The following table is compiled from a variety of sources, and gives the date of the opening of the first railway in the British Empire, and in all the principal countries in the world, the length of railway lines therein and the porportion of railway mileage to area :—

STEAM RAILWAYS IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

Countries.	Date of Opening.	Miles of Railway.	Square Miles of Area to each Mile.
United Kingdom	Sept. 17, 1825	22,078	5·4
India	April 18, 1853	25,525	61·1
Canada	July 23, 1836	18,868	166·6
Australasia—			
Australia	Sept. 14, 1854	13,821	220·0
New Zealand	Dec. 1, 1863	2,523	46·0
Cape of Good Hope	June 26, 1860	3,122	155·3
Natal with Zululand		626	46·6
Rhodesia and East Africa	Oct, 7, 1893	4,000	
Ceylon	" 1, 1865	298	85·0
Jamaica	Nov. 21, 1845	185	23·9
Mauritius	May 13, 1862	105	6·7
Newfoundland	" 13, 1867	672	62·8
Trinidad	" 13, 1880	89	20·0
Barbados	Sept. 10, 1883	24	6·9
British Guiana	" 1, 1864	94	1,280·0
Malta		8	14·6
Hong Kong		297	0·1
Transvaal		1,203	99·0
Orange River State		597	54·7
Borneo	1901	35	31,000·0

RAILWAYS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Europe—			
Austria-Hungary and Bosnia	Sept. 20, 1828	22,917	11·4
Belgium	May 5, 1835	3,943	2·9
Denmark	Sept. 18, 1844	1,865	7·9
France	Oct. 1, 1828	26,904	7·6
Germany	Dec. 7, 1835	31,933	6·5
Greece	Feb. 18, 1869	696	41·0
Holland	Sept. 13, 1839	1,994	6·9
Italy	Oct. 3, 1839	9,821	11·2
Norway	July 14. 1853	1,286	97·0
Portugal	" 9, 1854	1,474	22·2
Roumania	Oct. 4, 1860	2,061	23·4
Russia and Finland	April 4, 1838	36,526	238·0
Servia		359	51·5
Spain	Oct. 30, 1848	8,300	23·1
Sweden	Feb. 9, 1851	7,034	24·7
Switzerland	June 15, 1844	2,458	6·5
Turkey in Europe	Oct. 4, 1860	1,952	52·8
Asia—			
Asiatic Turkey		1,715	400·3
China	June 3, 1876	401	10,66›·0
Dutch Possessions—Java and Sumatra	Aug. 10, 1867	1,335	75·4
Japan	Oct. 17, 1873	4,750	21·5
Persia		34	18,470·6
Philippines		120	
*Russia in Asia			
Malay States		124	286·2
Siam	April, 1893	203	1,117·3
French Possessions		213	

* 4,706 miles included in Russia.