

PART I.
TERRITORY.

The territorial limits of the United States include that portion of the continent of North America, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean, which is bounded by the British possessions on the North, and by the Gulf of Mexico and the Mexican Republic on the South.

The superficial area of the Union, according to a computation made by the Topographical Bureau at the close of 1853, and subsequently reviewed and amended, amounted on the first of January, 1854, to *two millions nine hundred and thirty-six thousand, one hundred and sixty-six square miles*, being somewhat more than one-third of the area of the continent of North America.

The treaty of 1854 with Mexico settles the boundaries of the two republics as follows. "Retaining the same dividing line between the two Californias as already defined and established according to the 5th article of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the limits between the two Republics shall be as follows: Beginning in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land, opposite the mouth of the Rio Grande, as provided in the 5th article of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo; thence, as defined in the said article up the middle of that river to the point where the parallel of 31 deg. 47 min. north latitude crosses the same; thence due west one hundred miles; thence south to the parallel of 31 deg. 20 min. north latitude; thence along the said parallel of 31 deg. 20 min. to the 111th meridian of longitude west of Greenwich; thence in a straight line to a point on the Colorado river, twenty English miles below the junction of the Gila and Colorado rivers; thence up the middle of the said river Colorado, until it intersects the present line between the United States and Mexico."

TABLE I.—Area of North America, exclusive of the West Indies.

Territory.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.
United States, as ascertained by the Topographical Bureau		2,936,166
British America, { New Britain.....	2,598,837	
{ Upper and Lower Canada.....	246,800	
{ Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Cape Breton, &c.....	101,701	
Mexico.....		3,050,308
Central America.....		1,038,894
Russian America.....		203,551
Danish America, (Greenland,).....		394,000
		380,000
Total square miles.....		**8,002,940

† According to Balbi's estimate of the area of North America. Another estimate gives New Britain but 500,000 square miles.

‡ McCulloch. The late Canadian census gives 242,482 square miles as the area over which jurisdiction is actually extended.

§ Guilbert gives 962,500 kilometres carrés, or 371,611 square miles.

|| Greenland from present information would appear to be a triangular island, 1,500 miles long and 600 miles in its greatest breadth. Its area, therefore, cannot be greater than we state above. Guilbert gives the area of Danish America 3,861 square miles, and McCulloch only 170, meaning only that portion which has been explored.

** The area of the continent of North America is variously estimated by geographers at from five to seven millions of square miles. Guyot ("Earth and Man") estimates it at 5,472,000, and that of Europe at 2,688,000, exclusively of islands. The following tables have been carefully compiled from the latest official sources. Where these were wanting recourse has been had to Guilbert ("Dictionnaire Geographique,") and the *Gotha Almanach.* In the quarto volume of the Census the figures for Europe were entirely adopted from McCulloch, and differ in several particulars as well as in the aggregate from those which are now given. It is needless to say that exactness cannot be expected in such calculations, but only the best approximation.

TABLE II.—Territorial Extent of European and South American States, &c.

STATES.	Area in sq. miles.	STATES.	Area in sq. miles.
Russia (in Europe).....	2,120,397	Hesse Darmstadt.....	3,230
Austria.....	257,368	Mecklenberg Schwerin	5,307
France.....	207,145	Oldenburg.....	2,432
Great Britain.....	121,912	Nassau.....	1,785
Prussia.....	107,921	Other German States.....	10,168
Spain.....	132,270	Naples and Sicily.....	44,401
Turkey.....	210,585	Sardinia and Piedmont.....	22,276
Sweden and Norway.....	233,313	Papal States.....	15,893
Belgium.....	11,300	Tuscany.....	8,511
Portugal.....	36,510	Parma and Lucca.....	2,380
Holland.....	12,601	Modena.....	2,316
Denmark.....	22,533	Andorre.....	191
Bavaria.....	20,637	San Marino.....	23
Hanover.....	14,734	Swiss Confederation.....	14,950
Wurtemberg.....	7,522	Greece.....	17,909
Saxony.....	5,750	Ionian Islands.....	980
Baden.....	5,918		
Hesse Cassel.....	3,740		
			3,811,594

TABLE II.—Continued.

STATES.	Area in sq. miles.	STATES.	Area in sq. miles.
WEST INDIES.		SOUTH AMERICA.	
San Domingo	29,000	Venezuela	417,603
Spanish } Cuba	42,383	New Grenada	381,540
} Porto Rico	3,885	Ecuador	318,750
British } Trinidad	2,020	Bolivia	374,490
} Jamaica	6,250	Peru	580,550
} Leeward Islands	864	Chile	130,115
} Windward Island	778	Argentine Confederation	641,956
} Bahamas	3,982	Uruguay	104,133
} Turks Island and Caicos	434	Paraguay	76,500
French } Guadaloupe	631	Brazil	2,762,500
} Martinique	363	Guiana, British	96,000
Dutch West Indies	600	Guiana, Dutch	38,500
Danish West Indies	192	Guiana, French	27,580
Swedish West Indies	25	Patagonia	300,000
	91,406		6,310,184

The limits of the United States when their independence was achieved (1783) did not exceed 820,680 square miles. Louisiana, purchased from France in 1803, and Florida from Spain in 1819, added respectively an extent of 899,579 and 66,900 square miles. In 1842 and 1846 the Northern boundary was settled by treaties with Great Britain, confirming the rights of the United States to 308,052 square miles, included in the Territory of Oregon, &c. In 1846 Texas was annexed, with an area of 318,000 square miles, and by a treaty soon afterwards with Mexico an area of 522,955 additional square miles was incorporated. Thus did the territory of the United States double itself in the first twenty years of its existence, and thus has it increased over three-fold in less than sixty years. The figures are given upon the authority of a statement prepared at the Topographical Bureau for the Census office, and annexed. The new treaty with Mexico, if ratified by the Senate, will add a fraction more and swell the aggregate to about 3,000,000 square miles.*

TABLE III.—Territorial increase of the United States.

Territory.	Sq. Miles.
Area of the United States at the peace of 1783	820,680
The purchase of Louisiana added (about)	899,579
(The limits were indefinite; those here assumed are the boundaries of the treaty of 1819, with the exception of Florida and parts of Mississippi and Alabama.)	
The acquisition of Florida, (treaty of 1819,) added	66,900
Admission of Texas, (Elnory's map of 1844,)	318,000
Oregon treaty	308,052
Treaty with Mexico†	522,955
Total	2,936,166

The territorial extent of the Republic is, therefore, nearly ten times as large as that of Great Britain and France combined; three times as large as the whole of France, Britain, Austria, Prussia, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Holland, and Denmark, together; one-and-a-half times as large as the Russian empire in Europe; one-sixth less only than the area covered by the fifty-nine or sixty empires, states, and Republics of Europe; of equal extent with the Roman empire, or that of Alexander, neither of which is said to have exceeded 3,000,000 square miles.‡

Considered in lesser divisions, the calculations of the Topographical Bureau show the existence of an interior valley drained by the waters of the Mississippi and its tributaries, nearly as large as the slopes of the Pacific and Atlantic proper together, and one-third larger than the whole domain of the Republic upon the adoption of the present Constitution, (1789.)

* The treaty has been ratified but with a reduction of the contemplated area to 27,500 square miles, making the total area of the Union July 1st, 1854, 2,963,666 square miles.

† These estimates are lower than those usually made. Morse, in his Gazetteer estimates the area of the Union in 1783 at 1,000,000 square miles, and Major Stoddard, who took possession of Louisiana under the treaty and prepared a very valuable history of it, considers the area to be 1,307,260. These, of course, were but vague estimates, subject to after correction. Again, Oregon has generally been estimated at 341,463, Texas, 402,907, California 448,691. *De Bow's Industrial Resources, Vol. 3, Art. U. S.*

‡ The Mesilla Valley is included in the computation.

§ Voltaire, "Histoire de Russie," Chap. I.

TABLE IV.—Area of each slope and ratio to the total area of the U. States.

Territory.	Area in sq. miles.	Ratio of area of each slope to total area of U. S.
Pacific slope.....	766,002	26.09
Atlantic slope proper.....	514,416	17.53
Northern Lake region.....	112,649	3.83
Gulf region.....	329,537	11.09
Atlantic, Lake and Gulf east and west of the Mississippi.....	952,002	32.44
Mississippi valley, drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries.....	1,217,562	41.47
Atlantic, including Northern Lake.....	627,065	21.35
Mississippi valley and Gulf or Middle region.....	1,543,099	52.55
Total.....	2,936,166	

Thus, over two-fifths of the national territory is drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries, and more than one-half is embraced in what may be called its *Middle Region*. One-fourth of this total area belongs to the Pacific, one-sixth to the Atlantic proper, one-twenty-sixth to the Lakes, one-ninth to the Gulf, or one-third to the Atlantic, including the Lakes and the Gulf.*

A calculation made at the office of the Coast Survey in 1853, gives for the total main shore line of the United States, (exclusively of bays, sounds, islands, &c.,) 12,609 statute miles. If all of these be followed, and the rivers entered to the head of tide water, the total shore line will be swelled to 33,069 miles.

TABLE V.—Shore Line of the United States in Statute Miles.

COASTS.	Main shore, including bays, sounds, &c.		Proportion of each part of coast to total.		Islands.	Proportion.		Rivers to head of tide.	Proportion.		Total.	Proportion.		Ocean line in steps of ten miles.	Continental shore line of States North of Virginia.	Continental shore line of States South of Maryland.
	Miles.	Per cent.	Miles.	Pr. ct.		Miles.	Pr. ct.		Miles.	Pr. ct.		Miles.	Pr. ct.			
Atlantic coast.....	6,861	54.41	6,328	68.44			6,055	59.35	19,844	69.01	2,050		907		1,256	
Pacific coast.....	2,281	18.09	702	7.59			712	6.35	3,695	11.17	1,405					
Gulf coast.....	3,467	27.50	2,217	23.97			3,846	34.30	9,530	28.82	1,643				1,764	
Total.....	12,609	100.00	9,247	100.00			11,213	100.00	33,069	100.00	5,107		907		3,020	

* From the charts prepared some years ago by Col. Gilpin, of Missouri, it will be perceived that a circle described from the forks of the Kansas river, west of Missouri, will touch New Orleans and Galveston, or the Gulf frontier, and the 49th parallel of latitude, our northern boundary, making these points equidistant from the centre. On a larger circle, with the same centre, the points of equidistance will be San Francisco, in California, Fort Vancouver on the Columbia, in Oregon, Quebec and Boston upon the Atlantic, Hudson's Bay on the extreme north, and Havana, Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico on the extreme south. The various great basins, declivities and table lands on the continent he estimates as follows: Mississippi basin 1,123,100 square miles; St. Lawrence 475,400; Hudson's Bay 1,077,300; Mackenzie basin 896,500; Pacific declivity 420,000; Atlantic declivity 270,700 square miles.

Mr. Darby, in his "Geographical Dictionary," gives the following aggregates: Valley of the Ohio 200,000 square miles; Valley of the Mississippi proper 180,000; Valley of the Missouri 500,000; and the Valley of the Lower Mississippi 330,000: total 1,210,000 square miles.

Lieut. Maury compares the basins of the Old World with those which are drained into the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean seas.

Mediterranean in Europe.....	1,160,000	Basin of Mississippi.....	982,000
Nile.....	520,000	Basins in Florida and Texas.....	526,000
Euphrates.....	196,000	Mexico and Central America.....	300,000
Indus.....	312,000	Amazon.....	1,796,000
Ganges.....	432,000	Orinoco and all others of the Caribbean sea,	700,000
Irrawaddy.....	331,000		
Others of India.....	173,000	Total of Gulf and Caribbean sea.....	4,298,000
Of Western Europe, Rhine, &c.....	730,000		3,854,000

Total of Mediterranean India and W. Europe 3,854,000 Difference in square miles..... 444,000

Lieut. Maury remarks "the area of all the valleys which are drained by the rivers of Europe which empty into the Atlantic, all the valleys that are drained by the rivers of Asia which empty into the Indian ocean, and of all the valleys that are drained by the rivers of Africa and Europe which empty into the Mediterranean, does not cover an extent of territory as great as that included in the valleys drained by the American rivers alone, which discharge themselves into one central sea."

Dr. Patterson, of Philadelphia, made the centre of *representative population* of the Union in 1840 in the north-western extremity of Virginia, and states that it had travelled westward since 1790, when it was in Baltimore county, Md., 182 miles in very nearly the same parallel of latitude.

The main shore line of the Atlantic including Bays, &c., is twice that of the Gulf, three times that of the Pacific and more than equal to that of the Pacific and Gulf combined. The Southern States have three times as much sea coast as the Northern.

The extent of shore line is an important element in determining the commercial character of a nation. In this regard Europe is more favored than any other portion of the earth, and North America next; the former having, according to Guyot ("Earth and Man") only 156 miles, and the latter 228 miles of surface to one mile of coast (the United States having 241) whilst South America has 376, Africa 623 and Asia 459 miles.

The table which follows furnishes three measurements, viz:

1st. <i>The Coast Line</i> , i. e. sea coast, bays, islands, &c., "as if an odometer wheel were passed over the high water line," and the results are for the Atlantic coast.....	12,359 miles.
The rivers to head of tide have not been measured, but from a former table the length total is both shores.....	6,655 "
For the Gulf of Mexico, the coast line is.....	5,744 "
Length of rivers to head of tide, from same table.....	3,846 "
2d. <i>Coast line, exclusive of islands and rivers</i> to head of tide.	
For the Atlantic.....	6,017 "
" Gulf.....	5,551 "
3d. <i>Coast line, exclusive of bays, islands, &c., &c., except Massachusetts bay—Atlantic</i>	2,163 "
Do. do. do. Gulf.....	1,764 "

These results are somewhat greater than those of Table V., and are believed to be nearer the truth by the amount of the difference.

TABLE VI.—*The results of measurements of Coast and Shore line of the United States as required by the Superintendent of the Census Bureau from the Coast Survey of July 12, 1854, are as follows, in statute miles:*

STATES.	Shore line including bays, islands and all irregularities.	Shore line except islands.	Continent line viz: shore line except islands, bays, &c.	REMARKS.
Maine.....	2,485	784	278	Measurements taken on best maps of the Coast Survey Archives:
New Hampshire....	49	41	18	Measured on Greenleaf's map of Maine, as correct as possible, but the great irregularities of coast prevent a correct result.
Massachusetts.....	885	622	286	Measured on Garrigue's map of N. H., generally correct and compared with Smith's map.
Rhode Island.....	320	245	45	Measured on Borden's map of Mass., generally correct as compared with Smith's map.
Connecticut.....	232	240	104	Measured on Smith's and Mitchell's maps.
New York.....	980	50	none	Measured on Coast Survey off shore charts.
New Jersey.....	546	300	120	do. do. do. do.
Delaware.....	118	106	23	do. do. do. do.
Maryland.....	509	411	33	Measured on F. Lucas' map of Md., Ches. Bay and C. S. Sketches and Charts.
				Measured on F. Lucas' map of Md., Ches. Bay and C. S. Sketches and Charts.
Northern Atlantic.	6,150	2,799	907	From N. E. boundary to State line between Md. & Va.
Virginia.....	654	348	116	Measured on F. Lucas' map of Md. & C. S. maps.
North Carolina.....	1,641	1,089	320	Measured on Brazier's map of N. C., and compared with Smith's.
South Carolina.....	755	267	220	Measured on Smith's map and compared with Mitchell's.
Georgia.....	684	450	128	do. do. do. do.
Florida East Coast..	2,474	1,034	472	Measured on map of Topographical Engineers.
Southern Atlantic.	6,239	3,218	1,256	From State line between Md. and Va. to S. extremity of Florida.
Total Atlantic....	12,359	6,017	2,163	
Florida West Coast.	1,532	883	674	Measured on map of Topographical Engineers.
Alabama.....	315	247	58	Measured on Smith's map and compared with Mitchell's.
Mississippi.....	287	225	88	do. do. do. do.
Louisiana.....	2,250	1,253	532	Measured on Gerdes' Reconnoissances and Smith's map.
Texas.....	1,330	940	282	Measured on Blunt's and Smith's map.
Total Gulf.....	5,744	3,551	1,764	
Total South Atlantic and Gulf.....	11,983	6,769	3,020	
Total Pacific, from boundary of San Diego to the mouth Frazer's river*....	3,251	2,533	1,343	Measured on Alden's Reconnoissances.

* Or 1,313 miles of shore line of contingent coast on the Pacific; 483 miles of shore line of bays; 787 miles of shore line from Cape Flattery to Frazer's river; 414 miles of shore line of islands in the Pacific, and 304 miles of shore line of islands from Cape Flattery to Frazer's river. The Atlantic and Gulf States were measured also on Burr's maps and Blunt's coast charts.

The following table will show the distances between some of the leading points of the United States by the nearest mail routes. That a better judgment may be formed of the extent of the country, they are compared with nearly equidistant foreign cities.

TABLE VII.—Comparative Distances—American and Foreign Cities.

American Cities.	Distance in miles.	Nearly equidistant American and Foreign Cities.	Distance in miles.
Pittsburg to Boston	616	Paris to Vienna.....	625
New York to Mobile.....	1,476	Paris to St. Petersburg.....	1,510
Philadelphia to Pensacola.....	1,443	St. Petersburg to Constantinople.....	1,450
Boston to Nashville.....	1,530	London to Constantinople, (land route)...	1,499
Albany to Richmond.....	505	Paris to Berlin.....	540
New York to Charleston.....	790	London to Vienna.....	700
New York to Cleveland, (Ohio).....	671	Paris to Rome.....	700
Boston to Galveston, (Texas).....	2,256	Stockholm (Sweden) to Madrid*.....	2,180
New York to Astoria, (land route).....	3,523	London to Ispahan Persia*.....	3,520
New York to Astoria, (via Cape Horn).....	17,500	Liverpool to Canton, (via Cape of Good Hope).....	18,000
New York to San Diego, Cal. (land route).....	3,732	London to Delhi, (Hindustan)*.....	5,337
Charleston to Hartford.....	900	New York to Bremen, (across Atlantic) ..	3,800
New York to New Orleans.....	1,640	London to Rome.....	910
Falls of St. Anthony to mouths of Mississippi river.....	2,300	London to Constantinople, (by land)*.....	1,490
Sources of Mississippi to mouths of Mississippi.....	2,986	Stockholm (Sweden) to Tunis (Africa)*.....	2,200
Pittsburg to New Orleans via river.....	2,175	St. Petersburg to Thebes (Egypt)*.....	2,800
		St. Petersburg to Madrid*.....	2,100

The citizen of the United States arriving at New Orleans from New York has passed over a distance more than equal to that separating London from Constantinople, or Paris from St. Petersburg. If he has taken the land route to Astoria his travel will be nearly as great as from New York to Bremen; if the water route, he will have made a voyage nearly equal to one from London to Canton.

The United States consist at the present time (1st July 1854,) of thirty-one independent States and nine Territories, including the District of Columbia, whose areas will be found in the table annexed, prepared at the Topographical Bureau. It is the only official statement. There were, in 1850, sixteen hundred and twenty county divisions included within the organized States and Territories, but it is impossible to give any satisfactory statement of their areas. By reference to the statistical tables of these counties at the end of the volume, it will be found how liable they are to changes, and also what changes were actually effected between 1840 and 1850.

* Estimated.

NOTE.—The following statement of the river navigation and shore line of the United States was prepared by Colonel Abernethy, of the Topographical Engineers, at the request of the Treasury Department, December 7th, 1845. It has since been completed to date. The head of tide-water is assumed as the limit of steam navigation, as impeding falls or rapids are encountered at that point, above which many rivers are adapted to steam navigation, but to what extent is not sufficiently known. The shore line of rivers to head of tide-water from

Maine to Texas is.....	10,501 miles.
Rivers of Texas.....	1,210 "
Lower Mississippi, islands and bayous.....	8,372 "
Upper Mississippi and tributaries.....	2,736 "
Big Black, Yazoo and bayous.....	1,190 "
Red river and tributaries.....	4,924 "
Arkansas river and tributaries.....	3,250 "
Missouri river and tributaries.....	7,830 "
Ohio river and tributaries.....	7,342 "
Total.....	47,355 "
Add rivers on the Pacific—Sacramento.....	600
San Joaquin.....	600
Oregon.....	460
Umpqua.....	50
	1,710
Total river shore line in the United States in 1854, including both banks.....	49,065 miles.
Frontier line of United States on British Possessions.....	3,303 "
Do. do Mexico (1848).....	1,455 "
Shore line of northern lakes, including bays, sounds, and islands (American).....	3,620 "
Shore line of northern lakes, including bays, sounds, and islands (British).....	2,620 "

TABLE VIII.—Area of the States and Territories of the United States.*

State or Territory.	Area in sq. miles.	Per cent. of total area.	Rank of States, &c. territorially.	State or Territory.	Area in sq. miles.	Per cent. of total area.	Rank of States, &c. territorially.
Alabama	50,722	1.73	20	Missouri	67,380	2.29	11
Arkansas	52,193	1.78	18	Nebraska Territory	335,883	11.44	1
California	155,680	5.23	7	New Hampshire	9,280	0.32	24
Columbia, District of	60	40	New Mexico Territory	207,007	7.05	4
Connecticut	4,674	0.15	37	New York	47,000	1.60	23
Delaware	2,130	0.07	38	New Jersey	8,320	0.28	35
Florida	59,283	2.02	13	North Carolina	50,704	1.73	21
Georgia	53,000	1.85	14	Ohio	29,964	1.35	27
Illinois	55,405	1.89	16	Oregon Territory	185,030	6.30	5
Indiana	33,809	1.15	29	Pennsylvania	46,000	1.57	24
Indian Territory, (south of Kansas)	71,197	2.42	10	Rhode Island	1,303	0.04	39
Iowa	50,914	1.73	19	South Carolina	29,385	1.01	31
Kansas	114,798	3.91	9	Tennessee	45,600	1.55	25
Kentucky	37,680	1.28	33	Texas	237,504	8.09	3
Louisiana	41,255	1.40	26	Utah Territory	269,170	9.17	2
Maine	31,768	1.08	30	Virginia	61,352	2.10	12
Maryland	11,124	0.38	32	Vermont	10,512	0.35	33
Massachusetts	7,800	0.26	36	Washington Territory	123,023	4.19	6
Michigan	56,243	1.91	15	Wisconsin	53,024	1.84	17
Minnesota Territory	166,025	5.65	6	Total	2,936,166		
Mississippi	47,156	1.61	22				

The Territory of Nebraska constitutes *one-ninth*; Utah, *one-eleventh*; Texas, *one-twelfth*; New Mexico, *one-fourteenth*; Oregon, *one-sixteenth*; Missouri and Virginia, a little more than *one-fiftieth* each; South Carolina, *one-hundredth*; Massachusetts, *one three hundred and eightieth*; and Rhode Island, *one-two thousand three hundredth* part of the national area.

The following table will show the area included within the several geographical divisions which are named.

TABLE IX.—Area of the several great divisions of the United States.

Area included in	Square miles.	Per cent. of total area.	Area included in	Square miles.	Per cent. of total area.
The States	1,464,105	49.86	The ten largest States	857,254	29.20
The Territories	1,472,061	50.14	The twenty-one smallest States	606,851	20.66
Non-slaveholding States, not territories	612,597	20.86	East of the Mississippi	865,576	29.48
Slaveholding States, not territories	851,508	29.00	Between the Mississippi and Rocky Mountains	1,200,381	40.88
New England States	85,038	2.21	West of the Mississippi	2,070,590	70.52
Middle States	114,624	3.90	North of latitude 36° 30'	1,970,077	67.10
Southern States	258,709	8.81	South of latitude 36° 30'	966,089	33.90
Southwestern States	474,435	16.15	West of the Rocky Mountains	870,209	29.64
Northwestern States	395,319	13.46	East of the Rocky Mountains	2,065,957	70.36

The States and the Territories have, at the present time, about an equal area. The slaveholding States have 851,508 square miles, and the non-slaveholding States, 612,597. There are 865,576 square miles east of the Mississippi, 2,070,590 west, 1,200,381 intermediate between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, and 870,209 west of the Rocky Mountains. North of the old Missouri compromise line, there is an area of 1,970,077 square miles, and 966,089 south of it.

* Some of the areas in this table will be found to differ very materially from those published in the quarto census, page xxxiii. They were made up in that instance from previous census publications and from the reports of the General Land Office. As no two statements hitherto made in geographies, gazetteers, etc., can be found to agree, it seemed fit to have the whole matter referred to a proper and competent authority for settlement, and none could be more so than the U. S. Topographical Bureau. Col. Abert, the head of that department was kind enough to have all of the computations made from the map of Colton, (1844) and from the Topographical Bureau map of the country west of the Mississippi; and, in a note of June 7th, 1854, says: "You will perceive the total area is still less than that formerly sent from this office. As these results are necessarily approximate, it is not to be expected from the imperfections of the maps, that the same results precisely will be arrived at by different persons and methods. The discrepancy between the total here given for the States, and that of table XII. of the quarto census, (made up from the popular sources of information,) is principally in the following. The Indian Territory is there given, 187,171, Nebraska, 136,700, North-west Territory, 523,725. Total, 852,596, instead of 521,807 in the present table. Are not the two first included in the third in table XII?"

The areas for California, Texas and the Territories west of the Mississippi were computed for Table XII. of the quarto census, from Disturnell's map, commonly known as the "Treaty Map." Since the publication of that of the Topographical Bureau, the other is deemed valueless, and the discrepancies, though great, will illustrate the comparative accuracy of the two authorities.

† And District of Columbia.

There are six States and Territories larger, as large or a little less only than that of either of the powers of France, Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Spain or Turkey. Eight of the largest States have an area as large as the remaining twenty-three States. Whilst the New England States have about one-fortieth of our territory, the Middle States have one-twenty-fifth, the Southern States one-eleventh, the North-western, one-seventh, and the South-western one-sixth, in round numbers. As these great divisions will be frequently referred to in this volume, and tables will be presented in regard to them, it is proper to explain* (see note) what they are always intended to embrace, unless the contrary be expressly stated.

Now that the States and Territories have increased and are increasing so greatly in number, difficulties of arrangement continually occur, and it is almost impracticable to adopt any which will be convenient for reference, easy of designation, and readily suggestive of contrasts and comparisons. For all of the detailed tables in this work, it has been deemed best to follow the alphabetical order of arrangement, except for the Territories, instead of the method by geographical position or by the date of admission into the Union. These last methods are complex and embarrassing, and ought to be abandoned. Where the object is a *classification* of States *geographically*, the methods in use are equally at fault. Thus, Kentucky and Missouri are forcibly separated from Tennessee and Arkansas, and thrown with the North-west to be associated with California and with Oregon and the other Territories. Maryland and the District of Columbia are combined with Pennsylvania and New York to form the Northern or Middle States, though in fact they belong to the South. Other difficulties may be stated, and they will increase with the settlement of the country. Cannot some method be proposed, which, whilst it shall not obliterate the old distinctions now so much in use, will admit as elements of classification the great geographical divisions of the country, the Lakes, the Valley, the Gulf, the Atlantic, the Pacific, and also such as are political or social, as States or Territories, slaveholding or non-slaveholding States, &c? After some reflection, and not a few abortive efforts, the arrangement on page 38 is suggested, which, it is believed, will combine all the proposed advantages, and be of very simple comprehension and reference.

PART II.

POPULATION.

CHAPTER I.—COLONIAL POPULATION.

THERE was no general enumeration of the people of the United States earlier than the census of 1790, although conjectural estimates of population, more or less accurate, are to be found among the records of the colonial period, and are valuable in the absence of other material. Several of these are annexed. Upon the basis of the increase which was afterwards ascertained, (viz: for the colored population between 1790 and 1800, being at that time least disturbed by immigration,) the total population in 1775 would have been 3,490,740, including 479,155 slaves, the population in 1749, 1,467,539, including 261,833 slaves; the population in 1701, 390,299. But this mode of calculation would be very fallacious for extremely early periods.†

*1. NEW ENGLAND STATES. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

2. MIDDLE STATES. New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

3. SOUTHERN STATES. Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

4. SOUTH-WESTERN STATES. Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee.

5. NORTH-WESTERN STATES. Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, California and the Territories, (in questions of area the two last are excluded.)

6. THE SLAVEHOLDING STATES include Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee, in all fifteen States, besides the District of Columbia.

7. THE NON-SLAVEHOLDING STATES include Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and California; in all sixteen.

† In 1775 Congress recommended the several Assemblies of the Colonies to ascertain the number of their inhabitants. In 1782 the journals state that "such enumerations have not been made." The recommendation was repeated in 1783, but a committee declared in 1785 that they could not ascertain how many of the States had complied. The estimates in the text are taken from Holmes' Annals. In the documents of the Congress of 1775, the estimate reaches 3,000,000. Holmes says that Dr. Humphreys, in his "Historical Account of the Society for the promulgation of the Gospel," is authority for the figures in the column of 1701, but that Dr. Stiles had assigned them specifically to that year. Beverly gives to Virginia, in 1704, 60,000 souls. In 1755, the population of Massachusetts was estimated at 234,000; that of Connecticut, at 133,000; of Rhode Island at 35,929; of New Hampshire at 34,000. Connecticut, in 1756, contained 138,212 whites, and 3,587 blacks; in 1774, 191,332 whites and 6,464 blacks. Rhode Island, in 1748, contained 29,755 whites, and 4,373 blacks. Maryland, in 1755, contained 107,203 souls, including 3,592 mulattoes, and 42,704 negroes. The estimates in the tables for the colonies in 1701 and 1749, include generally, it is believed, all classes. In South Carolina, however, in 1701, the negroes are omitted. Dr. Shattuck gives Boston (in 1743) 16,382 inhabitants, including 1,374 colored, of whom, in 1754, 989 were slaves. In 1765 the total colored population was 811. (See chapter on Slave Population.)