

The following pages on Geography, are taken from Mercator's system as improved by Sir Isaac Newton and Doctor Jurin, which book contains too many Mathematical propositions to amuse most Female Readers.

Geography is that part of mixed Mathematics, which explains the state of the Earth and of its parts, and the Celestial Appearances, it may be divided into Universal, and Particular.

Universal Geography considers the whole ^{Earth} in general and explains its properties without regard to particular Countries.

Particular Geography describes the Constitution and Situation of each single Country by itself and is subdivided into Chorographical that is describes Countries of a considerable extent, or Topographical that is gives a view of some place or small part of the Earth.

The origin of Geography is not of modern date; the old Geographers indeed only described particular Countries; the Romans, on subduing any Province in their Triumphs exposed the Chorography thereof, and in the Portico of Lucullus at Rome several Geographical Tables were placed for public inspection. About one hundred Years before the birth of Christ, the Roman Senate sent Geographers and Surveyors to several parts of the World that they might measure the whole of it. Many Ages before our Ara Ptolemy King of Egypt commanded the Extremities of Africa to be searched, which was performed by the Phœnicians in the space of three Years. Darius commanded the mouths of the River Indus and the Ethiopic Sea to be examined. Alexander the Great in his Asiatic expedition was accompanied by Scylax and Ptolemy his two Geographers, from whose Journals and Observations the Geographers of succeeding Ages borrowed many things.

Yet the Geography of the Antients was very imperfect; America was unknown to them, and the remotest Northern Countries, they knew not that the Earth was surrounded by the Ocean in an uninterrupted continuity.

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It is proper just to mention the different kinds of measures,
 The length of a Foot is almost universally used, yet it differs in one place
 from another. Mathematicians frequently measure by the Rhinland foot
 of Mellius, which he proves to be equal to the Old Roman Foot; and as he was
 very accurate in measuring the Earth his Rhinland Foot is deservedly
 taken as a Standard for all other measures.

If an English Foot be divided into 1000. parts and a French Foot into 1440.
 then a Foot $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{English} \\ \text{French} \\ \text{Rhinland} \\ \text{Roman} \end{array} \right\}$ contains $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Eng. Parts} \\ 1000. \\ 1066. \\ 1030. \\ 970. \end{array} \right\}$ and $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{French Parts} \\ 1350 \\ 1440 \\ 1390 \\ 1309 \end{array} \right\}$

A Perch or Pole ought to consist of ten Rhinland Feet.

The Grecian Stadium, or Furlong is supposed to be 600. Feet which makes
 625 Roman or Rhinland Feet; their Foot being a little larger than the Roman.

A German Mile (15. of which Geographers allow to a degree) contains
 22400 Rhinland Feet and is accounted 4000. paces or 32. Furlongs. It is
 in proportion to the Rhinland Mile as 19 to 15.

The Italian or Roman Mile is 1000 paces, which is equal to 4000 Rhinland
 Feet.

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