence (1776), were definitely separated from Great Britain by the Peace of Versailles (1783) and became the foundation of The United States.

West Indies. Various W Indies islands have been held by Great Britain. The chief are; Guadeloupe (French), captured and held 1759, 1779, 1794, 1810, 1815. Restored to France 1816. Martinique (French), captured 1762, 1794, 1809, 1815, when it was finally restored to France. St. Eustatius, captured 1690, 1781, 1801, 1810, and restored to the Dutch 1814.

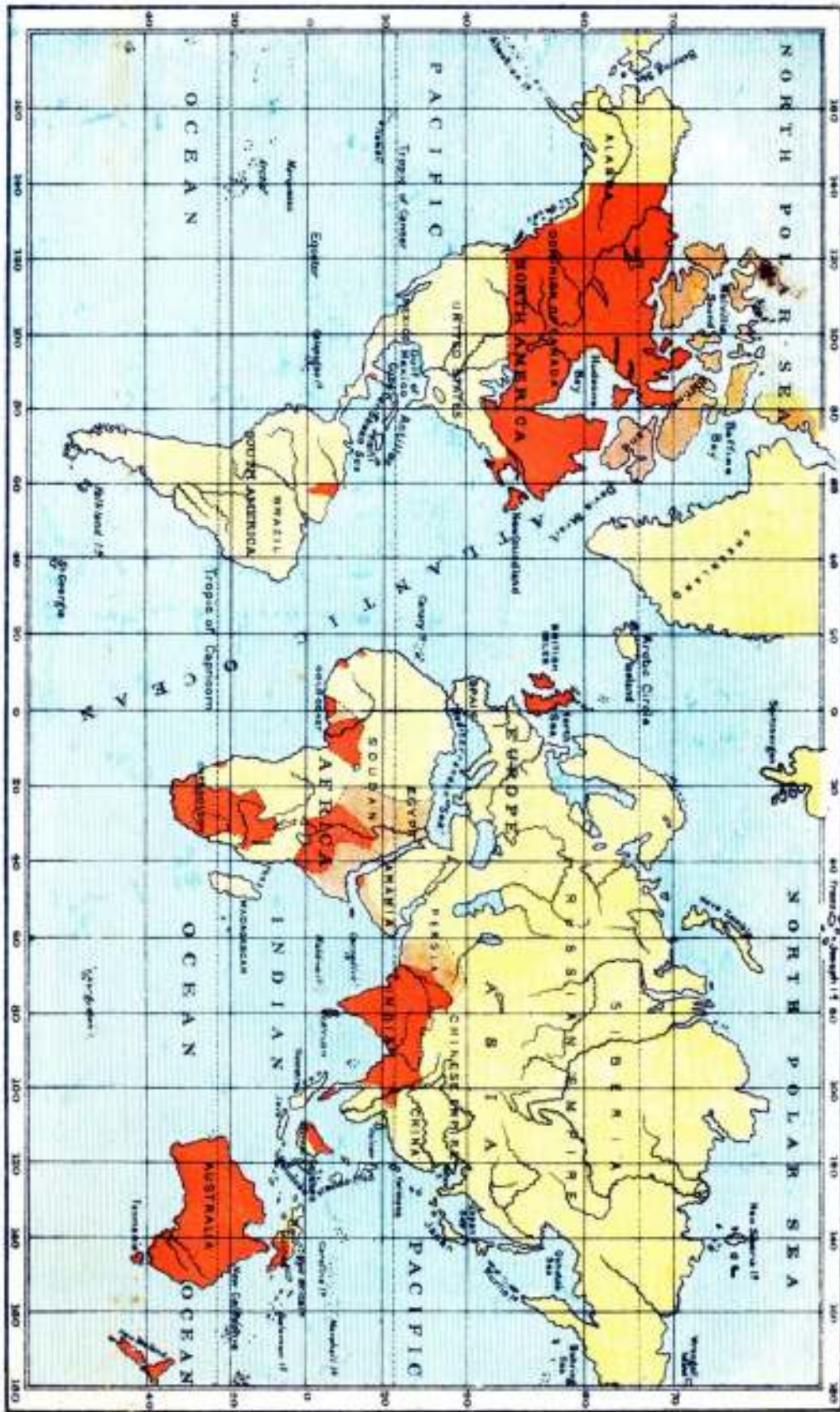
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The British Empire - 1897



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The British Empire - c.1900



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