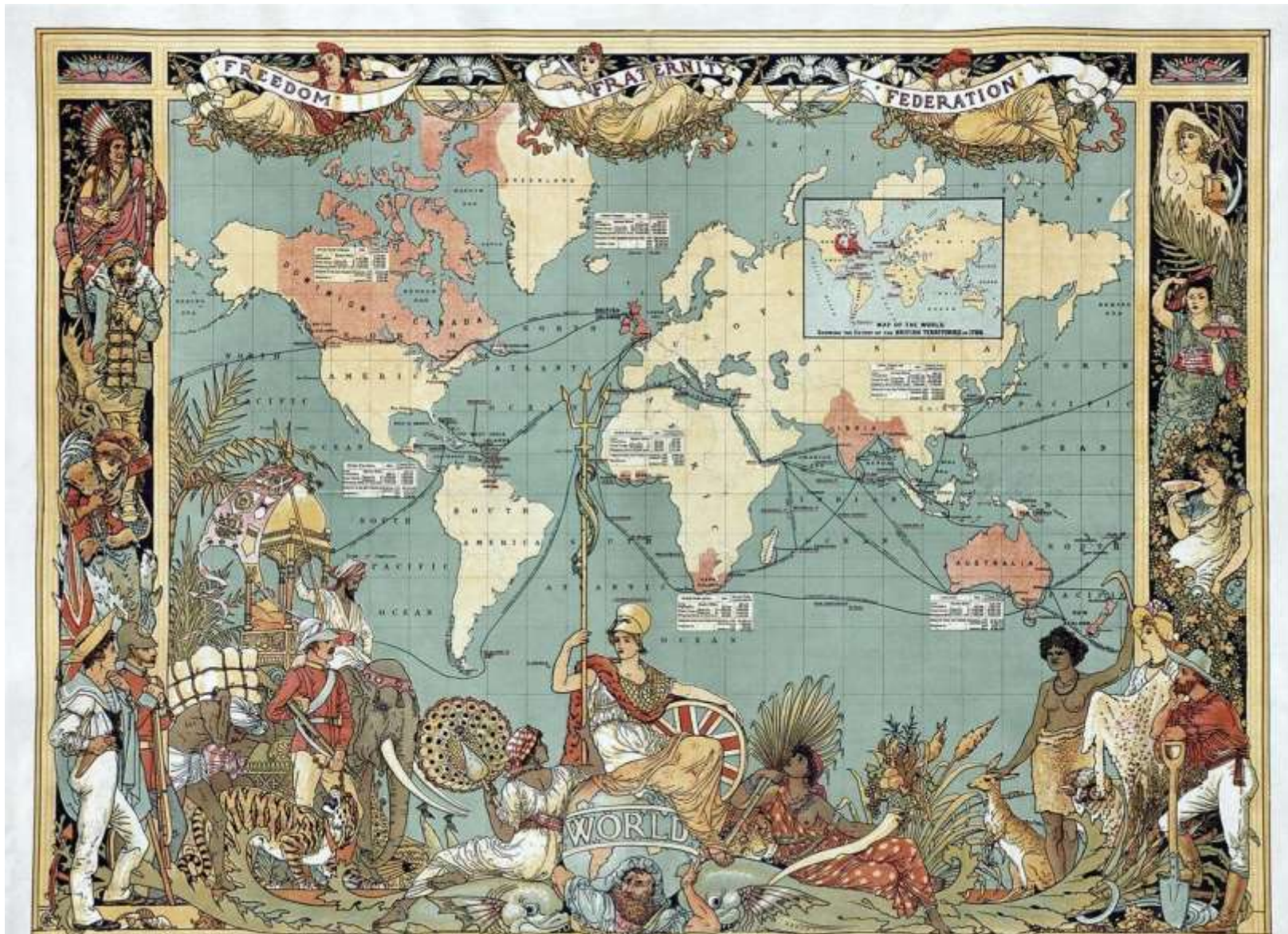


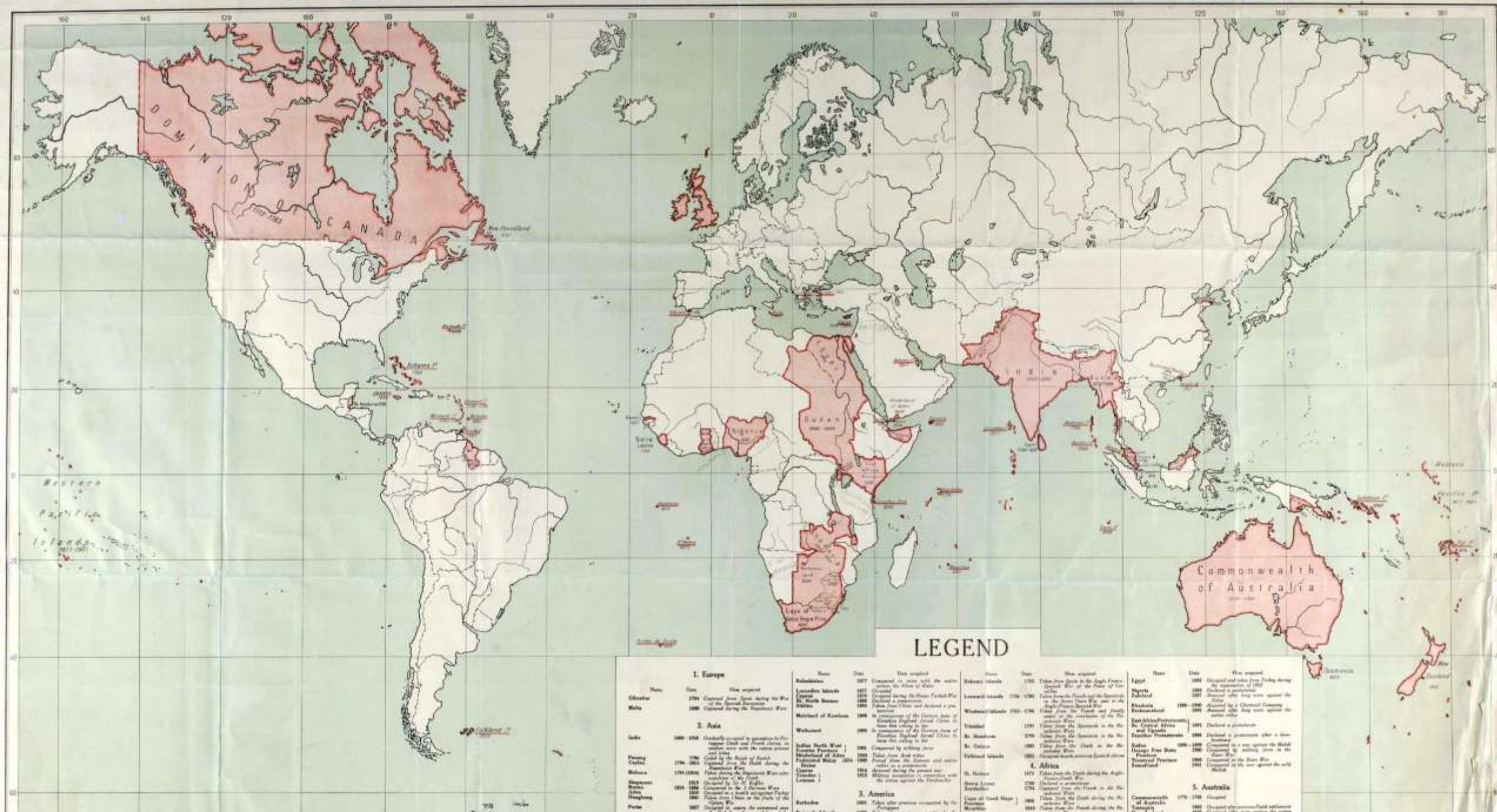


THE IMPACT OF EMPIRE 1815-1914

1. A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE (1600-1814)



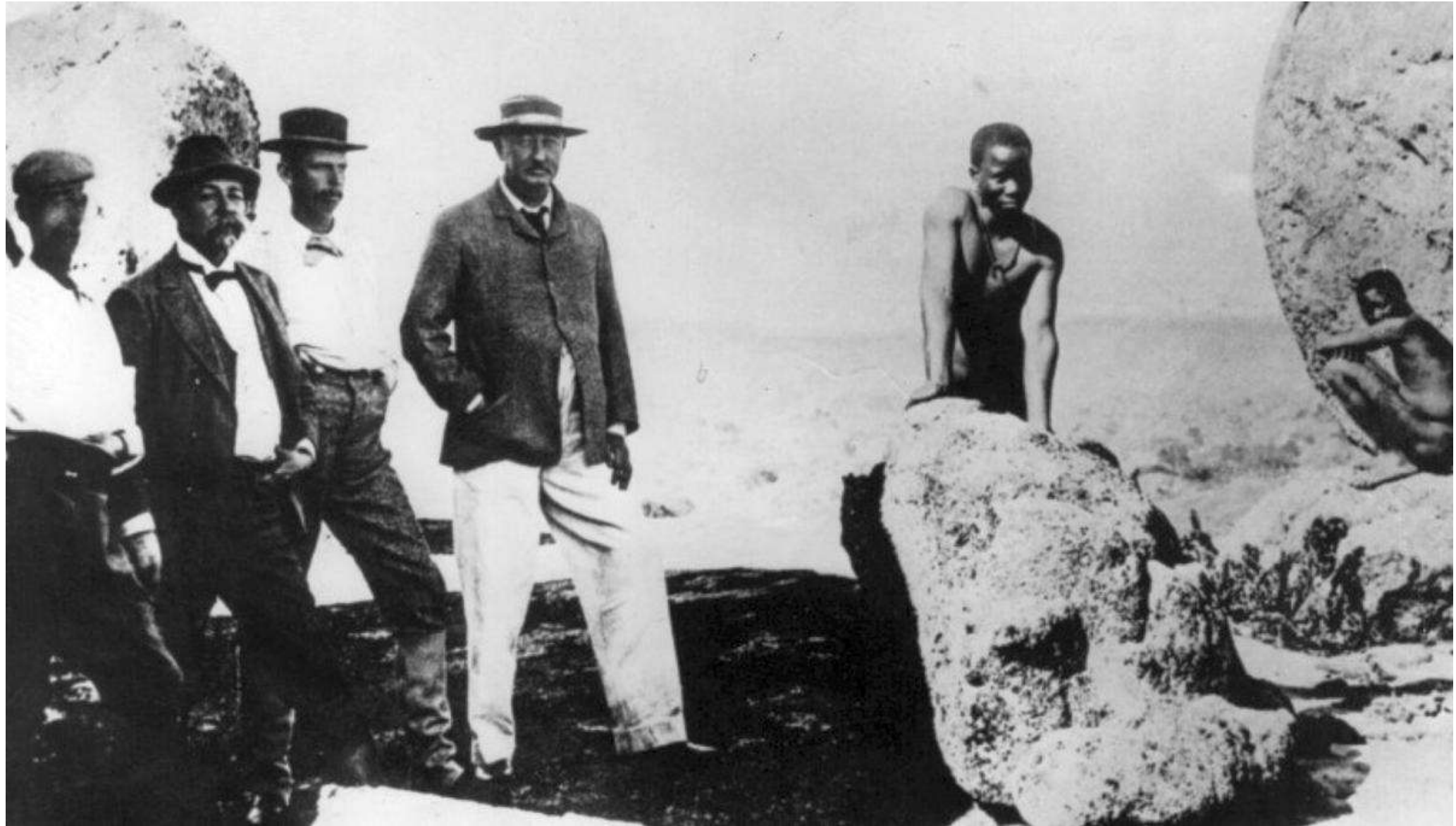
THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

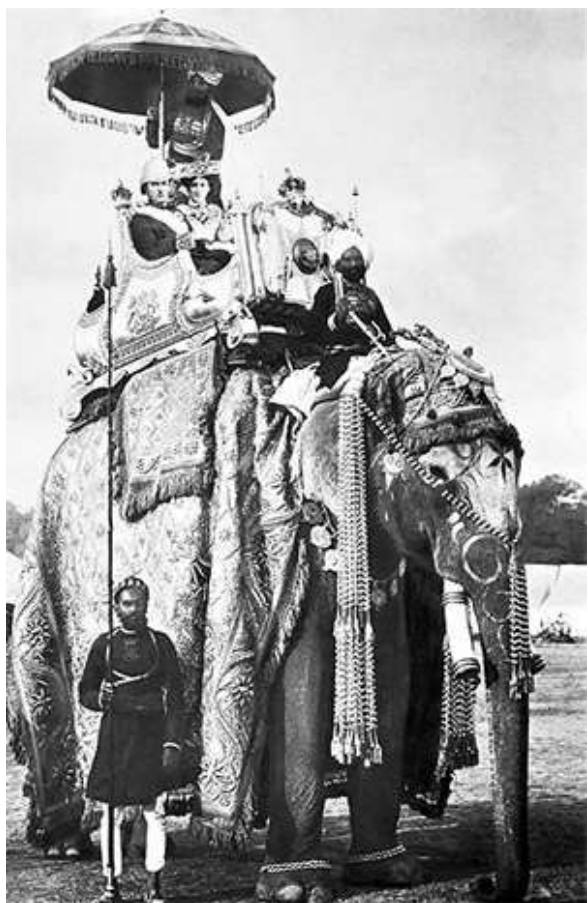


‘we seem, as it were, to have conquered half the world in a fit of absence of mind’ – John Robert Seeley, 1883

‘I would annex the stars if I could’ – Cecil Rhodes

‘You know, when I was a girl, the idea that the British Empire could ever end was absolutely inconceivable. And it just disappeared, like all the other empires.’ – Doris Lessing





An advertisement for Pears' Soap. At the top, a circular vignette shows an elderly white man in a white suit washing his hands at a sink in a bathroom. Below this, a small illustration depicts a white man in a blue suit standing and talking to a kneeling Black man in a dark, outdoor setting. The text below the illustrations reads: "The first step towards lightening", "The White Man's Burden", "is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness.", "Pears' Soap", and "is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances, while amongst the cultured of all nations it holds the highest place—it is the ideal toilet soap."

TELL ME ABOUT THE EMPIRE...

*What do you already know about the
British Empire?*

*What would you like to discover on our
course?*

DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE

Why Britain?

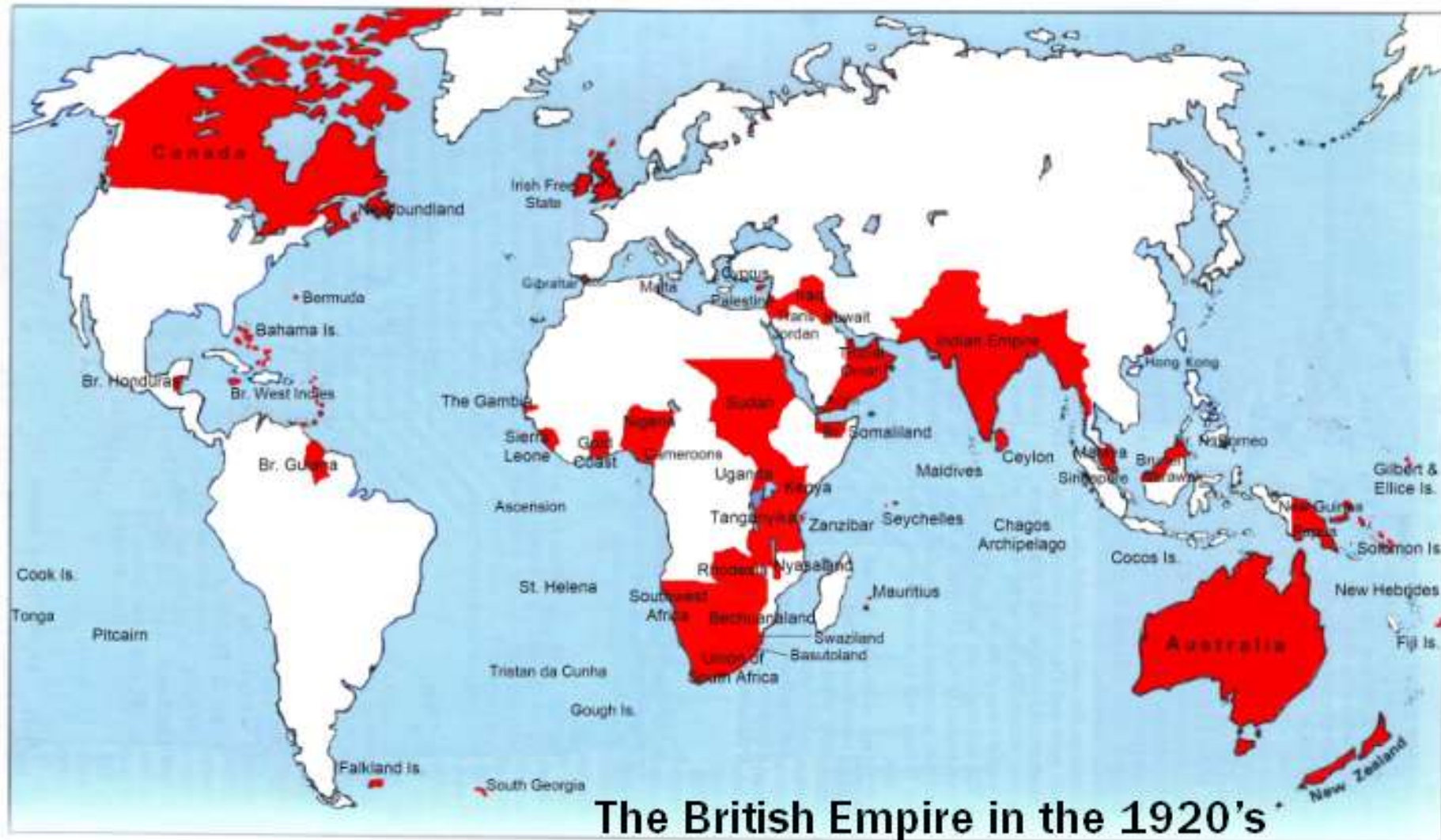
A small, wealthy and mostly Protestant northern European island, politically a union of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland after 1707...

Why empire?

Little direct control. Better called a 'world system' (Darwin), loosely held together by trade, common values and a powerful navy

Why 19th century?

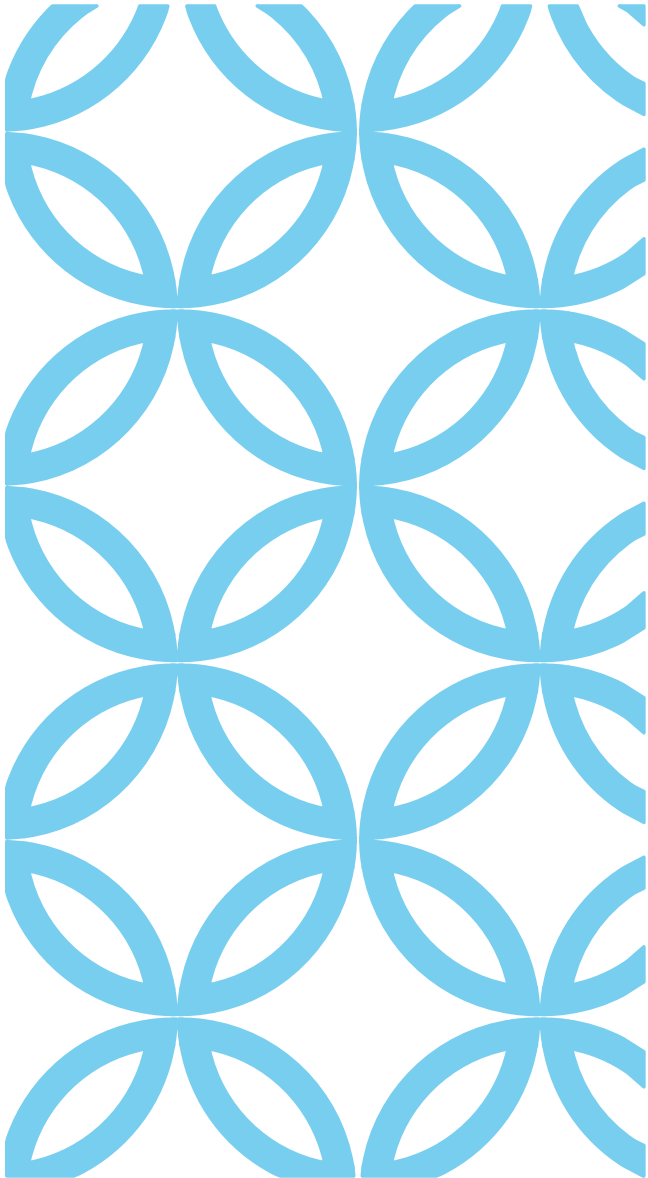
Overseas possessions since 17th c, but huge expansion between 1840-1920



The British Empire in the 1920's

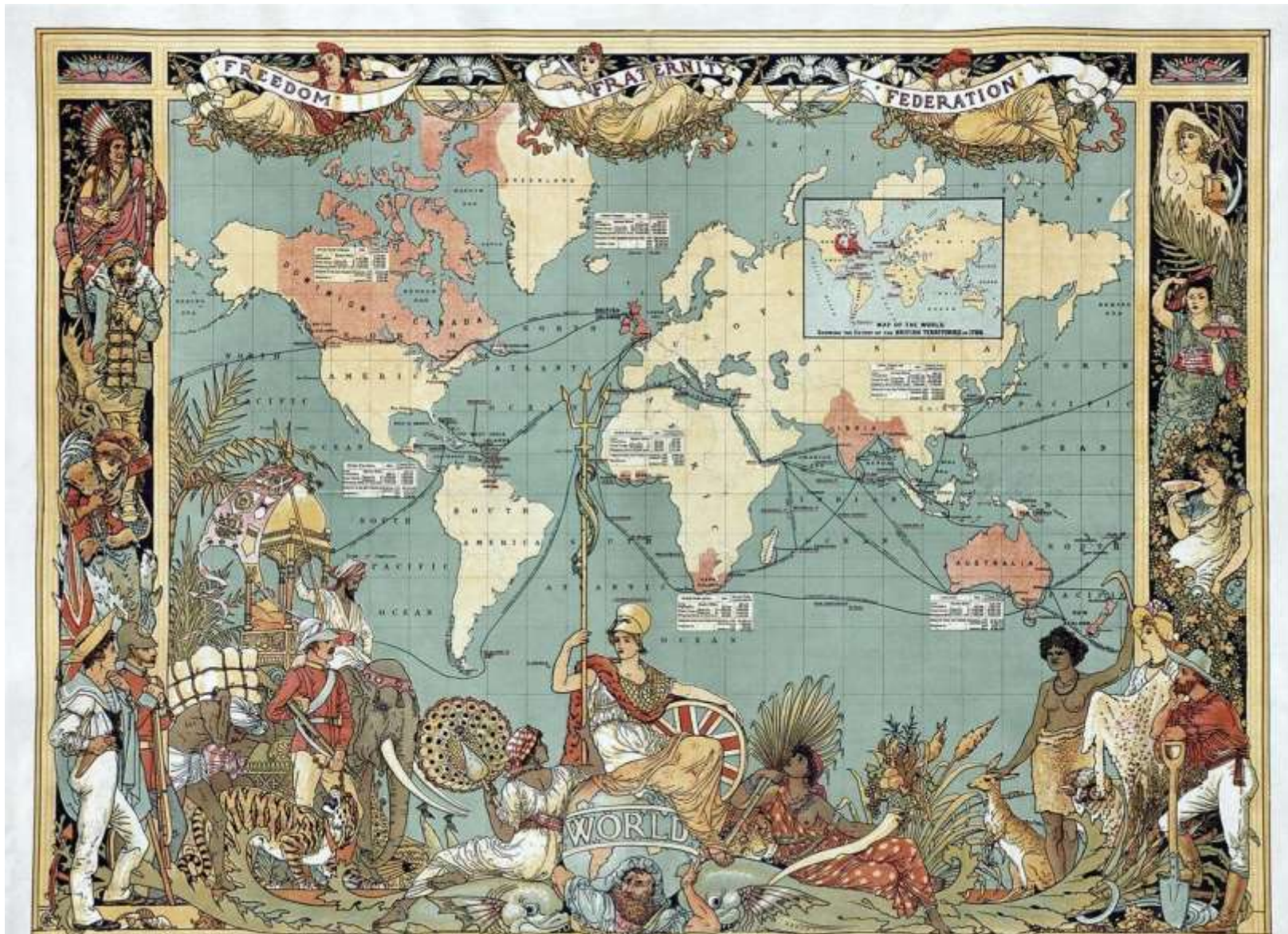
COURSE STRUCTURE

1. Introducing the Empire
2. Slavery
3. Consumption and Capital
4. India
5. Dickensian London
6. Sherlock Holmes and *The Sign of the Four*
7. Africa
8. Art against empire
9. End of empire



1. Five ingredients
2. Atlantic: the first empire
3. India and Pacific: the second empire

CLASS OUTLINE



FIVE INGREDIENTS FOR AN EMPIRE

1. Power in Europe

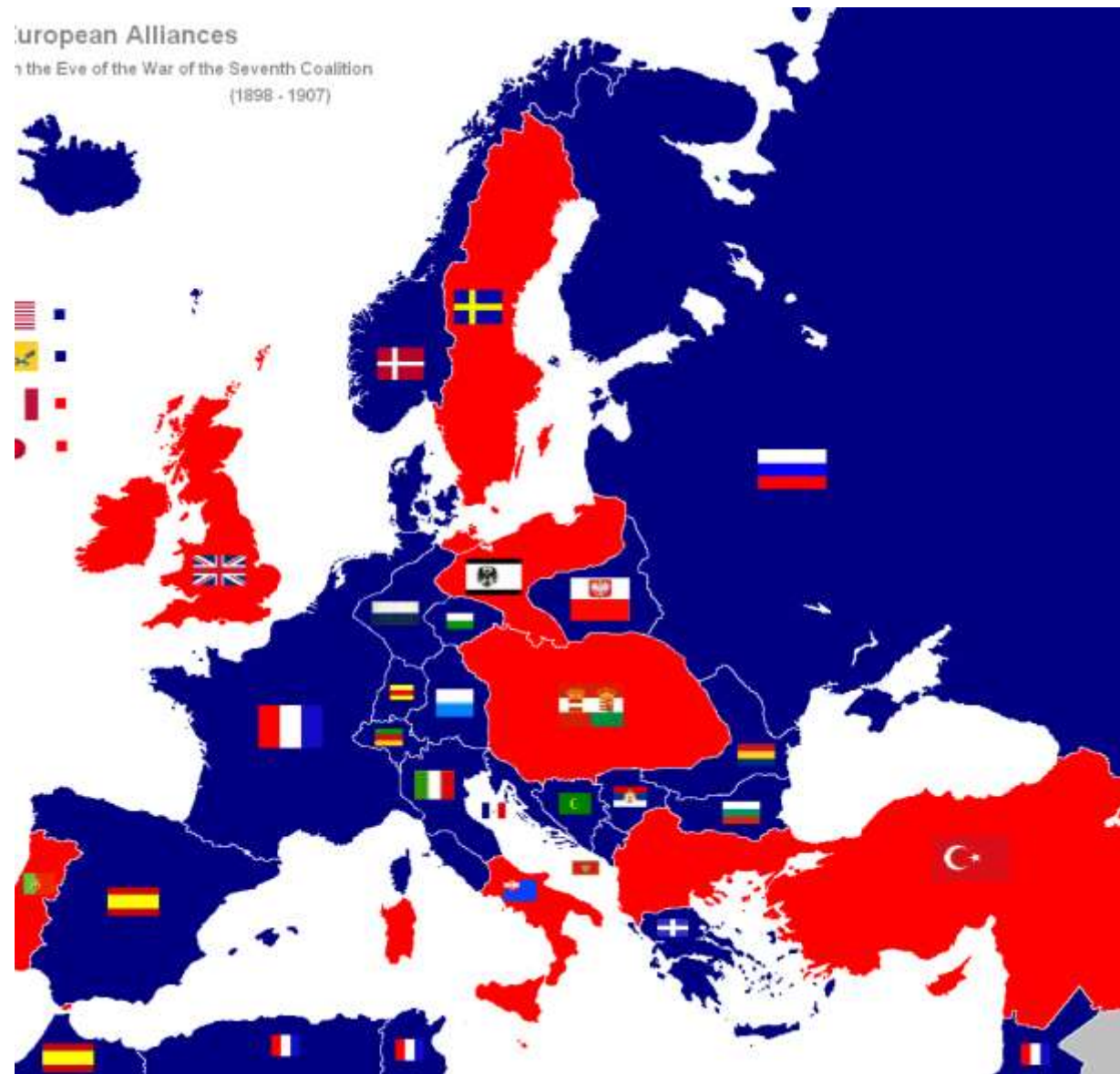
2. Technology

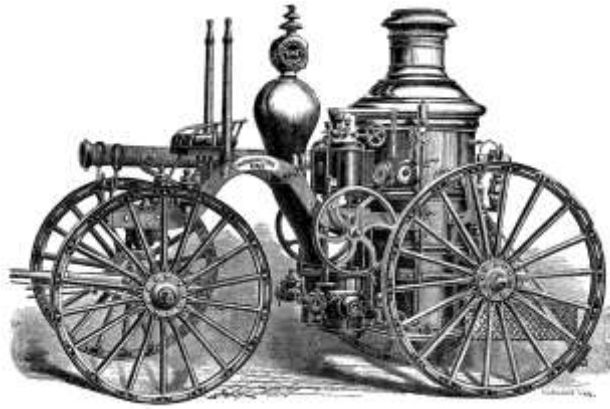
3. Control of India

4. Settler colonies

5. Capital

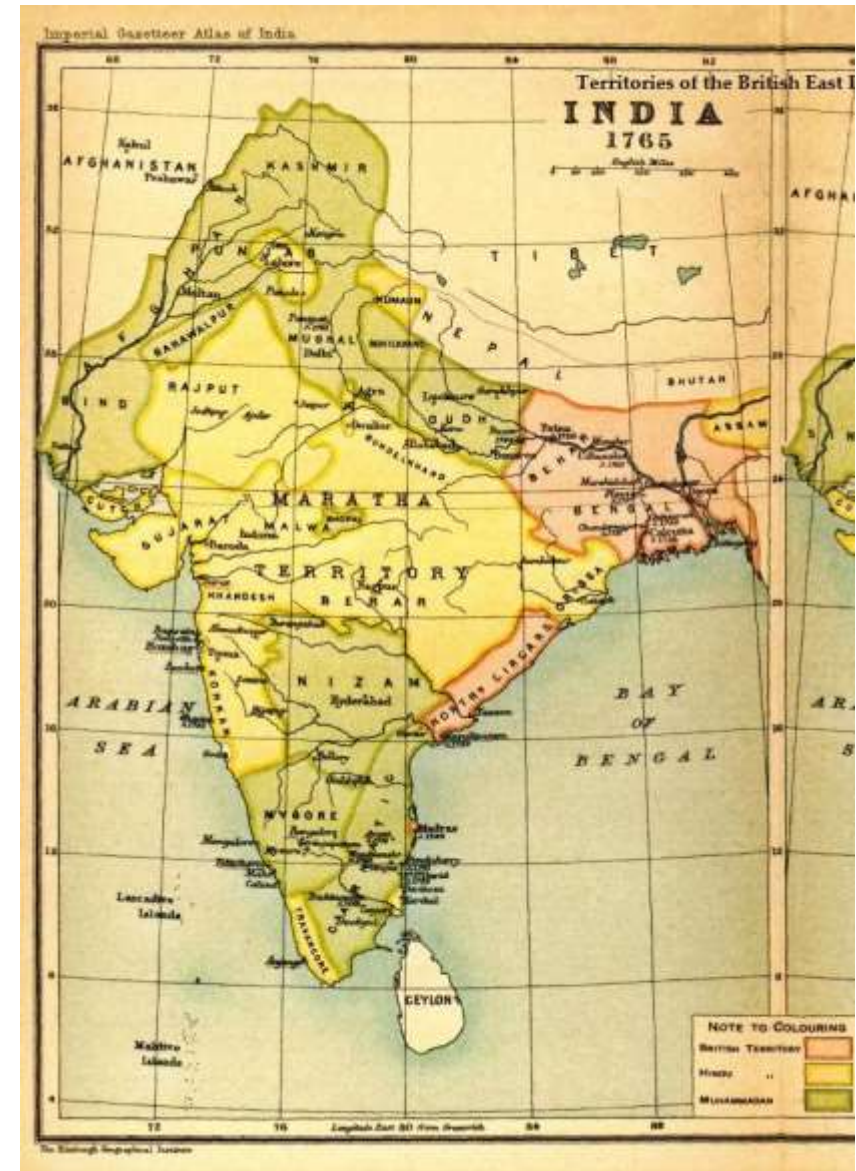








Lord Cornwallis receiving Tipu Sultan's sons as hostages, 1793





INDIAN LAND FOR SALE

GET A HOME
OF
YOUR OWN

EASY PAYMENTS



PERFECT TITLE
POSSESSION
WITHIN
THIRTY DAYS

FINE LANDS IN THE WEST

IRRIGATED GRAZING AGRICULTURAL
IRRIGABLE DRY FARMING

IN 1910 THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SOLD UNDER SEALED BIDS ALLOTTED INDIAN LAND AS FOLLOWS:

Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre	Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre
Colorado	5,211.21	\$7.27	Oklahoma	34,664.00	\$19.14
Idaho	17,013.00	24.85	Oregon	1,020.00	15.43
Kansas	1,684.50	33.45	South Dakota	120,445.00	16.53
Montana	11,034.00	9.86	Washington	4,879.00	41.37





Charlestown, July 24th, 1769.

TO BE SOLD,

On THURSDAY the third Day
of AUGUST next,

A CARGO
OF
NINETY-FOUR
PRIME, HEALTHY

NEGROES,

CONSISTING OF
Thirty-nine MEN, Fifteen BOYS,
Twenty-four WOMEN, and
Sixteen GIRLS.

JUST ARRIVED,
In the Brigantine *DEMBIA*, *Francis Bare*, Master, from SIERRA-
LEON, by
DAVID & JOHN DEAS.



FIVE INGREDIENTS FOR AN EMPIRE

1. Power in Europe
2. Technology
3. Control of India
4. Settler colonies
5. Capital

Which do you think might be most important?

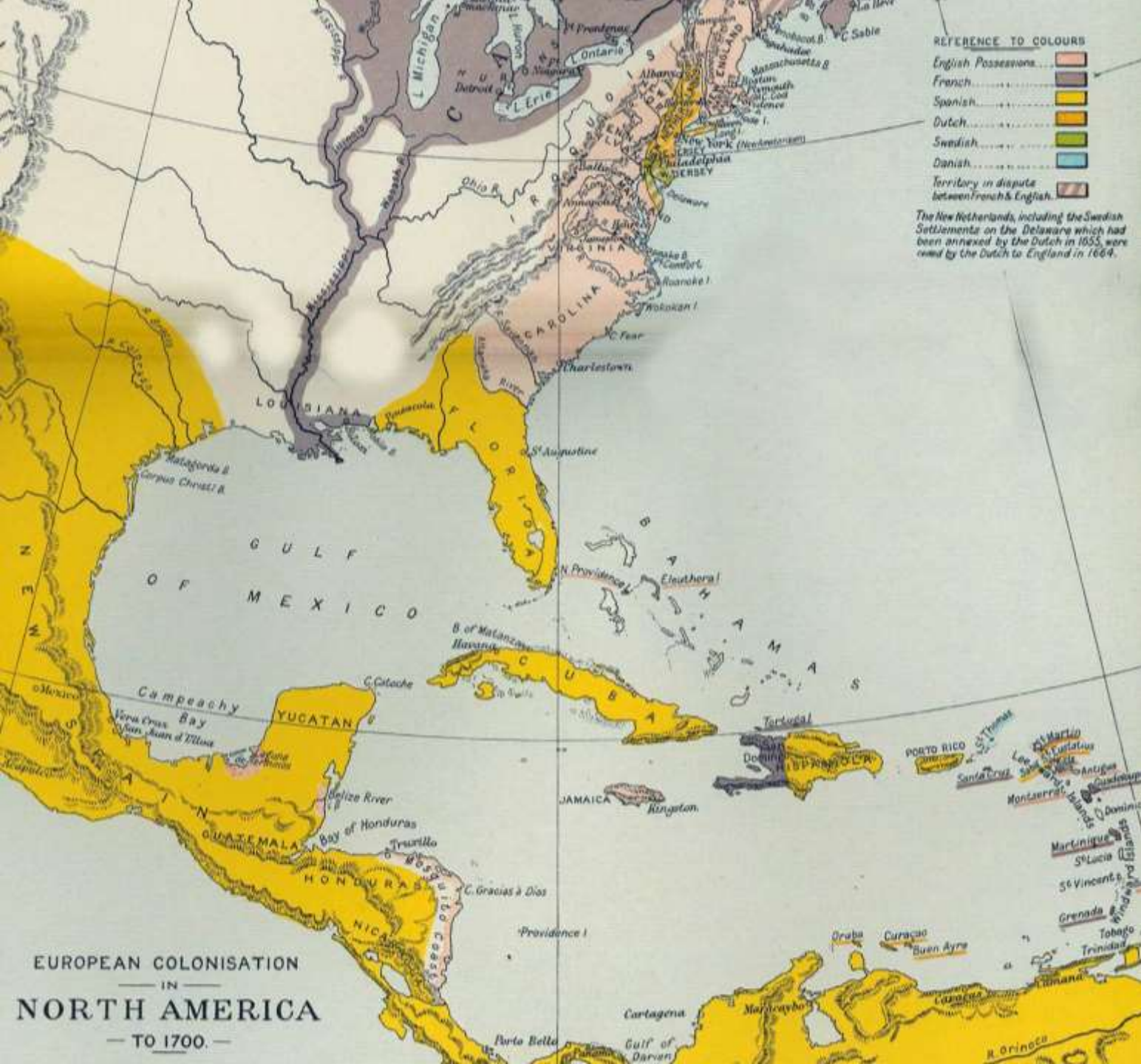


BRITAIN'S FIRST EMPIRE: AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



*uporaiaca them jaynge now are ye whae
Irish as well as wee.*





WHAT IS MEANT BY THE 'FIRST BRITISH EMPIRE'?

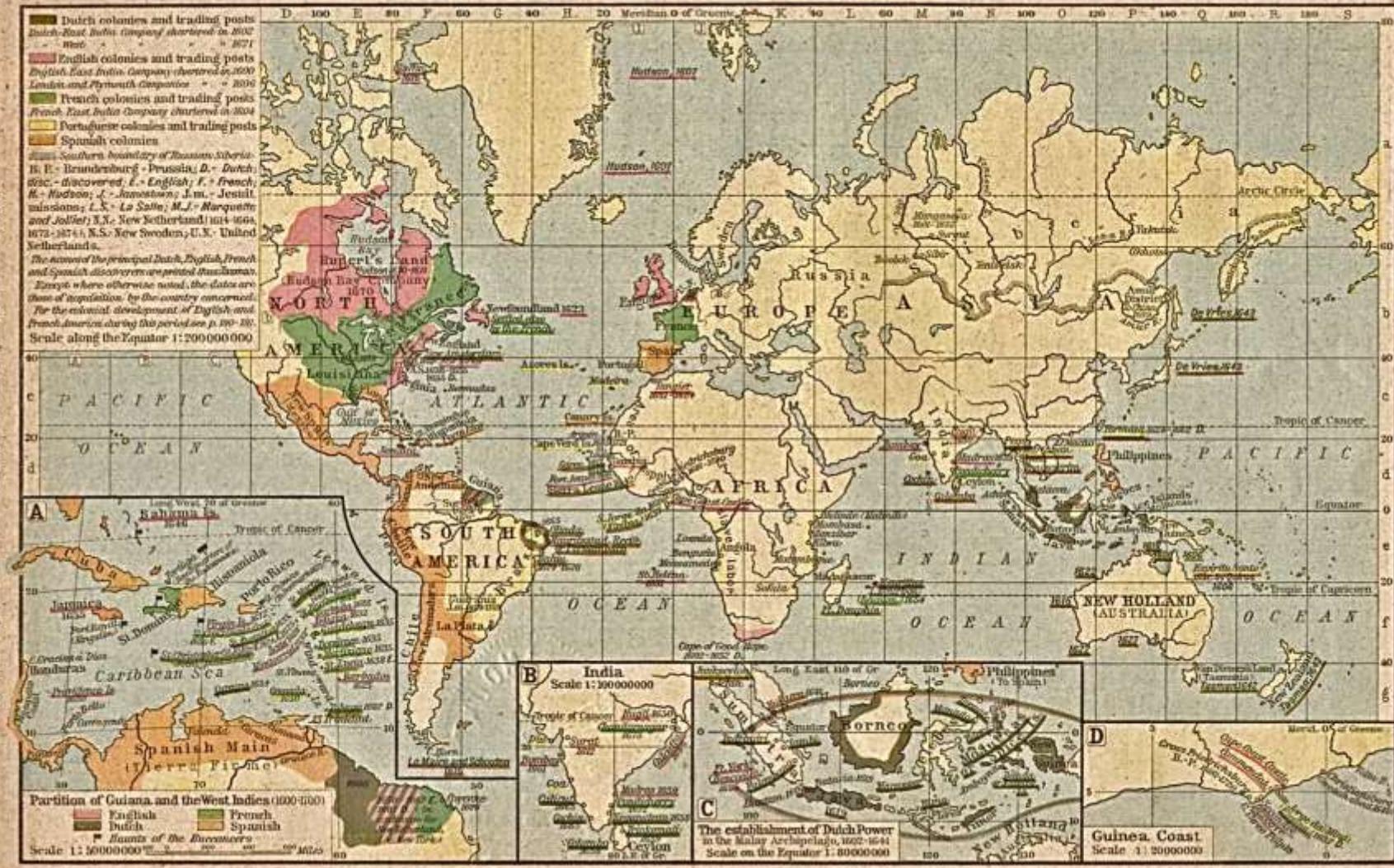
John Dee: 'British Empire' (1578, Elizabeth I)

First: based on trade and focused on the Atlantic and Caribbean, from 1600-1780s. Piracy, European rivalry, religious exiles, slavery.

Second: based on territory with a now global scope and ambition, more authoritarian, from 1780s.

Focused particularly on India and settler colonies like Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Newfoundland and Canada

The Spread of Colonization, 1600—1700.





WHY EUROPE?

Over the 16th- 17th century, European powers began to 'discover' the world...

Spain, Portugal, and later France, England and the Dutch Republic chartered new trade routes, invaded North and South America, establishing colonies and slave plantations

European powers aided by advances in technology (shipping, guns, manufactures)

Also by ambitions of wealth – gold, silver, spices – and political dominance over rivals

THE EARLY EUROPEAN EMPIRES

Spain and Portugal both Catholic. With papal support they conquer and wipe out much of the population of Latin and Central America, and introduce slavery to the region

States at war like the Netherlands, England and later France are forced to find new trade routes – the East Indies

All 3 also involved in establishing small plantations in North America...





The English Tar Triumphant Rides Myrtheer.
And Bangs him with the Tail of Cropt Monsieur.
The Drachman does but gloomy looks Afford
While the Affrighted Spaniard gives his Sword

THE BRITISH TAR'S TRIUMPH.

Published Oct. 20. 1783 by W. Richardson in the new street, London.

Such were the Scenes, when Britain's Navy Hurl'd.
Her dreaded Vengeance o'er the astonish'd World.
That glory fix'd the rage of War must Cease.
And rougher Arts give way to gentle Peace.

22 Oct. 1783



BRITAIN'S AMERICAN EMPIRE

Different motivations for settlement in North America

Religion: New England (Puritans); Maryland for Catholics; Pennsylvania

New colonies late 17thc: Carolina 1663, New York 1664, New Jersey 1665, Pennsylvania 1681, Delaware 1682, Georgia 1732

West Indies (St Kitts, Nevis, Antigua, Barbados, Jamaica)

1700, England's population 5m; colonies: 500,000

TABLE 4.1. *Estimated population of the British Isles and the British Colonies in the western hemisphere, 1650–1772 (thousands)*

	England	Scotland	Ireland	N. America	West Indies
1650/51	5,228			55	59
1671	4,983				
1686/87	4,865		2,167		
1700/01	5,058			265	147
1711/12	5,230		2,791		
1726	5,450		3,031		
1750/51	5,772			1,206	330
1754/55		1,265	3,191		
1756	5,993				
1770/71	6,448			2,283	479
1772			3,584		

Emigration from the British Isles to America, 1600–1780 (thousands)

	1601–1700	1701–80
England and Wales	350	80
Scotland	7	75
Lowland		60
Highland		15
Ireland	20–40	115
Ulster		70
Southern		45
TOTAL	377–97	270

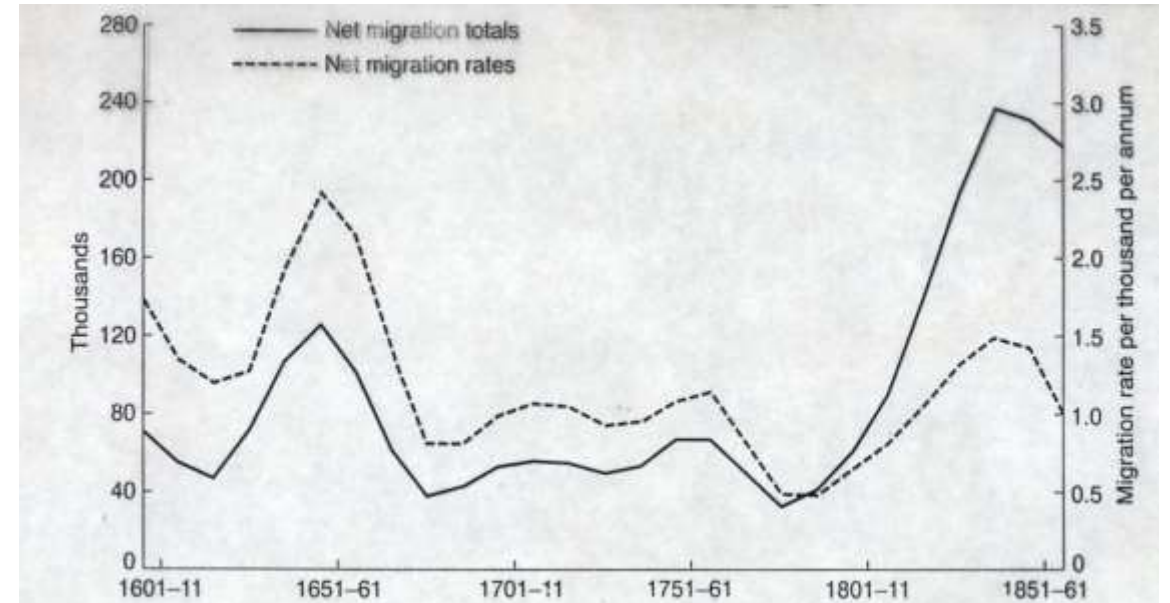


Figure 2.1. Net Migration from England, 1601–1861



AN EMPIRE OF TRADE

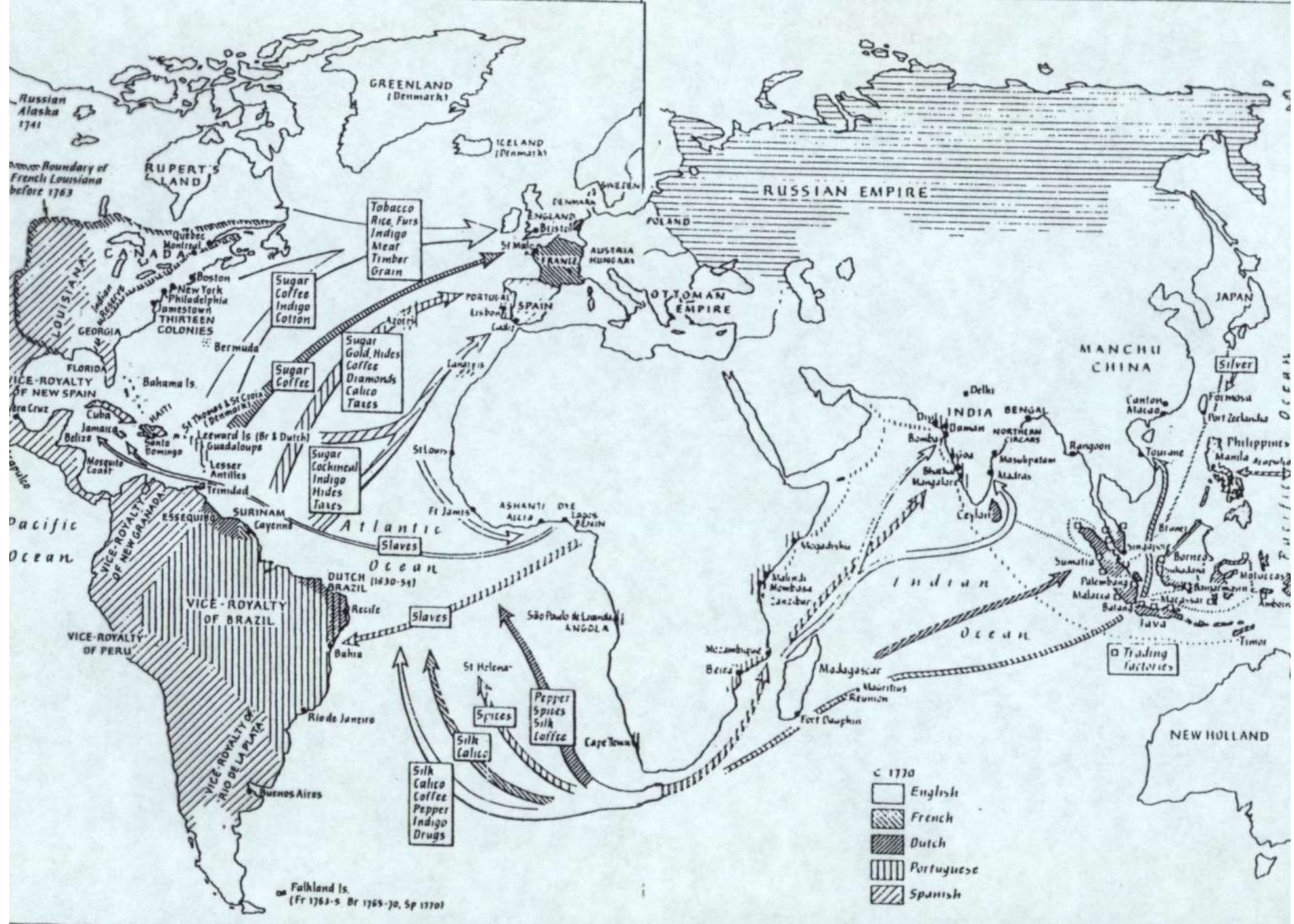
Imperial expansion based on mercantilism

French minister Colbert to Louis XIV 'Trade is the cause of a perpetual combat in war and in peace between the nations of Europe'.

Tonnage of British owned ships doubles from 323k in 1702 to 608k in 1775

West Indies: silver, cotton, tobacco and sugar via slavery

East Indies: tea, coffee, spices, porcelain and ceramics



TRADING COMPANIES IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF MERCANTILE EMPIRES

Dutch East India Company 1602

France 1664: Company of West Indies and East Indies (separate)

Britain: Hudson Bay Company 1670; 1672 Royal African Company; East India Company 1600 but united company 1709

Mercantile interest linked to domestically powerful men: 27 directors of Bank of England sat in Parliament 1715-54.

Company men able to exert pressure on foreign policy

RISE AND FALL OF BRITISH AMERICA

Demographic/economic boom from mid-17th century

Thirteen colonies' largely autonomous

Victory in Seven Years' War (1756-63) costly: new lands and war costs = higher revenues needed

The war had also armed 20k Americans...

American war of independence (1775-83) with opposition at home

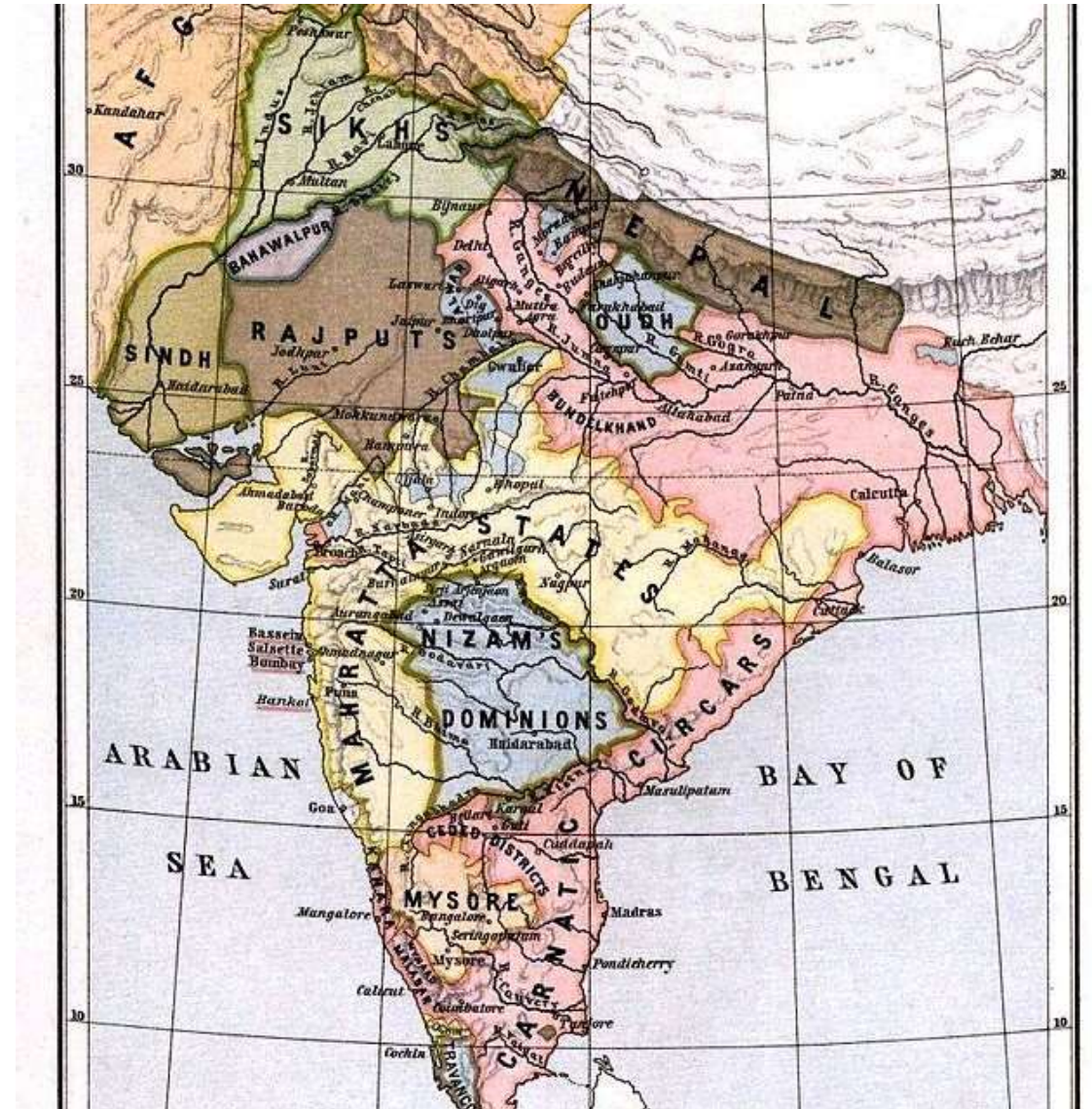
Gains in India (1757), Gibraltar, East Indies and defence of Canada = new priorities...





BRITAIN'S SECOND EMPIRE: INDIA AND THE PACIFIC





1805

TIMELINE FOR THE SECOND EMPIRE

1757 – Battle of Plassey – East India Company take Bengal

1788 – Eastern Australia annexed

1792-1815: Napoleonic Wars. Britain and coalitions eventually victorious = decline of Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese & French empires

Protecting India: Ceylon (1795), Malta (1800), Mauritius (1810), Cape Colony (1806), expulsion of French from India (1818)

1820s – collapse of Spanish empire in Latin America

COOK'S THREE VOYAGES

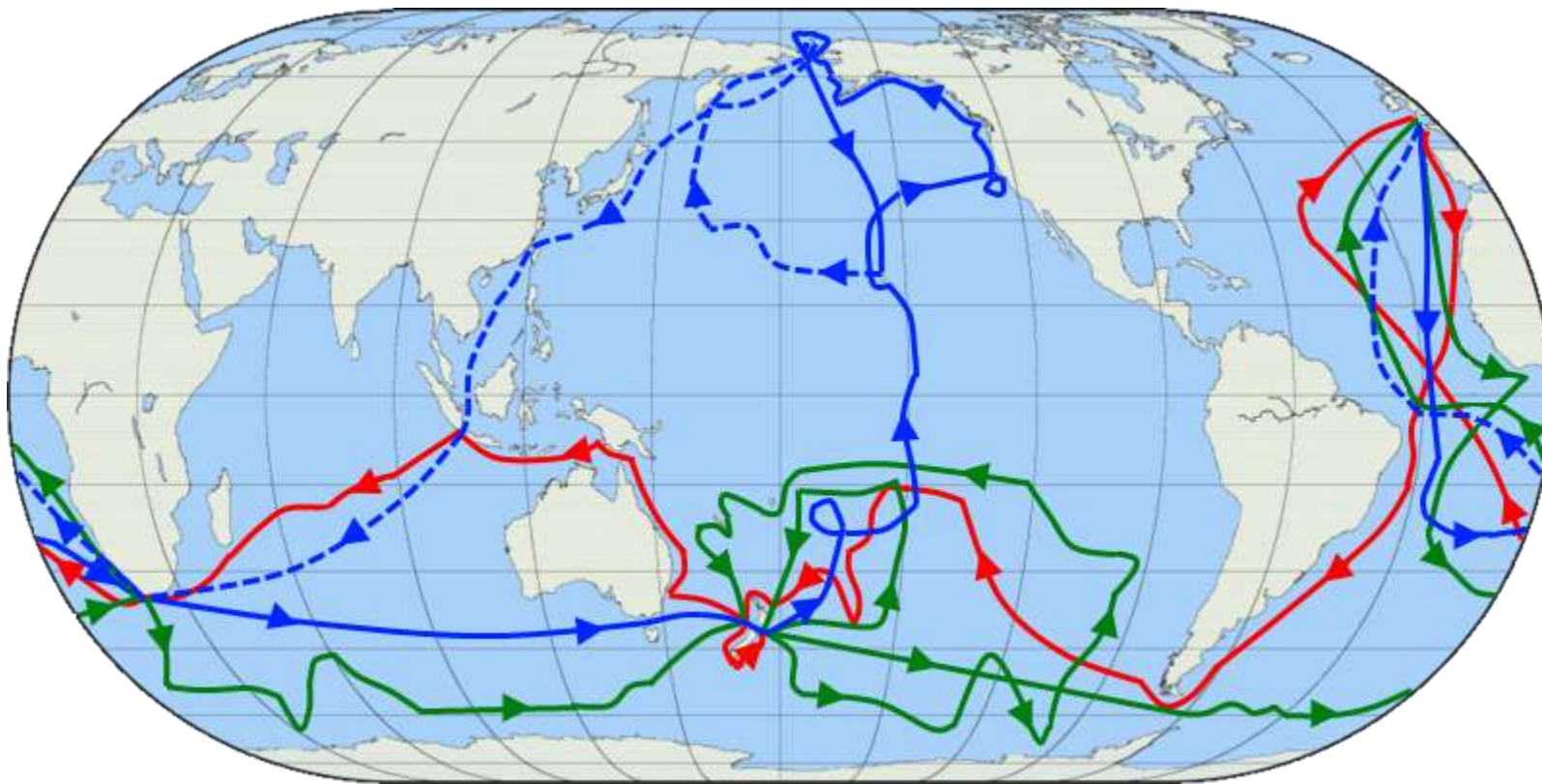




Figure 8 Engraving after Sydney Parkinson, *Head of a New Zealander* (1773). Courtesy of the Henry E. Huntington Library.

ADAM SMITH

‘not an empire, but the project of an empire; not a gold mine, but the project of a gold mine’

‘accommodate her future views and designs to the real mediocrity of her circumstances’

- *Wealth of Nations*, 1776



SITUATION IN 1814

Rule over 65 million

Exploration of the Pacific





Military dominance in Europe

Abolition of slavery (1807)

Economic depression, weariness
with war

... = *Pax Britannica*?



- | | |
|--|--|
|  Territory claimed by Britain but not settled |  Territory permanently acquired by Britain during wars, 1793 - 1814 |
|  British territory held before 1793 |  Territory temporarily occupied by Britain during wars, 1793 - 1814 |



Voices

The British Museum gleams with stolen riches from its colonial past – but Asian names are too 'confusing' for inclusion

Any visitor to the museum from a colonised country is aware of their own past the minute they step in the museum: history, jewels and finery ripped away from their country to be held in Britain, a colonial cultural massacre of sorts in itself. And perhaps Asian names wouldn't be so confusing if their staff more diverse





**TOMORROW: BRITISH MUSEUM
MEET ME OUTSIDE THE LONDON CENTRE
ENTRANCE AT 2.30PM**

We will explore the museum as a site of imperialism and question how Britain represented and understood itself in the world



Impressions of Empire Journal 1
(10%) – write a 300 word account
of your impressions and
understanding of one image or
material object related to the British
Empire, either featured in the first
class or on the field trip to the British
Museum.



Due: Mon 23rd September