

Europe.—Political.

§ 1. **Europe** is the home of the white portion of the **Caucasian race**, which occupies the entire Grand Division, with the exception of Turkey, and some parts adjoining Asia and along the northern coast. In these parts most of the inhabitants are of the Mongolian type. The Caucasian inhabitants of America, Australia, and other colonized parts of the earth are descendants of Europeans.

Although Europe is about equal in area to the United States, it has a population more than five times as great — 360,000,000. It is divided into many nations, among which many different languages are spoken.

This Grand Division is one of the earliest peopled portions of the globe, and its long period of habitation by the most intelligent and energetic part of the human race has made it more important than any other. The Caucasian race develops and renders prosperous any country it inhabits. The wonderful progress of the United States is due mainly to the fact that it is peopled by this race, with all its good qualities stimulated by natural conditions superior to those existing in Europe.

The power of this race is based upon its **intellectual superiority**. In war, it is invariably successful against other races, not always owing to greater valor, but because it brings to bear superior skill, as shown in improved weapons and methods of warfare. In peace, it wins prosperity by superior skill in industry, as shown in the greater variety of implements, machinery, etc., and in better methods of work.

Modern civilization originated on the shores of the Mediterranean, and shows its highest development in Europe and in those countries where the European race has been transplanted by immigration.

Questions. What Grand Division is the home of the white portion of the Caucasian race? What portions of the Caucasian race are not white? (See p. 29, § 11.) How extensively does the white race inhabit Europe? Of what type are the inhabitants of the northern and eastern edges? In what other parts of the earth are the people descendants of Europeans? How does Europe compare with the United States as to area and population? Has Europe been long inhabited? What is its stage of development? What is the influence of the Caucasian race on those countries which it inhabits? To what is the wonderful development of this country due? Upon what is the power of the Caucasian race based? To what does it owe its success in war? Its prosperity in peace? Where did modern civilization originate? Where does it show its highest development?

§ 2. Europe has been, for many centuries, the scene of frequent wars among the various nationalities which divide its area. Thus much of the energy which might well have been spent in peaceful effort for the advancement of humanity has been misdirected, to the injury of mankind.

Even in times of peace, apprehensions of war compel the various nations to maintain standing armies ready for sudden hostilities; the result is that millions of men are continually diverted from industrial pursuits.

One great reason for the superior prosperity of the American people is the fact that in this country no burden of military necessity is laid upon industry as it is in Europe.

Questions. What has largely hindered the peaceful progress of Europe? Does this hindrance still continue? What diverts effort from the pursuits of peaceful industry?

§ 3. Owing to its density of population, Europe is unable to produce sufficient food and clothing material to supply its people as a whole; hence it depends largely upon **commerce** with other Grand Divisions. While nearly all its countries produce the cereals, few of them raise enough for home consumption, and fewer still a surplus. Of meats, the home production is even more insufficient. The deficiency in both grain and meat is supplied mainly by commerce with North and South America, and Australia, and that in grain partially by trade with India.

Of clothing materials the greater part is imported. Cotton comes from the United States mainly, and some from India and Egypt, little being grown in Europe. Wool comes from South America and Australia, and silk from China, though both wool and silk are extensively produced at home.

Manufacturing is the leading industry. It is by the export of its superior handiwork that Europe pays for the raw material which it imports from the rest of the world in such great quantity and variety.

Questions. Does Europe raise enough farm products to supply its people with food and clothing? Why? In what food products is the consumption greater than the production? How is the deficiency supplied? From what countries does Europe import the three leading clothing materials? What is the leading industry? How does Europe pay for its imported raw material?

§ 4. The governments of Europe are generally **Monarchies**. The exceptions are France and Switzerland, which are republics.

The "Great Powers" are the British Empire, the German Empire, France, Russia, Austria-Hungary, and Italy.

With the exception of Turkey, where Mohammedanism prevails, **Christianity** is the religion of Europe.

Questions. What form of government exists in most of the nations of Europe? What are the exceptions? Name the "Great Powers." What is the prevailing religion? Where, and what, is the exception?

§ 5. **Sweden** and **Norway** occupy the Scandinavian Peninsula. The slope of Norway is abrupt, and, like that of Maine, has a broken and rugged coast, fringed with many rocky islands. The inlets of the sea are called **fjords**. Sweden has a gradually descending surface abounding in lakes of glacial formation, and its coast is bordered with islands. Forests abound upon the mountainous parts of the whole peninsula.

Sweden is noted for the quality of its iron. Its excellence is due to the richness of the ores, and to the use of charcoal as a fuel in smelting, which produces a better iron than the use of mineral coal. Norway exports large quantities of lumber and fish.

The two nations are independent, each having its own Legislature, yet they are united under one King.

The inhabitants are generally of fair complexion and light hair, and are industrious and thrifty. Norwegians