

computed to contain 190 millions of square miles, of which three-fifths are covered by seas, and another large proportion by vast bodies of fresh water, by polar ice and eternal snows; so that taking into consideration sterile tracts, morasses, &c., scarcely more than one-fifth of the surface of the globe is fit for the habitation of man and terrestrial animals.\* The area of the Pacific Ocean alone, is estimated as equal to the entire surface of the dry land. The distribution of the land is exceedingly irregular, the greater proportion being situated in the northern hemisphere,



TABLE I.—THE EARTH AS SEEN FROM THE MOON.†

as a reference to a terrestrial globe, or a map of the world, will clearly demonstrate.

\* Bakewell's Geology.

† De la Beche.