

alone, as the various settlements of New Holland, &c. are becoming daily of increased commercial value and maritime utility.

The main object, however, in view, is to show the varied nature of our colonies,—how useful they are in every point of view,—and how valuable even a barren rock, in the midst of the ocean, may be to a commercial nation like England.

These points will be further exemplified in the chapters on Commerce and Finance, and in the other parts of this work.

If we look to the territorial extent of the Colonies we shall not be less surprised than at their number, varied nature, and position. In area they occupy in

	Square miles.
Asia ¹	550,000
West Indies	13,000
North America, excluding Hudson Bay territory of 370,000 sq. miles	435,000
South America, including British Guyana, Honduras and Falkland Isles	165,000
Africa, South and East	200,000
Africa, West	50,000
Australasia	500,000
Europe	1,500
Total	1,914,500

Or Acres 1,225,200,000

and let it be remembered that the far greater part is

¹ A recent writer on British India—said to be Mr. Crawford, and if so, well acquainted with the subject, and whom I quote, in order