

5. *Lakes*.—The principal lakes, or, as they are generally termed in Ireland, *loughs*, are Neagh* and Erne, in Ulster; Allen, Ree, and Derg, on the line of the Shannon; Corrib in Galway; another Lough Derg, near Lough Erne; and the Lakes of Killarney, in Kerry, celebrated for the great beauty of their scenery.

6. *Rivers*.—The principal rivers are the Shannon, which flows into the Atlantic by Limerick; the Barrow, Nore, and Suire, which unite, and fall into Waterford haven; the Bann, which flows through Lough Neagh; the Boyne, which passes Drogheda; the Black Water, which falls into Youghall harbour; the Liffey, which flows through Dublin; the Slaney, which falls into Wexford harbour; the Foyle, which passes Londonderry; the Lagan, which falls into the sea at Belfast; and the Lee, which passes Cork.†

7. *Chief Towns*.—The principal cities and towns are Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Belfast, Waterford, Drogheda, Londonderry, and Galway.‡

8. *Climate and Soil*.—The climate of Ireland is mild, but variable, and is more moist than that of Britain. The soil is in general rich and fertile, and the pastures excellent.§

* 4. Lough Neagh is the largest lake in the United Kingdom, being about 22 miles long and 12 broad, and having a surface of more than 95,000 acres, or nearly 150 square miles. Petrified wood is often found in this lake, and the adjoining country.

† 5. The Shannon has a course of more than 170 miles, and is larger than any river in Britain. It is navigable for vessels of considerable burden to Limerick, which is upwards of 60 miles from the sea. The Boyne is remarkable for the victory gained on its banks near Drogheda, in 1690, by William III. over James II.

‡ 6. In point of size, Dublin is the second city in the United Kingdom; having a population of 227,335. It is finely situated, and is remarkable for the beauty of its public buildings. Cork has an immense trade in the export of provisions; no fewer, it is supposed, than 100,000 head of cattle being annually slaughtered and salted between the months of August and January. Its population is 100,658. Limerick has a population of 59,045, and its chief trade is in provisions. The population of Belfast, in 1821, was upwards of 37,000; and, if to this the population of the suburb of Ballymacarrett were added, the amount would exceed 40,000. The town has since rapidly increased, and the population at present is probably from 45,000 to 50,000. It has an extensive trade in linen, provisions, American produce, &c.; and is a well-built, flourishing town. Waterford has a population of 28,679, and is much engaged in the provision trade. The population of Kilkenny is 23,250, of Drogheda 18,118, and of Derry 16,971. The amounts of population above stated are according to the census of 1821.

§ 7. The moistness of the climate is thought to arise from the vapour which is carried, by the prevailing westerly winds, from the Atlantic. The rain and dew which are thus produced, prevent the ground from being parched in such a degree as it frequently is in England; and produce those excellent pastures, and that perpetual verdure, for which Ireland is so remarkable.