

THE 10005-85-11
ELEMENTS
OF
GEOGRAPHY,
SHORT and PLAIN.

Designed as

An Easy INTRODUCTION

TO THE

S Y S T E M

OF

G E O G R A P H Y

I N V E R S E,

BY ROBERT DAVIDSON, Esq.

Designed for the Use of SCHOOLS.

With or without Seven COPPER PLATES.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY T. WILKINS,
No. 23, ALDERMANBURY.

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TO THE
BRITISH YOUTH,
AND THE
YOUNG PEOPLE
AT
Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,

THE following easy Introduction to the Knowledge of **GEOGRAPHY** and the **GLOBES**, is now prefixed to a little System of Geography in Verse, which is entitled to a very large share of Merit.

It will give me great Pleasure to be a Page or Footman always to introduce that amiable and condescending Genius, Robert Davidson, Esq; into your Company. He is, I am informed, a Tutor in one of the American Seminaries of Learning: He may truly be stiled an excellent Teacher of Geography. We the People of England, are greatly obliged to him for his Care and Labour to improve us: and I trust we have Humility and good Sense enough to learn from an **AMERICAN**.

True Genius is confined to no one Climate or Quarter of the Globe: It knows no Party in Politics, it scorns all the Quarrels of Kingdoms and States, as utterly unworthy of a Moment's Regard.

It aims to enlighten and polish the Minds of Youth, and spread just Ideas of Religion and Science, and by mingling Pleasure with Instruction,

tion, diffuse a clear Knowledge of the stupendous Works of the Deity amongst Mankind.

GEOGRAPHY comprehends four extensive Channels for Knowledge to the Mind of the rising Age; First, the divine and accommodating Wisdom of a beneficent Creator, by the Obliquity of the Sphere to proportionate the Seasons of the northern and southern Hemispheres to the Constitution of the Inhabitants of those Regions, as well as to relieve the Inhabitants under the Equinoctial Line, that the constancy of the direct Solar Rays might not be insupportable to its Inhabitants—Secondly, the wise construction of the Surface of our Globe, so disposed by periodical Currents across the Great Seas, that is, the Flux and Reflux of the Tides towards its Shores, &c. &c. so that the most remote part of Lands are accessible for the purpose of Commerce.—Thirdly, the wise disposal of the Climates and Soil, as to furnish in every part vegetable, animal and mineral Productions peculiar to itself, thereby maintaining by wise necessity, a Chain of mutual Dependance.—The Fourth grand Use of Geography is this: It is of vast Importance to Religion and History.

Geography is one of the Eyes of History, both foreign and sacred. How shall we follow the Patriarchs, the Jews and the Apostles, in their various Travels, long Journies and Labours, if we are ignorant of Geography? That most accomplished Man, James Hervey, offered

assured me that after he entered into Holy Orders, being one Day at Dinner with a number of Gentlemen, the City Jerusalem was mentioned; he was so ignorant of Geography, as not to know in what Quarter of the World it stood*: he was so vexed and ashamed at his own Ignorance and his Tutor's Negligence, that he went immediately and bought a Book of Maps, and studied Geography with incessant Attention and Diligence; and to my certain Knowledge, few of the Clergy excelled him in this excellent branch of Science.

What a Shame does the Ignorance of so fine a Genius at twenty-two Years of Age, reflect upon his Tutor in Grammatical Learning, upon whom he had attended from seven to seventeen Years of Age; and upon his Tutor at Lincoln College, Oxford, at whose Feet he had sat for five Years more! Can any Man for one Moment doubt of Hervey's Genius, or Aptitude to excel in Learning! On whom then did the Blame and the Shame of such Ignorance remain? And we have Reason to fear, that Thousands and tens of Thousands of our Youth are equally ignorant of this most easy Science; and know no more of it than a certain Gentleman in a Coffee-house, who asked, if COPENHAGEN was not the Name of a Dutch Commander?

How can a Boy read Rollin's ancient History with Understanding and Pleasure, if he is ignorant of Geography? How can he sur-

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* This the Author had from his own Mouth.

vey the old Assyrian Empire, which lasted for 1450 Years? How can he know the Babylonian Empire and the Medo-Persian Empire, with the astonishing Series of Prophecies concerning the Destruction of Babylon?

How can he view the Marches and Battles of Alexander and Darius, foretold and described in the Book of Daniel, if he is unacquainted with Geography?

How can he understand the Rise, Progress, and Grandeur of the Roman Empire, foretold in Scripture, if he is ignorant of Geography?

How can he follow the great LORD of the Universe, when he travelled up and down in Judea, for three Years together? How can he trace the amazing Travels and Dangers by Sea and Land, of the Apostle Paul, to propagate the glorious Gospel amongst Mankind; if he is an Ignoramus in the Science of Geography?

How can a Boy or a Man know the Excellence and Glory of his *own* Country, its various Soils, Productions, Manufactures, Rivers, Mountains, Mines, and rich Valleys; with ten thousand other Beauties of England, without some Knowledge of Geography? In short, a Man must be a Baby or a Booby, in sensible Company, all the Days of his Life, if he take no Pains to make himself acquainted with this pleasing and useful Branch of Science.

If any inquisitive Youth should ask, How shall I attain this Accomplishment, so as to read all History with Understanding, and bear

Bear a Part in elegant and improving Conversation?—I answer, it requires no more Time or Pains than to play a Game at Marbles every Day.

Throw open the Introduction, read one Page a Day, with a Sixpenny Map of the Globe before you: then go on to a small Map of Europe of the same Price: make it a Pleasure and not a Task, the Knowledge will come as easy as singing to a Nest of young Birds in May. Persuade your Parents to reward your Diligence with a dissected Map of England, which you may put together in five Minutes, and learn its principal manufacturing Towns and Counties in one Week.

After this is done, go on to Europe, Asia, Africa and America: follow Captain Cook in his Voyages round the World: visit on the Map, his New Discoveries: trace out the Manners, the Characters and Ignorance of the various Inhabitants of those numerous Islands; and **NEW HOLLAND**, which by way of Pre-eminence, is called the fifth Quarter of the World, which is above two thousand Miles long: make a mental Visit to Botany Bay, and then come back and adore the infinite Goodness of the supreme Being to you! Admire his Works till you are lost in Astonishment! praise him with the highest Gratitude till your Spirits are all exhausted, and then beg of God to give you new Spirits to begin again and so go on to all Eternity!

That amiable learned and truly judicious Teacher of Science, Dr. Watts, observes

What is learnt in Verse is longer retained in Memory and sooner recollected. The like Sounds and the like number of Syllables exceedingly assist the Remembrance; and it may often happen, that a Line running in the Mind may be an effectual Means of bringing a number of kindred Lines into the Memory.

Mr. Davidson was well aware of this Advantage when he composed the following System of Geography in easy Verse, and he has chosen that kind of Verse which above all other, sticks on the Mind and Imagination; So that when a Boy has once got it by heart, it is almost impossible to forget it. Any Youth of either Sex, need only to make a Trial for a few Days, and he will soon convince Others as well as Himself of the Truth of this Assertion.

Much more may be said in Praise of the Uses of Geography, to the different Professions and Rank of Mankind, from the Prince on the Throne to the Artificer and Mechanic.

How contemptible must a Nobleman appear who is ignorant of this Science!

And for a Merchant who knows not so much of a Map or Sea Chart as to be able to tell to what Part of the World he has consigned his Property, or shall receive the Productions of the Universe; this must be truly pitiable! — And who dares stile himself a Scholar that is unacquainted with the easiest Science in the World?

THE
ELEMENTS

OF

GEOGRAPHY.

GEOGRAPHY is a Description of our
Globe, consisting of the Earth and Water.
The Globe is divided into four Parts, namely,
EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, and AMERICA.

EUROPE.

EUROPE is the first great Quarter of the World.

The Northern Division of EUROPE.

Chief Cities.	Kingdoms.	Religion.
1 London,	England,	Protestants.
2 Edinburg,	Scotland,	Protestants.
3 Dublin,	Ireland,	Protestants.
4 Copenhagen,	Denmark,	Protestants.
5 Bergen,	Norway,	Protestants.
6 Stockholm,	Sweeden,	Protestants.
7 Petersburg,	The Empire of Russia,	Christians of the Greek Church.

The Middle Division of EUROPE.

Chief Cities.	Kingdoms.	Religion.
8 <i>Paris,</i>	<i>France,</i>	Papists.
9 <i>Amsterdam,</i>	Republic of <i>Holland,</i>	Protestants.
10 <i>Hanover,</i>	King GEORGE'S German Do- minions,	Protestants.
11 <i>Berlin,</i>	<i>Prussia,</i>	Protestants.
12 <i>Warsaw,</i>	<i>Poland,</i>	Papists.
13 <i>Vienna,</i>	The Empire of <i>Germany,</i>	Papists.
14 <i>Presburg,</i>	<i>Hungary,</i>	Papists.

The Southern Division of EUROPE.

Chief Cities.	Kingdoms.	Religion.
15 <i>Lisbon,</i>	<i>Portugal,</i>	Papists.
16 <i>Madrid,</i>	<i>Spain,</i>	Papists.
17 <i>Geneva,</i>	Near the Cantons of <i>Switzerland,</i>	Protestants.
18 <i>Turin,</i>	Country of <i>Savoy,</i> <i>Piedmont,</i>	Papists.
19 <i>Genoa,</i>	Republic of <i>Genoa,</i>	Papists.
20 <i>Rome,</i>	Popedom of <i>Italy,</i>	Papists.
21 <i>Venice,</i>	Republic of <i>Venice,</i>	Papists.
22 <i>Constantinople,</i>	The Empire of <i>Turkey,</i>	Mahometans.

CHIEF

E U R O P E.

II

C H I E F I S L A N D S.

In the *Mediterranean Sea.*

Minorca, Majorca, Ivica, Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily, Malta, Corfu, Cephalonia, Zant, Candia.

B R I T I S H I S L E S.

Guernsey, Jersey, Wight, Anglesea, Man, Orkneys, Hebrides, Shetland.

C H I E F M O U N T A I N S.

Alps, between France and Italy.

Appennine Hills, in Italy.

Pyrenean Hills, between France and Spain.

Carpathian Mountains, in the South of Poland.

Peak, in Derbyshire.

Plinlimmon, in Wales.

V U L C A N O S, O R B U R N I N G M O U N T A I N S.

Vesuvius, in Naples.

Ætna, in the Island of Sicily.

Heckla, in the cold Isle of Iceland.

C H I E F R I V E R S.

The Thames and Severn, in England.

The Tay, in Scotland.

The Shannon, in Ireland.

The Tagus in Portugal.

The Po and Tiber, in Italy.

The Weisel or Vistula, in Poland.

The *Elbe*, the *Oder*, the *Rhine*, and the *Danube*,
in *Germany*.

The *Seine* and the *Rhone*, in *France*.

The *Don* and the *Volga*, in *Muscovy*.

The *Danube* and the *Volga* are the largest Rivers
in *EUROPE*. The *Danube* runneth through all
Germany and *Turkey* into the *Euxine* or *Black Sea*.
And the *Volga*, which some Writers attribute to
ASIA, because though it runs through great part
of *Muscovy*, yet it empties itself into the *Caspian*
Sea.

A S I A.

ASIA is the second great Quarter of the World.

ASIA, may be divided into these five Parts, namely, *Turkey, Persia, India, China, and Tartary.*

The Dominions of the *Turks* in ASIA, contain several Countries in it, namely, *Natolia, Palestine, Arabia, Georgia.*

First, *Natolia* or *Asia Minor*, which is a Peninsula between the *Euxine* and the *Mediterranean* Seas, where lay the ancient Countries of *Galatia, Cappadocia, Pontus, Bithynia, Lycaonia, Cilicia, Phrygia, and Pamphlia*, through which the Apostle *Paul* travelled and made many Converts.

Here were the seven famous Churches of ASIA, to which the Epistles were written in the second and third Chapters of the Book of the *Revelation*, namely, *Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamus, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea*, many of them are now called by different Names, but *Smyrna* is one of the chief Cities in the whole Country.

Secondly, *Palestine*, or the *Holy Land*, with all the adjacent Countries of *Syria, Chaldaea, Mesopotamia, &c.* The chief Towns in it now are *Alep-*

po, Scanderoon or Alexandretta, Bagdat or Babylon, Damascas, and Jerusalem.

Thirdly, *Arabia*, which was anciently divided into *Arabia Felix*, or the Happy; *Arabia Deserta*, or the Desert; and *Arabia Petrea*, or the Stony; lying all between the *Persian Gulph* and the *Red Sea*. Its chief Towns are *Mecca* and *Medina*.

Fourthly, *Georgia*, or *Turkomania*, formerly called *Armenia Major*, are Northern Provinces belonging to the *Turks*, that lie between the *Euxine* and the *Caspian Sea*.

Persia, a large Empire, lies Eastward from *Turkey*, between the *Caspian*, and *Indian Sea*, its chief City is *Ispahan*.

India is divided into two Parts by the River *Ganges*. *India* on this side the *Ganges* contains the greatest Part of the Empire of the great *Mogul*, whose chief City is *Agra*.

In a Peninsula in this Part of *India*, are various Settlements of the European Nations, as at Fort *St George*, *Tranquebar*, *Goa*, &c.

Beyond the River *Ganges*, lies another large Peninsula which contains the Countries of *Pegu*, *Siam*, *Tanquin*, and *Cochin-China*.

Eastward of all these lies, the Empire of *China*, a large and polite Nation, whose chief City is *Pekin*.

Great Tartary takes up all the Northern Part of *ASIA*. That which borders upon *Muscovy* in *ASIA*, is often called *Muscovy* in *ASIA*; the whole is a
savage

savage, unpolished and unknown Country, as to the Parts as well as the Inhabitants of it; and how far it reaches to the North East, no Man in this Part of the World can determine.

C H I E F I S L A N D S.

There are a great Number of Islands which belong to ASIA, the chief of which are *Japan*, *Borneo*, *Celebes*, *Java*, *Sumatra*, *Ceylon*, the *Philippine Isles*, the *Maldivæ Isles*; also those in the Eastern Ocean, and *Cyprus* in the *Mediterranean Sea*.

C H I E F M O U N T A I N S.

The chief Mountains are *Imaus*, *Caucasus*, and *Ararat*, which are but different Parts of the long Ridge of Hills which run through ASIA, from the West to the East, and is called by the ancient and general Name of Mount *Taurus*.

C H I E F R I V E R S.

The most remarkable Rivers are the *Tigris* and *Euphrates*, in *Turkey*. *Ganges* and *Indus*, in *India*, whence the whole Country took its Name.

AFRICA.

A F R I C A.

AFRICA is the third great Quarter of the World.

AFRICA may be divided into the following Territories; namely, *Egypt, Barbary, Bildulgerid, Zaara, Nigricia, Guinea, Nubia, Abyssinia, and Ethiopia.*

Egypt lies to the North East, and joins to *ASIA*, its chief Cities are *Grand Cairo* and *Alexandria*.

Barbary is a long Country; it comprehends most part of the ancient *Mauritania*, or the Country of the *Moors*; it lies along the Coast of the *Mediterranean Sea*; its chief Towns are *Fez, Morrocco, Mequinez, Sallee, Tangier, Algiers, Ceuta, Tunis, Tripoli, Barca.*

Bildulgerid or the ancient *Numidia*; its chief Town is *Dara*. It lies South and South East of *Barbary*, unless it be reckoned a Part of it.

Zaara comes next, it is a desert inland Country and much unknown. So is,

Nigritia, or the Land of the Negroes. It lies to the South of *Zaara*, as *Guinea* is situated in the South of *Nigritia*.

The Tooth or Ivory Coast, the *Quaqua* Coast, the Gold Coast, are several Divisions of *Guinea*, well known to Mariners.

Nubia

Nubia lies Southward of *Egypt*, as *Abyssinia* does to the South of *Nubia*; both near the Coast of the *Red Sea*.

Ethiopia has been given as a general Name to all the Countries that compose the South East and South Part of *AFRICA*, at least all the Maritime Countries or Coast, from *Guinea*, on the Western Side, to *Abyssinia* or *Nubia*, on the East; sometimes it includes *Abyssinia* also, which is called the lesser or inner *Ethiopia*.

In the more Southern Parts of *Ethiopia*, are the inland Kingdoms of *Monomotapa* and *Monoemungo*.

On the Western Coast, *Congo*, *Loango*, *Angola*.

The Eastern Coast is *Zanquebar*, or the *Mozambique*.

The Southermost Coast is inhabited by *Caffres* and *Hottentots*, near the Cape of *Good Hope*, who are noted for their Stupidity, living in the most brutal and barbarous Manner, as though they had little of human Nature in them besides their Shape.

C H I E F I S L A N D S.

The chief Islands near *AFRICA*, are the large Isle of *Madagascar*, called the Isle of *St Laurence*, that lies towards the Eastern Sea.

On the West and North West, are the small Islands of *Cape Verd*, the *Canary Islands*, the *Madeira*s, with others of lesser Note in the *Ethiopian* Sea.

C H I E F.

CHIEF MOUNTAINS.

The most remarkable Mountains are *Atlas*, or the *Atlantic Hills* in the West of *Barbary*, which were supposed by the Ancients, to be the highest in the World; hence came the Fable of *Atlas*, a Giant, bearing the Heavens upon his Shoulders.

The Mountains of the Moon, lie much more Southward toward *Manomotapa*, from whence issue the Head of the *Nile*; and the exceeding high Hill of *Teneriff*, is among the *Canary Islands*.

CHIEF RIVERS.

The most remarkable Rivers in AFRICA, are the *Nile* and the *Niger*.

The *Nile*, runs through all the Eastern Part of the Country, and empties itself into the *Mediterranean Sea*, by many Mouths at the Land of *Egypt*.

The River *Senegal*, anciently called *Niger*, runs through *Negroland*, into the *Atlantic Ocean*.

, AMERICA.

A M E R I C A.

AMERICA is the fourth great Quarter of the World.

AMERICA, is divided into two Parts, North and South, which are joined together by a Neck of Land called the Isthmus of *Darien*, or *Panama*.

N O R T H A M E R I C A.

New Britain, with *Hudson's Bay*.

English Canada, the chief Town is *Quebec*, the People are Protestants and Papists.

Colonies.	Chief Towns.	Religion.
<i>New Brunswick</i> ,	<i>St John's</i>	Protestants.
<i>Nova Scotia</i> ,	<i>Halifax</i> ,	Protestants.

A M E R I C A N S T A T E S.

<i>New England</i> ,	<i>Boston</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>New Hampshire</i> ,	<i>Portsmouth</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>Connecticut</i> ,	<i>Newhaven</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>Rhode-Island</i> ,	<i>Newport</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>New York</i> ,	<i>New York</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>New Jersey</i> ,	<i>Bridlington</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>Maryland</i> ,	<i>St Mary</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>Pensylvania</i> ,	<i>Philadelphia</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>Virginia</i> ,	<i>James-Town</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>North Carolina</i> ,	<i>Edington</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>South Carolina</i> ,	<i>Charles-Town</i> ,	Protestants.
<i>Georgia</i> ,	<i>Savanna</i> ,	Protestants.

CHIEF

CHIEF ISLANDS.

Newfoundland, Cuba, Hispaniola, Jamaica, Bahama Isles, Caribee Isles, California, a large and long Island.

CHIEF MOUNTAINS.

Apalachian, which divides Florida from the more Northern Countries.

CHIEF RIVERS.

St Laurence River, which divideth New England from New France.

Mississippi River, where the French have made late Settlements; the chief Town on this River is New Orleans.

SOUTH AMERICA.

Terra Firma, Peru, Amazons, Guianna, Brazil, Chili, Paraguay, Terra Magellanica, Patagonia, Mexico, chiefly inhabited by Spaniards and Portuguese.

CHIEF ISLANDS.

Terra del Fuego, or Magellan's Land, which lies near the main Land.

CHIEF MOUNTAINS.

Andes, a long Ridge of Mountains running from the South of AMERICA towards the North; Travellers suppose them to be the highest in the World.

CHIEF RIVERS.

Amazons, with all its Branches.

Rio de la Plata, or the River of Plate.

ANALEMMA,

A N A L E M M A,

O R,

Projection of the Sphere drawn on the Plane of the Meridian for the Latitude of London $51^{\circ} 30'$.

- N S The North and South Pole,
- H O The Horizon.
- Z D The Zenith and Nadir.
- E Q The Equinoctial Line.
- M ♋ The Ecliptic, or Sun's Path.
- M ♌ The Tropic of Cancer.
- W ♍ The Tropic of Capricorn.
- x p The Artic Circle.
- p x The Antartic Circle.
- M The Sun's Place in the Ecliptic, *June 21.*
- C The Sun's Place in Aries or Libra, *March 21, and September 22.*
- ♋ The Sun's Place in the Winter Solstice, *December 22.*
- M ♌ The Sun's Path the longest Day.
- E Q The Sun's Path the two Equinoctial Days.
- W ♍ The Sun's Path the shortest Day.

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From M to R, is the longest Day; and from R to S, is the shortest Night; from E to C, is equal Day; and from C to Q, is equal Night; from W to I, is the shortest Day; and from I to W, is the longest Night.

DEFINITIONS.

The Sun's Declination is the Distance of the Sun from the Equinoctial, and is counted on the Brazen Meridian by Degrees, and is called either North or South, according to which Side of the Equinoctial the Declination is.

From E to M, or from Q to S, is the greatest North Declination, and from E to W, or from Q to W, is the greatest South Declination.

Sun's Meridian Altitude is the greatest Height of the Sun above the Horizon at Twelve o'Clock at Noon. From H to M, is the greatest Meridian Altitude for the two Equinoctial Days, containing thirty-eight Degrees and an Half.

From H to W, is the greatest Meridian Altitude for the shortest Day, containing fifteen Degrees.

Sun's Ascensional Difference is its Distance from Six o'Clock at its Rising or Setting.

Sun's Ascensional Difference for the longest Day is from R to 6; it is Midnight full North at Cancer; and the longest Day it rises at R; it is Six o'Clock at 6; it is full East at V; it is Twelve o'Clock at Noon full South at M.

It

It has no Ascensional Difference for the two Equinoctial Days, because it rises at Six and sets at Six.

It is Midnight full North at Q, and for the two Equinoctial Days it rises at Six, and it is Twelve o'Clock full South at E.

The Sun's Ascensional Difference for the shortest Day, is from G. to I; it is Midnight full North at W; it is full East at K; it is Six o'Clock at G; it rises at I; it is Twelve o'Clock at Noon full South at W.

Sun's Amplitude is its Distance from East to West at its Rising or Setting. From R to C, is the Sun's Amplitude for the Summer Solstice. From I to C, is the Sun's Amplitude for the Winter Solstice.

It has no Amplitude for the two Equinoctial Days, because it rises at Six full East, and sets at Six full West.

Sun's semidiurnal Arch is half the Arch that it makes above the Horizon.

From M to R, is the Sun's semidiurnal Arch for the longest Day. From E to C, is the Sun's semidiurnal Arch for the two Equinoctial Days; and from W to I, is the Sun's semidiurnal Arch for the shortest Day.

*The SIGNS of the SUN's Path
in the Ecliptic.*

♈	ARIES, the Ram,	March 21
♉	TAURUS, the Bull,	April 20
♊	GEMINI, the Twins,	May 21.
♋	CANCER the Crab,	June 21.
♌	LEO the Lion,	July 22.
♍	VIRGO the Virgin,	August 22.
♎	LIBRA, the Scales,	September 22.
♏	SCORPIO, the Scorpion,	October 23.
♐	SAGITTARIUS, the Archer,	November 22.
♑	CAPRICORNUS, the Sea-Goat,	December 22.
♒	AQUARIUS, the Water Pot,	January 21.
♓	PISCES, the Fishes,	February 20.

The R H Y M E.

The RAM, the BULL, the heavenly TWINS,
And next the CRAB the LION shines,
The VIRGIN and the SCALES;
The SCORPION, ARCHER, and SEA-GOAT,
The Man that holds the WATER-POT,
And FISH with glittering Tails.



GEOGRAPHY