

THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

Not of Recent Growth, but Took an Irresistible Impulse in Sixteenth Century.

From the Philadelphia Times.

The political economists and statisticians have been doing some useful work recently in measuring "The White Man's Burden." To do this they have used both population and area, and they have decided that as expressed by area the burden is 42 per cent. of the whole world, or in relative numbers of square miles 22,000,000 of the 52,000,000 of the earth's land surface. The following table presents the matter a little more clearly:

	Square miles.
Great Britain.....	3,987,312
France	2,936,563
Germany	1,020,070
Russia	265,381
United States.....	160,601
Netherlands	123,677
Portugal	96,605
Spain	79,311

Dr. Dorchester contributes most of these facts to the London Times, and makes his contention valuable by pointing out that the burden is by no means of recent growth, but took on an irresistible impulse in the sixteenth century, which if stronger at times than at others has never ceased to be the potential movement in the world's affairs. Estimated in area it had already attained in 1800 6,250,000 square miles. In the next eighty years 8,750,000 had been added to the possessions of the colonial powers. Since that time Germany and the United States have become possessors of colonies, the former with 265,000 square miles, the latter with 160,000. It is noted that the total colonial area is 7.7 times greater than the total area of the home countries, and the population of the colonial and protectorate countries is estimated at 447,290,000, or 33 per cent. of the whole world's population. The area of Great Britain's burden is seventy-seven times more than her local home area, of France eighteen, of Portugal twenty-two, the Netherlands sixty-five, Germany five, and Russia three times.

These are only relative figures, but their value to the expansionist is to show that as yet we have not by any means secured our proportion, while a corollary flowing from it and emphasized by the news from the Philippines is that we are having a hard time getting possession of even that modicum.