

Mr. Dupin, in his *Force Commerciale de la Grande Bretagne*, (1826,) writes:

"In Europe the British Empire borders at once towards the north upon Germany, upon Holland, upon France; towards the south upon Spain, upon Sicily, upon Italy, upon Western Turkey; *It holds the keys of the Adriatic and Mediterranean*; it commands the mouth of the Black Sea as well as the Baltic. In America it gives boundaries to Russia toward the Pole; and to the United States towards the Temperate regions. Under the Torrid Zone it reigns in the midst of the Antilles, encircles the Gulf of Mexico till at last it meets those States which it was the first to free from their dependence on their mother country, to make them more surely dependent on their own commercial industry, and, at the same time, to scare in either hemisphere any mortal who might endeavor to snatch the heavenly fire of genius, or the secrets of its conquests, it holds midway between Africa and America and on the road which connects Europe with Asia, that rock to which is chained the Prometheus of the modern world. In Africa from the centre of that island devoted of yore under the symbol of the Cross, to the safety of every Christian flag, the British Empire enforces from the Barbary States that respect which they pay to no other power. From the foot of the Pillars of Hercules it carries dread into the remotest parts of Morocco. On the shores of the Atlantic it has built the forts of the Gold Coast and of the Lion's Mountain. It is from thence that it strikes the prey which the Black furnishes to the European races of men; and it is there that it attaches to the soil the freedmen whom it snatches from the trade in slaves. On the same continent, beyond the tropics, and at the point nearest to the Austral Pole, it has possessed itself of shelter under the very Cape of Storms. Where the Spaniards and the Portuguese thought only of securing a port for their ships to touch at, where the Dutch saw no capabilities beyond those of a plantation, it is now establishing the colony of a second British people, and uniting English activity with Batavian patience, at this moment it is extending around the Cape the boundaries of a settlement which will increase in the south of Africa to the size of those States it had founded in the north of America. From this new focus of action and of conquest it casts its eye towards India; it discovers, it seizes the stations of most importance to its commercial progress, and thus renders itself the exclusive ruler over the passes of Africa from the east of another hemisphere. Finally, as much dreaded in the Persian Gulf and the Erythrean Sea as in the Pacific Ocean and the Indian Archipelago, the British Empire, the possessor of the finest countries of the east, beholds its factors reign over eighty millions of subjects. The conquests of its merchants in Asia begin where those of Alexander ceased and where the terminus of the Romans could not reach. At this moment from the banks of the Indus to the frontier of China, from the mouth of the Ganges to the mountains of Thibet, all ac-