

Turkey, Persia, and Arabia contain vast dry regions, with only wandering herdsmen for inhabitants; but they have, also, some of the most fertile lands in Asia.

All of these three countries **produce** fruits, drugs, and perfumeries; and Arabia yields coffee and spices.

Turkey is part of the Turkish Empire, with its capital at Constantinople, in Europe.

Persia is a kingdom, and Teheran is its capital.

EXERCISE.—(Open books to the map of Asia.) Find Siberia. Find Russian Turkestan; a body of water within it. Find Persia; Turkey; Arabia. What interesting places in Turkey (pp. 167, 168) did you read about? Find Ispahan; what have you read (p. 170) about it?

LXVII.—THE INDIES.

(PART I., PAGES 171, 172.)

We have already seen what a wonderful region this part of Asia is. Long ago, when the sea-going peoples of Europe were each trying to gain as much as possible of the wealth of the Indies, they began to establish trading stations on the coasts of the peninsulas and the islands. Little by little, and in various ways, they have increased their territories, until now the larger part of the Indies belongs to them. But part of the eastern peninsula is still ruled by native peoples.

The **Indies include** two great peninsulas and a large group of islands at the southeast of Asia.

The **climate** is hot, with abundance of rain.

Rare woods, spices, ivory, and precious stones are part of the **natural wealth**. The **cultivated productions** are coffee, sugar, indigo, rice, cotton, and opium.