

589. The following table gives the railway mileage in British possessions, together with the number of persons and of square miles of area to each mile of railway :—

Railway mileage in British Possessions.

RAILWAYS IN BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

COUNTRIES.	Miles of Railway.	Number of Persons to each Mile.	Square Miles of Area to each Mile.
United Kingdom.....	19,943	1,917	6
India.....	16,108	16,813	97
Canada.....	14,004	370	247
Australasia (Total).....	11,210	342	282
New South Wales.....	2,263	496	137
New Zealand.....	1,897	349	55
Cape of Good Hope.....	1,785	817	122
Victoria.....	2,341	478	37
Queensland.....	2,064	197	324
South Australia.....	1,774	183	509
Tasmania.....	375	404	69
Natal.....	259	2,047	79
Ceylon.....	181	16,575	136
Western Australia.....	497	88	2,132
Jamaica.....	64	9,904	67
Mauritius.....	92	4,051	9
Newfoundland.....	109	1,881	385
Trinidad.....	54	4,012	34
Barbados.....	24	7,500	7
British Guiana.....	20	14,103	5,450
Malta.....	8	20,481	15

* Including coal cars.

590. Canada, it will be seen, has 2,794 miles of railway more than all the Australasian Colonies combined, and 5,065 miles more than the continent of Australia; but on the assumption that a railway only opens up country to the extent of about 20 miles on either side, there is yet a vast amount of country waiting for development, as on that basis there are only 560,160 square miles of this country within ordinary reach of railway facilities—just about one-sixth of the total area. In the Australasian Colonies about one-eighth of the area has been thus developed.

Proportion of railway development to area.

591. The total railway mileage of the British Empire is 60,123, which on the estimated area of 8,116,226 square miles, gives

Railway mileage of British Empire.