

# **THE ELEMENTS OF GEOGRAPHY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649571611

The Elements of Geography by B. G. Johns

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**B. G. JOHNS**

# **THE ELEMENTS OF GEOGRAPHY**



THE  
ELEMENTS OF GEOGRAPHY

BY THE  
REV. B. G. JOHNS

AUTHOR OF 'A SHORT AND SIMPLE HISTORY OF ENGLAND'  
'OUTLINES OF ROMAN HISTORY' ETC.

NEW EDITION  
GREATLY ENLARGED, AND CORRECTED



LONDON  
CROSBY LOCKWOOD AND CO.  
7 STATIONERS'-HALL COURT, LODGATE HILL  
1881

2017. f. 12

## ADDRESS.

TO PRINCIPALS OF COLLEGES, HEADS OF SCHOOLS, AND  
INSTRUCTORS OF YOUTH.

—O—

THE very important political and geographical changes that have taken place during the past ten years, the increase of population, and the progress of the world, have rendered a thorough revision of this Geography absolutely necessary. For this New Edition the latest authorities have been consulted, and every care has been taken to ensure accuracy and correctness. Satisfied that a valuable and reliable Elementary Manual of Geography is available to instructors of youth and others interested in education, the Editor recommends it again with confidence to their notice, feeling certain that this New Edition will worthily take the same place so long held by its predecessors, and ensure its extended use and value.

*London, 1873.*

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IN the present edition the recent political alterations have been carefully recorded. Looking, however, to the date of the last issue, and the impending Censuses in England and the United States, it has not been thought advisable, except in one or two cases, to correct the statistics of population.

*London, 1890.*

## PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

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This little work is intended to contain such a course of elementary instruction as ought to be well mastered by the pupil before he advances to the strictly scientific study of Mathematical, Physical, and Political Geography. But while the selection of matter and the space devoted to each subject has been mainly determined with a view to this end, the Author has no fear of the work being charged, by sensible teachers, with incompleteness as a common school book, considering its size and the age of the pupils for which it is designed. As far as it goes, its plan is quite systematic; and great care has been taken that the information on population and political facts in general should be the most recent and accurate that can be obtained, and as full as the space will allow.

The plan which the Author recommends for pupils who have acquired a notion of what a map is, and a knowledge of the definitions contained in the first chapters in these pages, is to teach them, first, the physical features of a country, in this order:—1. Boundaries; 2. Capes; 3. Gulfs and Bays; 4. Mountains and Tablelands; 5. Rivers; 6. Forests and Deserts; 7. Natural productions:—and then the political facts in this order: 1. Towns; 2. Political divisions; 3. Population, Religion, and National character; 4. Form of Government.

A distinct knowledge of mountain chains and groups may be more successfully conveyed to a class by a rude map chalked on a black board, with mere lines to indicate



their relative position, than by a common map. The above sketch of England and Wales may be taken as a specimen. The chief rivers may be shown with advantage in the same way, their courses being distinguished from the mountain chains by a waved line.

It should be mentioned that the populations of towns are here stated, wherever it is possible, inclusive of their contiguous suburbs. For example, Manchester includes Salford; Portsmouth, Portsea, &c. In most small geographical works an inconvenient inconsistency prevails in this respect.

The questions appended to the chapters on Europe are intended as hints for the young teacher on the method of questioning, and not as complete exercises.

The few remarks which follow on the pronunciation of foreign names may be of some use.

*A* is almost always to be sounded as *a* in father; *u* as *oo*; *i* as *ee*; *eu*, in French names especially, as *o*, and in German as *ou*; *j* as *y*; *ci* as *i*; *ie* as *ee*; *eo*, in Italian, *t-tsh*; *g* before *e* and *i*, in German and the northern countries, is hard, but soft in southern countries; *th* is sounded as *t*; *s* as *ts*; *w* as *v* in German names; *qu* as *k*; *sh*, in Asiatic names, as *tsh*, in French as *sh*, in many European names, as *k*; Eastern names generally have an accent on the last syllable.

The following are examples:—Capri, *Câpres*—Badajos, *Bad'agos*—Ajaccio, *Ayas'tshio*—Leipzig, *Lîpsik*—Nassau, *Nassou*—Passau, *Passou*—Meinigen, *Mîsingên*—Theiss, *Tîss*—Pruth, *Pruts*—Schwarzburg, *Shvarts'burg*—Piacenza, *Pee-atshent'sa*—Quito, *Keeto*—Belouchistan, *Belootshis'tawn*—Chile, *Tshîles*—Chalons, *Shalon*—Nagpoor'—Tanjore'—Hydrabad'.

Mistakes are often made in the following words:—Auvergne, *Ovêr*—Bordeaux, *Bordo'*—Boulogne, *Bowloinyah*—Buonoe-Ayres, *Boon'-oe-airs*—Ca'dix—Cologne, *Coloinyah*—Genoa, *Jes'oa*—Lobunn, *Lob'dunn*—Lough, *Lo'h* (almost like *Lok*)—Marseilles, *Marsail*—Mo'dena—Rouen, *Rou'eng*—Sarawak, *Saras'wak*—Saone, *Sône*—Worcester, *Wooster*—Zuyder Zee, *Zui-der-Zed*—Peshawur, *Pesh'-our*.



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# G E O G R A P H Y.

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## CHAPTER I.

**GEOGRAPHY** is the description of the earth, considered as the abode of man.

The Earth is in the form of a ball or globe, something like an orange.

The Diameter of the earth is about eight thousand miles, and its Circumference about twenty-five thousand.

The surface of the globe is divided into land and water. The dry land forms one-third of the whole surface, and the water nearly two-thirds.

The greater part of the dry land is divided into two great portions called **WORLDS**. The older known part is called the **OLD WORLD**, and the other is called the **NEW WORLD**, because it has become known in modern times.

**A Terrestrial Globe** is a model of the earth.

**A Map** is a picture, or representation, upon a flat surface, of a portion of a surface of the globe.

**A Continent** is a very large tract of land.

**An Island** is a tract of land surrounded by water, smaller than a Continent.

**A Peninsula** is a piece of land nearly surrounded by water.