

## Colonies: Ancient and Modern.

[The following essay obtained third prize in the competition held under the auspices of the Empire Club of London, open to students in the British Empire. The writer is Miss Loretta McManus, of New Castle, N.B. The first and second prizes were won by students in India.—Editor.]

**W**E, British students of this twentieth century, which we consider the "golden age" of the world's history, looking back on past ages learn from the civilization and the progress in colonization of those ancient times to regard with pride our own loved Empire, the grandest and most glorious that has existed since the world's creation.

Following back through the corridors of time we view: first, the great nations of the early centuries, those of the "Middle Ages," and finally the modern colonial empires. The search-light of history shows that the skill, labor, and enterprise displayed by great nations in the establishment of their colonies resulted in a rapid spread of the civilization, arts, and sciences of these nations. Our very alphabet comes to us as a result of Phoenician colonization.

The ancient nations, though not guided in their destiny by the light of Christianity, claim our admiration and gratitude. Many centuries have passed since they flourished. To-day, as we gaze on their ruins, we are reminded that, to their achievements, is due much of what we now enjoy of education, power, and thought, for as the poet says:

"Heirs we are of all the ages,  
The foremost in the files of time."

The word colony originally designated a body of people established in a foreign country, whether remaining subject to the mother country or having an independent government of their own. It now applies to the territory inhabited by such people, while the people themselves are known as colonists.

The Phoenicians, the earliest and most enterprising navigators of the ancient world, first set the example of colonization in the interests of their commerce.