No. 2.

A DESCRIPTION OF VARIOUS NATIONS.

CONCORD, N. H.
RUFUS MERRILL & CO.
1843.
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The Alphabet.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

vwxyz
VARIOUS NATIONS.

Indians.

A great many years ago, Indians used to live where Boston is, and in all parts of New England. There were then no white people here; there were none but Indians, who lived in the woods, and hunted bears and deer. Their houses were
little huts, called wigwams. There were in North America five nations of Indians, which consisted of many tribes; these were united by a sort of confederacy, without any superiority of the one over the other. They were known by the names of Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Dayugas, and Senecas. Besides these there were a great many other tribes of Indians in America. Each of these tribes made an independent state.

At length, the white people came to this country from England, in ships. They settled in various parts of the land, and built towns and villages. The Indians gradually disappeared, and now there are very few, except those who live in the western country, where they are yet numerous.
England is a country which lies at a distance of three thousand miles, in an easterly direction. We can only go to England in ships. The people there dress very much as the people do in this country. The picture shows you an English gentleman and lady, walking in the streets in London. London is one of the largest cities in the world. The streets are full of people, carts and coaches. There are a great many beautiful buildings in London.
The French are inhabitants of France, in the west of Europe. Their country is fruitful and pleasant. Their chief city is Paris on the river Seine. They are a gay and sprightly people, fond of music, dancing, conversation and dress. The higher classes are very polite. See how the gentleman in the picture bows to the lady! They have many learned men among them, and a great variety of good books: but the poorer people are left too much without instruction.
Spain lies to the south-west of France. The people, as you see in
the picture, dress very differently from what they do in this country.
They are very grave and polite. The men are great smokers. A
man who travelled in Spain, and wrote a book giving an account of
his travels, says it is as common to see smoke come out of a Spaniard’s
mouth, as out of a chimney.

Spain is a warm country, and
produces oranges and lemons.
Dutch.

Here are some people who live in Holland. The women wear great broad bonnets, and the men are great smokers. They puff, puff, puff, all day long; even the women sometimes smoke, and the boys imitate their fathers and mothers. Yet they are very clean and industrious; they love money, and are willing to work hard to get it.

Holland is a very flat country, and has a great many canals, on which the people travel in boats drawn by horses.
Russians.

Russia is a very extensive country in the north of Europe. The people have a very singular amusement in that country. They pile up a great mass of ice in winter, forming a slope on one side. This slope is very steep; then they get into sleds, and slide down the slope with prodigious swiftness. This is very much like sliding down hill in our country.
The Turks live in Turkey, a large country in the east of Europe and west of Asia. Their chief city is Constantinople. Instead of a hat, they wear a piece of cloth bound about their heads, which they call a turban. They sit with their feet under them, on mats or cushions, and do not use chairs. The Turks are ignorant and cruel. The men are allowed to have four wives apiece. They spend the most of their time in smoking.
Chinese.

The Chinese are inhabitants of China. As people of other countries are not allowed to travel in China, we know but little about the country. It is very populous, and parents who have more children than they can support, are allowed to throw their infants into the streets and rivers. Many of the people are born and live all their lifetime in boats on the canals. China supplies the whole civilized world with tea.
The Persians live in Asia, a country between the Persian gulf and the Caspian sea, which you may see by looking on the map of Asia.

They are, generally speaking, a fine race of men; they are not tall; but it is rare to see any of them diminutive or deformed, and they are, in general, strong and active.
The Hindoos are so called from Indo or Hindoo, which in the Sanscrit language, signifies the moon, from which and the sun they deduce their fabulous origin. Hindostan, the domestic appellation of India, is derived from Hindoo and stan, a region; and the river Indus takes its name from the people.

They are idolators, and worship the idol Juggernaut.
Egyptians.

Egypt is a country on the eastern border of Africa. There are several large cities in Egypt. Cairo, the largest, is equal to New York and Boston put together. I suppose you have read about Pharaoh and the children of Israel, in the Bible. Well, it was in Egypt that Pharaoh lived. If you will look on a map, you will see that between Egypt and Arabia is the Red Sea. It was in that sea that Pharaoh and his army were drowned, while they were pursuing the Israelites.

If you will look at the picture, you will see, in the background, a representation of a pyramid. There are several of these pyramids in Egypt. They are built of large pieces of stone, and the tallest of them is three times as high as a meeting-house steeple.
Hottentots.

The Hottentots live in South Africa and Caffraria. The persons of the Hottentots are tall, but their hands and feet are small in comparison with the other parts of their bodies, which may be considered as their characteristic mark. Their skin is of a yellowish brown hue, resembling that of a European in the last stages of the jaundice.

They besmear their bodies with fat, mixed with soot, which is their dress.
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