

# **THE FOUNDATION AND GROWTH OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649587018

The Foundation and Growth of the British Empire by James A. Williamson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JAMES A. WILLIAMSON**

**THE FOUNDATION  
AND GROWTH OF  
THE BRITISH EMPIRE**



THE FOUNDATION AND GROWTH OF  
THE BRITISH EMPIRE



MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED  
LONDON · BOMBAY · CALCUTTA  
MELBOURNE

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY  
NEW YORK · BOSTON · CHICAGO  
DALLAS · SAN FRANCISCO

THE MACMILLAN CO. OF CANADA, LTD.  
TORONTO

HIBE  
W731f

THE  
FOUNDATION & GROWTH  
OF THE  
BRITISH EMPIRE

BY  
JAMES A. WILLIAMSON  
AUTHOR OF 'MARITIME ENTERPRISE, 1485-1535,' ETC.

141599  
6/2/17

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED  
ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON

1916

## PREFACE

THIS short account of the foundation and progress of the British Empire is intended primarily for use as an introductory course in the study of the subject.

It is in my opinion a mistake in such a text-book to deal extensively in generalisations and the discussion of abstract principles. What is necessary to leave a permanent impression on the mind of a possibly indifferent student is an abundance of vivid detail carefully selected so as to concentrate attention on the salient features of the story. In this respect it is important to discriminate between the requirements of the advanced and the elementary student. Seeley's *Growth of British Policy*, for example, is fascinating reading for one who already has the facts at his fingers' ends, but it would be of little interest to the average boy at school. If, therefore, one can succeed in so handling the subject that it will be studied from interest rather than compulsion, it will be safe to leave in great measure to the teacher the task of deducing general principles and correlating the facts. A good teacher, indeed, will stimulate his pupils to do this for themselves.

Two other points my own experience impels me to emphasise: it is essential that a chronological framework shall be retained in the memory, for which purpose a list of important dates has been appended to each chapter;



and no attempt should be made to read any part of our Empire story without the aid of a map of the region under consideration. Maps to illustrate special subjects have been inserted where necessary; elsewhere a good school atlas will be found sufficient.

J. A. WILLIAMSON.

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION : ENGLISH COMMERCE IN THE MIDDLE AGES - - - - -	1

### *PART I. THE TUDOR PERIOD* 1485-1603

#### THE AGE OF EXPERIMENTS

CHAPTER		
I.	HENRY VII., 1485-1509 - - - - -	9
II.	HENRY VIII., 1509-1547 - - - - -	20
III.	EDWARD VI. AND MARY, 1547-1558 - - - - -	29
IV.	ELIZABETH, 1558-1603	
	I. ENGLISH TRADE IN EUROPE - - - - -	38
	II. OCEANIC TRADE AND THE NORTH-WEST PASSAGE	40
	III. THE REVENGE FOR SPANISH EXCLUSIVENESS AND THE WAR WITH SPAIN - - - - -	48
	IV. THE VIRGINIA COLONY - - - - -	58
	V. THE EAST INDIA COMPANY - - - - -	61

*PART II. THE STUART PERIOD*  
1603-1688

THE FIRST AGE OF PEACEFUL EXPANSION

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE ENGLISH IN AMERICA, 1603-1660	
I. CHANGED CONDITIONS . . . . .	65
II. VIRGINIA . . . . .	67
III. MARYLAND . . . . .	72
IV. THE NEW ENGLAND COLONIES . . . . .	76
V. THE WEST INDIES . . . . .	85
II. OCEANIC TRADE AND EXPLORATION IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY	
I. THE EAST INDIA COMPANY . . . . .	89
II. WEST AFRICAN COMPANIES . . . . .	98
III. THE NORTH-WEST PASSAGE . . . . .	100
IV. THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY . . . . .	107
III. THE NAVIGATION ACTS AND THE DUTCH WARS	111
IV. THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES, 1660-1688	
I. THE SOUTHERN GROUP . . . . .	122
II. THE MIDDLE COLONIES . . . . .	126
III. NEW ENGLAND . . . . .	131
IV. THE FRENCH COLONIES . . . . .	133