

**THE GEOGRAPHY AND
HISTORY OF BRITISH
AMERICA, AND OF THE OTHER
COLONIES OF THE EMPIRE**

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The Geography and History of British America, and of the Other Colonies of the Empire by J. George Hodgins

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J. GEORGE HODGINS

**THE GEOGRAPHY AND
HISTORY OF BRITISH
AMERICA, AND OF THE OTHER
COLONIES OF THE EMPIRE**

Second Edition, Enlarged and Improved,
OF THE
GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY
OF
BRITISH AMERICA.

THE
GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY
OF
BRITISH AMERICA,

AND OF THE
OTHER COLONIES OF THE EMPIRE;

TO WHICH ARE ADDED A SKETCH OF THE VARIOUS INDIAN TRIBES OF CANADA, AND BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL
NOTICES OF EMINENT PERSONS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF CANADA.

BY J. GEORGE HODGINS, M.A.

Illustrated with Eighty superior Engravings on Steel.

SECOND EDITION.



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"In scientiâ excellere pulchrum est; sed nescire turpe."

Entered, according to an Act of the Provincial Legislature, in the year 1887, by
JOHN GEORGE HODGINS,
In the office of the Registrar of the Province of Canada.

FROM THE PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

The necessity for a work of this kind is the primary reason of its publication. Until a very recent period, the pupils of our public and private schools were left, either to glean a scanty knowledge of their own and the sister Provinces through the often uncertain and inaccurate medium of an European geography, or to adopt the foreigner's unfriendly interpretation of our colonial institutions and laws. This unwise and anomalous state of things has become the more serious, since, under the enlightened system of self-government so frankly conceded to all the British North American Provinces, commercial intercourse has become frequent between them, and a political and social bond of sympathy has been created, which renders absolutely necessary a fuller acquaintance with the mutual history, condition, and capabilities of each. To supply this information, in the simplest form, has been the author's aim. The best accessible authorities have been consulted, and the latest parliamentary returns made available. The paragraphs relating to the special subject of geology, have received their final corrections from Sir William Logan, the distinguished geologist of Canada, and from J. W. Dawson, Esq., LL.D., Principal of McGill College, Montreal, and a high authority upon the geology of Nova Scotia, &c. To the Honorable George Coles, Secretary of Prince Edward Island, and to an intelligent gentleman in Newfoundland, the author is indebted for valuable information in regard to those islands. Brief notices of the other British possessions in Europe, Asia, and Africa have been added, in order to make our colonial survey complete.

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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

So cordially has the first edition of this Geography and History been received by the public, and so general has been the call for a second edition, that the author has lost no time in preparing one for the press. In order to make the work still more attractive, he has added several introductory pages of new matter, and inserted a few additional engravings.

Although the former arrangement of the pages has been retained, some sections have been re-written; and the chapter relating to the Indians has been entirely re-cast, as well as greatly improved and enlarged. This brief record of the early history of the aborigines of the country, the author deems to be essential to the completeness of any sketch of Canadian Geography and History, especially as traces of the musical language of the Indians still linger in the names of many of the civil and geographical divisions of the country which was once entirely their own.

In the preparation of this edition for the press, the acknowledgments of the author are especially due to the Rev. John Gray, of Orillia; the Rev. J. B. A. Ferland, Professor of History in the University of Laval, Quebec; and to the Rev. Louis Lafleche, for many years a missionary among the Indians at the north-west.*

The author has great pleasure in stating that, at the request of an enterprising Canadian publisher, he is now engaged in the preparation of a work on general geography and history (embracing every country in the world), which is designed to supersede the anti-British publications on geography, which are to be found in many of our schools.

* Thanks are also due to the Hon. P. J. O. Chanoine and to Henry Fisher, Esq., Chief Superintendents of Education in Lower Canada and New Brunswick, and to other gentlemen, for their kind assistance.

A FEW WORDS TO THE TEACHER.

To the teacher a few words from the author may not be inappropriate. In teaching the geography and history of a country, a map of the place described is an almost indispensable necessity. It aids in illustrating the lesson, gives interest to the instruction, and associates in the mind of the pupil the outline and chief features of the country, with its history, its memorable places, and the achievements of its sons. The Heights of Alma and the Heights of Queenston are historic spots alike to the French and English; but to be enabled to trace the course of the Alma and the Niagara, gives interest to the otherwise dry details, and fixes indelibly in the mind of the pupil the lesson of instruction sought to be imparted by the teacher.

Where a large map is not accessible to the teacher, it might be well to direct an expert pupil to draw upon the black-board from an atlas, an enlarged outline of the country described,—its rivers, mountains, and political divisions. This adds interest and variety to the lesson; and even where maps are available, practice of this kind is a sure means of imprinting upon the memory the boundaries, physical features and peculiarities of outline of the country thus depicted. Where this can be done by the class on a smaller scale, and as an exercise upon paper from time to time,—accompanying the outline with a written sketch of the subject of the lesson,—clearness and accuracy, as well as thoroughness will be acquired.

It would greatly facilitate the labor of the teacher were he, before assigning any lesson in geography and history, to test, by a few conversational questions, the pupil's knowledge of his own immediate neighborhood or residence, or that of the school house, the adjacent hills, streams, valleys, roads, country, town or village boundaries, etc. The pupil could thus be led to see that the geography and history, contained in the text book, were but an aggregate of local knowledge, collected into a convenient and accessible shape.

To the foot of each page has been added a series of questions in the form of exercises on the preceding lesson. These questions are simply designed to indicate the nature of the lesson on the page; and may be varied or omitted at the discretion of the teacher.

In regard to the geography and history of Upper and Lower Canada, the biographical and other notices inserted in the work, it may be proper to remark that they are given with some minuteness of detail. The teacher can, however, select such portions only as he may deem suitable for the less advanced among his pupils, and require the parts omitted to be mastered at some future time.

The short sketches of the Gulf Stream, (page 74,) "the banks," and submarine telegraph, of Newfoundland, etc., (pages 94, 95,) are inserted because of the general interest which attaches to them.

In order to make the survey of the Colonial Empire of Britain complete, brief notices of the British dependencies in Europe, Asia and Africa have been added to the work.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PREFACE - - - - -	iii
I. INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER - - - - -	1
II. SKETCH OF GENERAL GEOGRAPHY - - - - -	6
III. NORTH AMERICA - - - - -	12
IV. UPPER CANADA - - - - -	14
V. LOWER CANADA - - - - -	28
VI. THE PROVINCE OF CANADA - - - - -	27
VII. THE INDIANS OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA - - - - -	44
VIII. THE HISTORY OF CANADA - - - - -	80
IX. FAMOUS CANADIAN BATTLE-GROUNDS, OR FORTIFIED POSTS - - - - -	69
X. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES - - - - -	63
XI. PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA - - - - -	72
XII. HISTORY OF NOVA SCOTIA AND CAPS BRETON - - - - -	79
XIII. PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK - - - - -	82
XIV. HISTORY OF NEW BRUNSWICK - - - - -	85
XV. PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND - - - - -	88
XVI. HISTORY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND - - - - -	91
XVII. THE PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND - - - - -	92
XVIII. THE HISTORY OF NEWFOUNDLAND - - - - -	97
XIX. THE LABRADOR PENINSULA - - - - -	101
XX. HUDSON'S BAY TERRITORIES - - - - -	102
XXI. HISTORY OF THE HUDSON'S BAY TERRITORIES - - - - -	105
XXII. THE OTHER BRITISH COLONIES IN AMERICA - - - - -	108
XXIII. BRITISH COLONIES IN ASIA - - - - -	115
XXIV. BRITISH COLONIES IN AUSTRALASIA - - - - -	117
XXV. THE BRITISH COLONIES IN OR NEAR AFRICA - - - - -	119
XXVI. BRITISH DEPENDENCIES IN EUROPE - - - - -	122
Conclusion - - - - -	123
XXVII. Table of Colonial Chronology - - - - -	124
XXVIII. Table of Colonial Precedence - - - - -	128