

INTRODUCTION.

THIS book has been written with the object of giving to boys and girls in our elementary schools a simple and connected account of those parts of our great Empire which are outside of the British Islands, and in which so many of them are likely to find homes.

Within the limits of a small volume only the broadest outlines of a subject so vast can be drawn. General statistics, and such as seem likely to leave a distinct impression on the memory, have alone been given.

Special attention has been directed to grouping facts in such a way that their bearing upon the life of the nation may be easily grasped by young minds, and the closeness of the connection which exists between the industries and interests of our people abroad and of those who remain at home has been indicated as often as possible by familiar illustrations.

For the performance of the ordinary duties of citizenship it is every day becoming more essential that all British people should understand clearly the relation to