

**CRAMPTON AND TURNER'S
READING SERIES; THE
GEOGRAPHICAL READING
BOOK, PART III. - EUROPE**

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THOMAS TURNER & THOMAS CRAMPTON

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THE

GEOGRAPHICAL READING BOOK.

PART III.—EUROPE.

BY

THOMAS CRAMPTON.

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PREFACE.

THE main design of this book is to supply lessons for CLASS READING on the Geography of Europe, and in this respect it differs from the condensed arrangements that characterize most text books on the subject.

It is believed that while the art of reading may be best acquired by connected lessons on a given subject, the knowledge of the subject matter itself is better gained by the life and vigour of reading lessons than by a mere skeleton of facts.

It has appeared most desirable on the whole to treat the Geography of Europe under the *heads* of COUNTRIES, but this has been done with as much attention to logical arrangement as was practicable. Minor details, such as names of capes, bays, &c., which are to be found on ordinary maps, have been omitted. Such details should form the subject of separate exercises or *map studies*; and these require to be varied at the judgment of the teacher, first, according to the age and progress of the pupils, and next in relation to important passing events: details, for example, too fatiguing for beginners to master, might be required from elder boys, or at the *second reading* of the subject.

Again, particulars of the Crimea and of the Baltic, though interesting during the Russian war, would yield in importance to those of India in 1857-8, or of Lombardy in 1859. It may also be observed, that a knowledge of home topography should form the foundation of all geographical knowledge, not only on account of its local interest and importance, but also as best calculated to enable pupils to *realize* geographical science, and to familiarize them with the mode of representing the earth's surface by means of maps. For this purpose, the cheap and excellent maps forming part of the Ordnance Survey are highly recommended.

Geographical etymology has been omitted, from the belief that it is of sufficient importance to demand special treatment: a few judicious lessons on geographical nomenclature will enable the pupil to account for the origin of most names, and furnish matter of interest on local topography and history.

The statement of facts has been, as far as possible, connected with the reasoning upon such facts: this tracing of the connection of cause and effect, is now justly regarded as a more important part of mental training in relation to Geography, than the mere enunciation of names and the pointing out of places on maps.

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THE
GEOGRAPHICAL READING BOOK.

PART III.—EUROPE.

Area, nearly 4 millions of sq. m. Population, 270 millions.

LESSON I.—GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

EUROPE is the smallest but most important of the great divisions of the globe. Its inhabitants are very much in advance of those of Asia and Africa in civilization: while America and Australia, having been colonized by Europeans, owe their civilization to it.

Europe is joined to the western side of Asia, and with it forms one vast continent, stretching for 18,000 miles across the northern hemisphere. From an imperfectly defined boundary on its eastern side,* Europe extends 3,400 miles westward to the Atlantic: its breadth, from the Arctic Ocean to the Mediterranean, is about 2,400 miles. Its area is about one-fifth that

* Trace details on the map: see also questions at the end.