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Introductory Geography in Readings and Recitations

William Swinton

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AIDS IN GEOGRAPHY.

CHAPTER I

RELATING TO FREE TEXT BOOKS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Sec. 1. When a pupil in the public school in any town shall lose, destroy or unnecessarily injure any school books or school appliance, furnished to said pupil as the property of said town, the parent or guardian of such pupil shall be notified of the fact, and if he or she does not repair the damages, shall be responsible for the replacement of the school appliance. For a violation of this section, the city may collect from the parent or guardian of the pupil the replacement cost of the item.

Sec. 2. School committees are hereby authorized to make rules and regulations for the distribution and preservation of school books and school appliances furnished at the expense of the town, provided the same shall not be repugnant to the laws of the state.
INTRODUCTORY

GEOGRAPHY

IN

READINGS AND RECITATIONS

By

WILLIAM SWINTON

NEW YORK · CINCINNATI · CHICAGO

AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY
NOTE.

This book forms an introduction to the author’s “Grammar School Geography,” and the two books furnish a complete course of geographical study for common schools.

The plan of this “Introductory” is similar to that which has met wide approval in the author’s “Elementary, or Brief Course;” that is, it combines reading-lessons (to enliven and stimulate) with recitation-lessons (to emphasize and fasten).

By its moderate size, simple style, and close relation of matter read to matter recited, it is suited to the capacity of beginners, while the text is so graded that the “Introductory” connects with the “Grammar School Geography” without the need of any intermediate manual.

NEW YORK, March, 1882.

W. S.
INTRODUCTORY LESSONS

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

New England States

Middle Atlantic States

Southern States

Central States

Pacific Highland and Coast

Review Questions on United States

OTHER COUNTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA

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READING-LESSON 1

ABOUT THE EARTH

We live on the outside, or surface, of a great ball called the earth, or world. Already we know a little about the surface of the earth. We know something about the place where we have our home, and about our own neighborhood. Every child has learned the name of the state in which he lives, and knows that our country is called the United States. But even the United States is only a part of the earth's surface. It is but one country out of many countries in the world.

So, too, we know the kind of people among whom we have always lived. But there are many kinds of people in the world, white people and black people, yellow people and copper-colored people; and these have very different ways of living.

There is a study that teaches us about the surface of the earth, its countries, and its inhabitants. This is Geography. Geography has many useful things to teach us. It teaches us how all the different people in the world make their living; teaches what it teaches.
the articles of which they have a plenty, and trade them off for articles which they need.

It has also many wonderful tales to tell,—true stories of flaming mountains and moving rivers, of huge waterfalls and great spouting springs, of vast deserts and strange underground caves, of lands where it is always summer and lands where it is always winter, of places where the people have only one long day and one long night in the year,—each lasting six months.

But, after all, is there any thing that seems much stranger than what we learned at the beginning of this lesson,—that we live on the surface of a great ball? For who would think this without being told it? The earth looks flat,—it appears to be a great plain. And in olden times even the wisest men believed the earth to be a great plain. They thought that if a person should travel far enough he would come to the end of the world. But the earth is round nearly like a globe, or sphere. And so when we look at the earth from the moon, we can easily see that the earth is round.

At last a wise man here and there began to think that the earth could not be flat. What Columbus thought. One of these men was Columbus. You have heard how he set out on the voyage that led to his finding America. Now, he would never have started on that daring voyage if he had not believed the world to be round. He found America by believing that the earth is round.

About fifty years after the time of Columbus another daring navigator named Magellan made a still more wonderful voyage. He sailed quite around the earth. The word circumnavigate means the same as "sail around," and so we say that Magellan was the first man who circumnavigated the world. He set out from a port in Spain, and after sailing on and on, without turning back, his ships reached the same port from which they had started. The voyage took more than three years.

People who live on the seashore, or on a large lake, can see any day something that shows the earth is round. When a ship is coming into port, the tops of the masts are seen first, then the sails, and last of all the hull. So when a ship is going out to sea, the hull is first lost to sight, then the sails, and last of all the tops of the masts. This would not be so if the earth were flat.

That the earth is round there are many other proofs given us by learned men. These reasons you will understand better when you have studied geography more; but if we were asked what is the shape of the earth, we say that it is nearly the shape of a globe, or sphere.

About the Earth.

FOR RECITATION.

What is Geography?

Geography is the study that teaches us about the surface of the earth, its countries, and their inhabitants.

What is the shape of the earth?

It is round nearly like a globe, or sphere.

How was the true shape of the earth first found out?

By sailing around the earth.

Give another proof that the earth is round.

When a ship is coming in from sea the tops of the masts are seen first, then the sails, and last the hull.

Direction and Distance.

Giving direction.

We are going to learn about many places, so let us start with the place where we are,—the schoolroom. The first thing we ask about a place is, "Where is it?"

About the schoolroom, the church, the post-office; but if we wish to tell a person where a place is, we must direct him which way to go to it. That is, we must give him the direction.

All over the world people have come to learn direction by the sun; for the sun can be seen by people everywhere, even by the Indian in the deep forest, or by the mariner on the wide ocean. So in every
some one to point out to you this star, and tell you how direction is found by it.

But the very best way of telling direction at all times is by a compass. This wonderful little instrument shows not only the four chief points or directions, — north, south, east, west; but the points between these, — north-east, south-east, south-west, north-west; and even points between these again.

Perhaps you have seen a compass such as the steersman on board a ship uses, called the “mariner’s compass,” or a compass such as surveyors use; or, if not, you very likely have seen a pocket-compass.

To locate a place exactly, that is, to tell where it is, we must be able not only to tell in what direction it is from us, but how far off it is. We must know its distance as well as its direction.

Every day you hear people speaking of the common measures of length, as a foot, a yard, a mile. You have seen the carpenter measuring by his foot-rule. Perhaps you have seen a surveyor out with his men, measuring distance by means of a marked chain. We can understand how these things are done; but it is not very wonderful to think that the astronomer, by the use of the telescope and other instruments, can tell the distance from the earth to the sun, or from star to star?

The mile is the measure most used in speaking about places. Now, if you have in your mind a pretty good idea of how long a mile is, it will help you to understand what a very great globe the earth is. The distance through it is about eight thousand miles, and the distance around it is nearly twenty-five thousand miles. The measure through the center of a ball, or globe, is called its diameter; the measure around it is called its circumference.

If a railroad could be built around the earth, it would take a very fast train, going all the time, thirty days to make the trip. If there were no sea to stop you, and you could walk ten hours a day at the rate of four miles an hour, it would take nearly two years to make the whole journey.

For Regulation.

1. **What are the four chief points of the compass?**
   - They are east, west, north, and south.

2. **Where is east?**
   - East is where the sun seems to rise.

3. **Where is west?**
   - West is where the sun seems to set.

4. **Where are north and south?**
   - If we stretch our right arm towards the east, and our left arm towards the west, the north is in front of us and the south behind us.

5. **Which way does our shadow point at noon?**
   - It points toward the north.

6. **What names are given to the points of the compass between the four chief points?**
   - North-east, south-east, south-west, and north-west.

7. **What is the size of the earth?**
   - The earth is nearly eight thousand miles through (in diameter), and about twenty-five thousand miles around (in circumference).

### About a Map.

#### The Schoolroom.—A Plan.

Here we start from the schoolroom again. In the picture we see maps hung on the wall; and we must learn what a map is, for without maps we could know very little about geography.

The drawing shows us the inside, or interior, of a schoolroom. We see the floor, ceiling, walls, windows, and the desks and other objects in the room. Every part of this drawing is really equally far off and equally near to us; but this does not seem to be so: the part in the center of the drawing appears to be the farthest off, and the different objects in the schoolroom are shown as in the various positions in which we should see them if we stood at the door, and looked in. It is a picture.

Now, if we could lift off the roof and look down, we should see the floor, and all the objects on it. And, if a drawing of the schoolroom were made as we should then see it, we should have what is called a ground-plan, or a plan of the schoolroom, as at the top of the next column.

Suppose you draw a plan of your schoolroom.

First, you must measure it. Let us say it is forty feet long and thirty feet wide. Of course you can not draw on your slate or on the blackboard a line forty feet long: so let us make one inch stand for ten feet, then the lines for the longer sides of the room will be four inches, and those for the shorter sides three inches.

This is making the drawing on what is called a scale,—a scale of one inch to ten A scale. We have all seen a photograph of a man, six feet tall; but was the figure in the photograph six feet in length? No: perhaps it was only three inches. Now, if the man was six feet (seventy-two inches) high, and the picture only three inches long, we should say that the picture was on a scale of one inch to seventy-two, or one inch to two feet.

As we have measured the schoolroom, and made a plan of it, so we may measure the school-grounds, and make a map of them. We speak of a “plan” of a building, and of a “map” of the school-grounds, or the school-district, or our state, or the United States, or the world. A map is a plan of the whole or any part of the earth’s surface.

When we drew the plan of the schoolroom we did not make pictures of the objects on the floor: we represented the objects by lines and marks. So we draw the map of the school-grounds by using signs that stand for the different objects in them.
If you think a little, you will see that we can
Why maps are useful. We can not get along at all in learning about the different parts of the earth without maps. No matter how many pictures of any part of the world you may have seen, you can not tell where it is, nor of what shape it is, nor how large it is, unless you have a map of it.

One thing must be kept in mind all the time in looking at a map — its scale. We may make a map of a country on a small scale or on a large scale. Sometimes we make quite a large map to show a small country; and sometimes we make quite a small map to show a large country in a general way. We might make a map of the whole world on a space no larger than that used in drawing the map of the school-ground.

Maps are generally made with the top for the north, the right side for the east, the bottom for the south, and the left side for the west.

FOR RECITATION.
1. What is a plan, or ground-plan, of the school-room?
   It is such a drawing as we might make if we could look down from above on the room.

2. What is a map?
   A map is a plan of the whole or of any part of the earth’s surface.

3. What must we bear in mind in drawing a map or in studying one?
   We must bear in mind its scale.

4. How are the directions generally shown on maps?
   The top generally represents north, and the bottom south; the right side east, and the left side west.

5. What is a plan, or ground-plan, of the schoolroom?
   It is such a drawing as we might make if we could look down from above on the room.

6. What must we bear in mind in drawing a map or in studying one?
   We must bear in mind its scale.

7. How are the directions generally shown on maps?
   The top generally represents north, and the bottom south; the right side east, and the left side west.

RECORDING-LESSON IV.
DIVISIONS OF LAND: ISLAND, PENINSULA, CAPE, ISTHMUS.

Atoll
Coral
Isthmus (is-teen-us) | pen-insu-la
Polyp (pol-yupp)

WHERE do people live and build their houses?
You say, on the land; and that is right. Land and water.
The solid land is the dwelling-place of man. Where do fishes live, and on what do ships sail? You say that fishes live in the water, and ships sail on the water. Now, the earth’s surface consists of land and water; for there is no part of the earth that is not either the one or the other of these.

If you have ever been at the seashore, you know that the edges of the land, where they touch the water, are not straight and even, but are notched and uneven. Parts of the land stretch out into the water more than others, and between these are openings through which the water flows up into the land. Then, again, every one knows that some parts of the land are higher than others.

There are different names for the different parts of land and water. And as these different forms of land and water were not made by man, but are as we find them in nature, we call them natural divisions of land and water.

Islands, peninsulas, capes, isthmuses, valleys, plains, plateaus, and mountains are names of the natural divisions of land, — eight divisions. They are all shown in the picture and on the map above.

Almost every pupil must have seen an island, and knows that it is a body of land surrounded by water. Even if you have not seen an island in the sea, you may have seen one in a lake or river. Islands are of all sizes, some very small, others very large. Some are quite near the coast, others are hundreds of miles out in the ocean.

The strangest islands of all are those called coral islands. These have been built up from the bottom of the sea very slowly by millions and millions of little animals.

The coral animal, called the coral polyp, is at first somewhat like a small drop of jelly. Millions of these little creatures fasten themselves to rocks at the bottom of the sea, where the water is shallow. Soon a little stony matter forms in the body of each polyp; and, when the animal dies, the stony matter remains. This goes on in a way which the teacher will explain to you, and at last a real island is formed. The most beautiful coral islands are of a round shape. These are called atolls.

You may be sure that if you live on the coast, or near a large lake, you have seen a peninsula. What does this word mean?

“Pene” in Latin means almost, and “insula” means island: so “peninsula” signifies almost an island. A peninsula is a body of land nearly surrounded by water.
At the end of the peninsula (in the picture of the land divisions) you see a high point of land extending into the water. This is called a cape (which is from a Latin word meaning head), because a cape is generally a head of land, or as we say a headland. If we were making a sea-voyage, we should hear a good deal about capes; for the first thing we should see when we got in sight of land would most likely be one of these headlands.

The only other division of land that is named from its shape is an isthmus. The word "isthmus" means neck. And this is just what an isthmus is. Look again at the picture of the divisions of land; you see the peninsula, which we may compare to a head, and the mainland, which we may compare to the body. These are joined by an isthmus, which is a sort of neck. So an isthmus is a narrow neck of land joining two larger bodies of land.

FOR RECITATION.
1. What does the earth's surface consist of? It consists of land and water.
2. How many natural divisions of land are there, and what are they? There are eight natural divisions of land — islands, peninsulas, capes, isthmuses, valleys, plains, plateaus, and mountains.
3. What is an island? An island is a body of land surrounded by water.
4. What is a peninsula? A peninsula is a body of land nearly surrounded by water.
5. What is a cape? A cape is a point of land extending into the water.
6. What is an isthmus? An isthmus is a narrow neck of land joining two larger bodies of land.

DIVISIONS OF LAND: PLAIN, PLATEAU, VALLEY, MOUNTAIN.

A plain is a tract of low and generally level land. There are different kinds of plains in different countries. In the western part of our own country are vast level or wave-like plains called prairies. A prairie is like a waving sea of grass, prairies.

In some countries are other kinds of grassy plains, as the pampas in South America. The pampas are immense grassy plains, deserts are vast sandy plains.

A plateau is a level with the land in the fore-part of the picture it is raised high above it, just as the top of a table is raised above the floor. Sometimes land of this kind is called a table-land. But the more common name for it is plateau.

A valley is the low land between hills or mountains. Generally a brook or river runs through a valley. It is likely that every pupil has seen a valley. But you must not think that all valleys are small, or can be seen at one view. Some valleys are very long and wide. Such, in our own country, is the Mississippi Valley: it is so large that it takes in many states, and is the home of millions of people.

When the land, instead of being sunk below the surrounding country, is raised above it, we call it a hill; and a very high hill is called a mountain. The highest mountain in the world is Mount Everest, in Asia. It is nearly five and a half miles high. Though it is on the hottest part of the globe, it is covered with snow all the year round.

The strangest of all mountains are the burning mountains, called volcanoes. These are mountain-peaks that have great openings in them like chimneys. The top of the great chimney is called the crater of the volcano; and through the crater steam, melted stones, cinders, and other substances are at times thrown out from within the earth. In some cases the great outpourings from volcanoes have covered up whole cities, with all their inhabitants.

Mountains are generally seen standing, not alone, but in long rows of peaks. Such a row is called a mountain-chain, or mountain-range. Often several chains or ranges of mountains are found side by side, with wide plateaus between them.

FOR RECITATION.
1. What is a plain?
   A plain is a tract of low and generally level land.
2. Describe three different kinds of plains.
   The prairies and pampas are immense grassy plains, deserts are vast sandy plains.
3. What is a plateau?
A plateau is a vast elevated plain.

4. What is a valley?
A valley is the low land between hills or mountains.

5. What is a mountain? What is a hill?
A mountain is a great ridge of land rising above the surrounding country. A hill is a ridge of land not so high as a mountain.

6. What is a volcano?
A volcano is a burning mountain.

7. What is a mountain-chain, or mountain-range?
A mountain-chain, or range, is a long row of mountains.

8. What is a lake?
A lake is a body of water surrounded by land, while an island is a body of land surrounded by water.

9. What is a river?
A river is a large stream of water flowing through the land.

10. What is a sea, gulf, or bay?
A sea, gulf, or bay is a body of water partly or nearly surrounded by land.

11. What is a strait?
A strait is a narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water.

12. What is a strait?
A strait is a narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water.

13. What is a strait?
A strait is a narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water.

14. What is a strait?
A strait is a narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water.

15. What is a strait?
A strait is a narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water.

16. What is a strait?
A strait is a narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water.

17. What is a strait?
A strait is a narrow passage of water connecting two larger bodies of water.
We have learned about the smaller divisions of land and water; but we have not seen what are the great bodies of land and the great bodies of water on the surface of the earth.

If we could get very high up in the air, so as to look down on our world, when the sun was shining full on it, that half of the earth which the sun was shining on would appear very much as in this picture. And in both pictures the dark parts represent land and the lighter parts water.

Each of these pictures represents one half of the surface of the earth. Each half is called a hemisphere, and this is not a hard word to understand; for we know that the earth is a sphere, and “hemi” means half.

In the map on the next page we see the hemispheres placed side by side. The one on the left is named the Western Hemisphere, and the one on the right, the Eastern Hemisphere. And these two halves show us the great bodies of land and water.

There are five grand divisions of land. Two are in the Western Hemisphere,—Grand divisions of land. North America and South America. These are called the Western Continent. Three are in the Eastern Hemisphere,—Europe, Asia, and Africa. These are called the Eastern Continent. In the Eastern Hemisphere are also a great island called Australia and many other islands in the Pacific Ocean. This island-world is called Oceanica.

The grand divisions of water are called oceans. Of these there are five, Of water. three great oceans,—the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian oceans; and two smaller oceans,—the Arctic Ocean in the North, and the Antarctic Ocean in the South.

By looking at the map we see that there is much more water than land. Only about one-quarter of the earth’s surface is land,—the other three-quarters are water.

At the top of the map you notice the words “North Pole,” and at the bottom, “South Pole.” The North Pole is the point farthest north on the earth’s surface; the South Pole is the point farthest south.

The last thing we need to observe in this map is a line marked Equator. It stretches across both the Western Hemisphere and the Eastern Hemisphere: so that we may think of it as a line running quite around the earth. There is really no such line drawn around the earth; but it is useful to imagine such a line, and to mark it on maps. The Equator is just midway between the North Pole and the South Pole; hence it divides the earth’s surface into two hemispheres. The half of the earth north of the Equator is called the Northern Hemisphere; the half south of it, the Southern Hemisphere. The word “equator” means that which divides equally.

**FOR RECITATION.**

1. What is a hemisphere?
   A hemisphere is one half of the earth.

2. What is the half of the earth shown in the left-hand picture called?
   The Western Hemisphere.

3. What is the half of the earth shown in the right-hand picture called?
   The Eastern Hemisphere.

4. What is a continent?
   A continent is one of the largest divisions of the land.

5. How many grand divisions of land are there?
   There are five,—two in the Western Hemisphere, called North America and South America; and three in the Eastern Hemisphere, called Europe, Asia, and Africa.

6. What is the island-world called?
   It is called Oceanica.

7. What is an ocean?
   An ocean is one of the largest divisions of the water.

8. How many oceans are there?
   There are five oceans,—the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Antarctic oceans.

9. How much of the surface of the earth is land, and how much water?
   About one-quarter is land; the other three-quarters are water.

10. What is the North Pole, and what is the South Pole?
    The North Pole is the point farthest north on the earth’s surface, and the South Pole the point farthest south.

11. What is the Equator?
    The Equator is a line which we may imagine as running quite around the earth, midway between the two poles.

12. What hemispheres are made by the Equator?
    The Northern Hemisphere, north of the Equator, and the Southern Hemisphere, south of it.
QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.

Western Hemisphere.

Which continent is shown on the map of the Western Hemisphere?
What are the two grand divisions of land in the Western Continent?
Part of what other grand division is shown on the map of the Western Hemisphere?
In what direction is South America from North America?
Which grand division is north of the Equator?
Which one of these grand divisions is crossed by the Equator?
Which grand division is wholly in the Northern Hemisphere?
Which grand division is mostly in the Southern Hemisphere?
What ocean is in the northern part of the Western Hemisphere?
What ocean is in the eastern part?
What ocean is in the southern part?
What ocean is in the western part?

Eastern Hemisphere.

Which continent is shown on the map of the Eastern Hemisphere?
What are the three grand divisions of land in the Eastern Continent?
Which great island, sometimes called a continent, is shown in the map of the Eastern Hemisphere?
In what direction is Europe from Asia? Africa from Asia? Europe from Africa? Asia from Africa?

Which two grand divisions of land are north of the Equator?
Which grand division is crossed by the Equator?
Which two grand divisions are wholly in the Northern Hemisphere?
Which one is partly in the Southern Hemisphere?
What ocean is in the northern part of the Eastern Hemisphere?
What ocean is in the eastern part?
What ocean is in the southern part?
What ocean is in the western part?
What ocean is south of Asia?
The Belts of Climate.

### Reading-Lesson VIII.

**The Belts of Climate.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>frigid</th>
<th>temperate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sub-polar</td>
<td>tropical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temperate</td>
<td>polar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let us now put together three facts: 1. We get our heat from the sun. 2. It is generally cooler every day in the morning and evening than it is at noon. 3. The weather in most parts of the world is hot in summer and cold in winter.

Now, anyone can see that at noon the rays of the sun fall on us more nearly over our heads (that is, more nearly vertically) than in the morning or evening.

And if we watch the seasons we shall see that the sun goes higher up in the sky in summer than in winter. From these facts we learn that the sun’s rays are hottest when they fall most directly, and coldest when they fall most slantingly (obliquely).

Now for the same reason it is in some parts of the world always hot, and in other parts always cold. The sun will always give most heat at that part of the world where its rays fall most directly, and least heat where they slant off most. The sun’s rays give most heat at the Equator, and least heat at those two opposite points called the North Pole and the South Pole.

There is a broad belt all round the world, on each side of the Equator, where the sunshine is always hot. There are two belts, one around the North Pole and the other around the South Pole, where it is always cold. Then there is a belt north of the Equator, between the always-hot and the always-cold belt, where there is a hot season (summer) and a cold season (winter). There is another belt of the same kind south of the Equator. These we call temperate, or moderate, belts. The temperate belts have the different seasons. By “climate” we mean, for the most part, the weather as regards heat and cold. And in speaking of the different climates we use the word zone, which means the same thing as “belt.”

The hot zone is called the Torrid (or burning) Zone. The cold zones are called the Frigid (or frozen) zones,—that around the North Pole the North Frigid Zone, and that around the South Pole the South Frigid Zone. The temperate zone between the Torrid Zone and the North Frigid Zone is called the North Temperate Zone; and that between the Torrid Zone and the South Frigid Zone, the South Temperate Zone.

One other fact about climate you should know: it is not always the case that places in the Torrid Zone have a scorching climate. In some parts of the Torrid Zone it is so cold that the snow lies all the year round. Let us see why this is so.

We have most of us climbed a mountain in summertime. Even though the air was hot at the foot of the mountain, we found, if the mountain was a lofty one, that when we reached the top the air was cool. If we had taken a thermometer with us we should have noticed that the heat was many degrees less than in the plain below. In all parts of the world, the higher we go up above the earth’s surface, the colder it is. How strange it is, that by climbing a mountain three miles high we can, even at the Equator, pass from cool to heat, and that when we reached the top the air was cool.

For Recitation. (See map, page 11.)

1. In what part of the earth does the sun give most heat?
   - It gives most heat where its rays fall vertically, — that is, at the Equator.

2. In what part does it give least heat?
   - It gives least heat where its rays fall most obliquely, — that is, at the poles.

3. What does the word “zone” mean?
   - It means a belt of climate.

4. Into how many zones is the earth’s surface divided?
   - Into five zones.

5. What is the middle zone called?
   - It is called the Torrid Zone.

6. What are the two zones on each side of the Torrid Zone called?
   - The one north of the Torrid Zone is called the North Temperate Zone; the one south of it is called the South Temperate Zone.

7. What are the Frigid zones called?
   - The zone around the North Pole is called the North Frigid Zone, and that around the South Pole the South Frigid Zone.

8. How does climate depend on the height of a place?
   - The greater the height of a place the colder its climate is.

### Plants and Animals.

**Plants and Animals.**

**Vegetation.**

**Plants and Animals.**

**Vegetation.**

*Things that grow from the ground are called plants, or vegetables.* All the plants that grow naturally in a country are called the vegetation of that country.

Now, we need to think a great deal about the climate, because the vegetation of a country depends mostly on its climate.

In countries where the climate is hot and moist, there are many kinds of large plants. In countries where the climate is very cold, the frost is in the ground nearly all the time, there are few plants, and these are small.

The plants that grow in the Torrid Zone are called tropical plants. The vegetation here is very rich. Here grow great forests, many different kinds of palm-trees, such as the palm, the coconut, and the Areca palm; and many trees from which we get the most beautiful kinds of wood for furniture, as mahogany and rosewood. Here also are found the sugar-cane, coffee-plant, tobacco-plant, India-rubber tree, spices; and many delicious fruits, as the banana, pineapple, orange, fig, etc.

In the Temperate zones grow the plants we are familiar with, — the elm, oak, pine, maple, walnut, and hemlock; wheat, Indian-corn, oats, and rye; cotton and tobacco; the apple, pear, plum, peach, and grape.

The farther north we go in the North Temperate Zone, and the farther south in the South Temperate Zone, the more scanty the vegeta-
1. **What is meant by the vegetation of a country?**
The vegetation of a country means all the plants that grow naturally in that country.

2. **On what does the vegetation of a country depend?**
It depends mostly on its climate.

3. **What are some of the principal tropical plants?**
They are different kinds of palm-trees, the mahogany, rosewood, and India-rubber trees, the sugar-cane and coffee-plant, together with many delicious fruits.

4. **What can you say of the nature of the vegetation in the Tropics?**
The vegetation of these zones consists of trees, grains, and fruits similar to those with which we are most familiar in our country.

5. **What of the vegetation of the Frigid zones?**
In these regions are found only such small plants as mosses and lichens.

6. **Name some of the chief animals in the different zones.**
The elephant, rhinoceros, giraffe, lion, tiger, hippopotamus, crocodile, ostrich, etc. In the Temperate zones we see the horse, ox, bison, moose, grizzly bear, sheep, goat, kangaroo, etc. In the Frigid zones we see only the whale, polar-bear, reindeer, walrus, seal, and a few water-birds.

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**FOR RECITATION.**

1. **What is meant by the vegetation of a country?**
The vegetation of a country means all the plants that grow naturally in that country.

2. **On what does the vegetation of a country depend?**
It depends mostly on its climate.

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**Plants by Zones.**

**Animals by Zones.**

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**About Mankind.**

The earth is interesting to us chiefly because it is our dwelling-place. It is important because it is the home of mankind; that is, of the men and women and children that live in its various parts.

We find that there are very different kinds of men, and these different kinds of men we call races. Thus we often hear of the Caucasian race. This is called the white race, and is found in all parts of the world. Secondly, there is the yellow, or Mongolian race, found principally in Asia: the Chinese belong to this race. Thirdly, there is the black, negro, or African race, found in Africa and North America. The fourth race is named the Red or copper-colored race, or, as we commonly call them, the Indians; these are the children of the people who were found living in America when the white people of Europe first came here. The fifth race is the brown, or Malay race, found in Asia and the islands of Oceanica.

There are differences among men far greater than differences in complexion and civilized features. We ask which kinds of people are the best educated, and are the most skilled in finding out and doing things which are useful for all the world? Which are making the most progress? And, when we find a people very much noted for all these, we say that they are a highly civilized people.

When we find people who are not so enlightened but who still are not savages, semi-civilized and seem to be on the way to become civilized people, we call them half-civilized.
The races who are the least civilized,—who have no written language, and only the rudest arts,—are called savage races. Those which have made a little progress in civilization are known as barbarian races.

The different ways of living are called the "states of society;" and so we say that there are three states of society,—the civilized, half-civilized, and savage states.

Among all kinds of men there are several bodily needs. The first of these is the need of food. In very hot countries the best food consists of grain and fruits; and we find that in such countries these things grow in great abundance. But the people of very cold climates need such food as will produce heat in the body; and nothing is so good for this as animal food, and especially oils.

There is another want of mankind. It is clothing. In the hottest parts of the world people require little clothing, and that chiefly to protect them from the heat. In the far northern regions, and especially in the Frigid zones, the very warmest clothing, such as the skins of animals, must be used.

A third want is that of shelter. Even the lower animals make for themselves some kind of shelter. You have only to think of the house of the beaver, the den of the wolf, the cell of the bee, the nest of the bird. Probably men in very early times lived in caves no better than bears' dens; and even now the huts and dwellings of many savage tribes are very rude. But in all civilized countries men have learned to build good, lasting, and beautiful houses.

These three things—food, clothing, and shelter—are called the principal wants of mankind. It is true that if we were like some savage tribes we should have very few wants, and these would be easily supplied. Suppose we lived in a country where bread-fruit or banana trees grow in plenty, and without any care from man, we should only have to pluck the fruit to get what food we wanted. In such a country the people need little clothing, and as for shelter, they can build huts of as simple a kind as the nest a bird builds of straw and twigs.

But in civilized countries people can not get along in this simple way. We have very many different wants. And it is found best that a man, instead of being his own farmer, builder, and mechanic, should do only one kind of work, or often indeed a very small part of one kind of work. Hence we have various kinds of business. These are called the occupations of man.

There are three principal occupations,—agriculture, manufacturing, and commerce.

Agriculture is the tilling of the soil. That part of farming which has to do with livestock (that is, horses, mules, cattle, sheep, and hogs) is called grazing. That part which has to do with milk, and with the making of butter and cheese, is called dairying.

And here we may see how close to one another the different kinds of business come. For the making of butter and cheese, as they are now for the most part made,—in large factories and "creameries,"—is really a branch of the second great occupation, name-ly, manufacturing. Manufacturing is the occupation of those people who make articles of use or ornament. The word "manufacturing" means making by hand. But the goods now made by hand are very few indeed compared with the vast quantity made by machinery.

Some other kinds of work, such as lumbering and mining, are also to be thought of rather as branches of manufacturing than as separate occupations.

The third occupation is commerce, which just means trading. Trading between different countries is called foreign commerce.

The third occupation is commerce, which just means trading. Trading between different countries is foreign commerce. Trading between different parts of the same country is called domestic commerce.

Goods sent out of a country are called exports; goods brought into a country are called imports.

FOR RECIPIATION.

1. How many races of men are there? There are five races of men.

2. What are they? They are the white, or Caucasian race; the yellow, or Mongolian race; the brown, or Malay race; the black, negro, or African race; and the copper-colored, or Indian race.

3. How many states of society are there? There are three states of society,—the civilized, half-civilized, and savage states.

4. What are the principal bodily wants of man? They are food, clothing, and shelter.

5. What are the three principal occupations of man? Agriculture, manufacturing, and commerce.
**NORTH AMERICA.**

**READING-LESSON XI.**

**NATURE OF THE COUNTRY.**

*Ap-pa-la 1 chi-an*  
*Si-er'ra-N e-:v:a-da*

Here we see a map of the grand division of land called North America. As this is our home, we wish to learn all about it,—its mountains and rivers, climates and countries, productions and people.

**QUESTIONS ON THE MAP OF NORTH AMERICA.**

**Countries.**—What country forms the north-eastern part of North America? What country includes the middle part of North America? What country north of the United States? What country south of the United States? What country between Mexico and South America? Where are the West Indies?

**Islands.**—What island east of Greenland? What large island east of Canada? What are the four largest islands in the West Indies? What islands west of the Dominion of Canada?

**Peninsulas.**—What peninsula in the eastern part of Canada? In the south-eastern part of the United States? In the south-eastern part of Mexico? In the north-western part of Mexico? In Alaska?

**Capes.**—What cape is the southern point of Greenland? What cape is the south-eastern point of Newfoundland? Name capes on the eastern coast of the United States? What cape is the south-eastern point of the United States? What cape is the southern point of Lower California? What cape is the most westerly point of North America?

**Coast Waters.**—What bay west of Greenland? What strait connects it with the Atlantic Ocean? What large bay in Canada? What strait connects it with the Atlantic Ocean? What gulf south of Labrador? What large gulf south of the United States? What sea east of Central America? What gulf in the western part of Mexico? What sea west of Alaska?

**Mountains.**—What great mountains extend through Canada and the United States? What mountains near the Pacific coast? What range of mountains in Mexico? What mountains in the eastern part of the United States?

**Lakes.**—What four large lakes are wholly in Canada? What five great lakes are drained by the St. Lawrence River into the Atlantic Ocean?

**Rivers.**—What large river flows into the Arctic Ocean? Into Hudson Bay? Into the Gulf of St. Lawrence? What are the two largest rivers flowing into the Gulf of Mexico? What river flows into the Gulf of California? What is the largest river flowing into the Pacific Ocean? What large river flows through Alaska?


First, we must learn in what part of the world it is. Now, by looking at the map we see that the Pacific Ocean is to the west of North America, and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. If we take passage on a steamer at New York or Boston, and sail for about six days to the eastward, across the Atlantic Ocean, we shall reach the western part of Europe. We may land at some seaport in England or France or Spain.
It was from a seaport in Spain that Columbus, nearly four hundred years ago, set out on his wonderful voyage. What did he expect to find? America? No: he hoped that by sailing westward over the Atlantic Ocean he would reach India. For thirty days he sailed on and on, in his little caravels, with only his brave soul to uphold the temperate into the Torrid Zone; so that, while it is nearly four thousand miles.

Now, where is the greatest highland region of North America? In the western part, and you may see it named on this map as the “Pacific Highland.” Here are those great mountains, the Rocky Mountains, which extend from north to south about four thousand miles.

The Rocky Mountains are very high, some of the peaks being from fifteen thousand to eighteen thousand feet above the sea. In many places they can not easily be crossed; and a few years ago, when we began to build a railroad across the continent, the surveyors had to choose with great care the best “passes” for the iron track.

In the Pacific or Western Highland are other mountains, which you may see on the map. All this region is the wonderland of the continent. Here may be seen snow-covered peaks and flaming volcanoes, fearful precipices, great cataracts and geysers, and here much gold and silver are mined. It is still the wild part of North America, and is the home of savage Indians and of the panther, bison, and grizzly bear.

We now look eastward to the Atlantic side of the continent, and we there see the Eastern Highland, extending from the Gulf of St. Lawrence nearly to the Gulf of Mexico. You have no doubt heard of the Green Mountains or the White Mountains, of the Catskills or the Blue Ridge; these ranges all belong to the Appalachian Mountains.

The Appalachian Mountains are not nearly so long as the Rocky Mountains, and their highest peaks are only one-third the height of some of the lofty summits of the Rocky Mountains; but they are rich in coal and iron, and their sides are covered with valuable forests, and in them rise hundreds of streams, which as they flow to the sea turn the machinery of thousands of mills.

If, now, we look between the two great mountain-regions, what do we see? We see a vast extent of lowland, called the Central Plain, the northern part of which is named the Arctic Plain, and the southern part the Mississippi Valley. We must not think that this great plain is all quite flat; for even on the prairies we find rounded hills and wave-like swells of land. Still, for the most part the Central Plain is low and level; and we might here go northward the whole length of North America, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean, without coming to a single mountain.

How different it would be if we should make a journey across the continent from east and west! For, after leaving the lowland of the Atlantic slope, we should climb the Appalachian Mountains, cross the broad plain of the Mississippi Valley, rise to the lofty plateau of the Pacific Highland, and at last, passing down the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, find ourselves again at the level of the sea on the shores of the Pacific Ocean.

Nature of the Country.
FOR RECITATION.

1. Between what oceans is North America?
   It lies between the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west.
2. What is the size of North America?
   North America is larger than South America or Europe, but smaller than Asia or Africa.
3. What is the great mountain-region of North America?
   The Pacific or Western Highland.
4. What are the great mountains of this Highland?
   The Rocky Mountains.
5. What mountains are in the Eastern Highland?
   The Appalachian Mountains.
6. Where is the lowland between these two mountain-regions called?
   It is called the Central Plain.
7. How is the Central Plain divided?
   The Central Plain is divided into the Arctic Plain and the Mississippi Valley.
8. What are the chief products of North America?
   Iron, lead, copper, gold, silver, great forests of valuable timber, wheat, Indian-corn, and cotton.

## READING-LESSON XII.

### LAKES AND RIVERS.

- **Lake Superior** is the largest; it is more than three hundred and fifty miles long, and a hundred and sixty miles wide. Lake Erie is joined to Lake Ontario by the Niagara River; and here are the Falls of Niagara, the greatest, though not the most lovely, cataract in the world. The Indians, who have left us so many beautiful names, called these great falls O-ni-a-ge-na-rah, which means the “Thunder of Waters.”

Another chain of large lakes stretches in a north-westerly direction in the far northern part. These vast lonely lakes, the home of millions of wild-fowl, can be used by the boats of trappers and the canoes of Indians only in the short summer. In the long winters they are closed by ice, and are then traveled over on sledges by the fur-hunters. There are many very large rivers in North America. The Mississippi, meaning “Father of Waters,” is the longest river in the world. Including the Missouri as part of its course, it is four thousand miles in length. It is not only the longest, but perhaps also the most useful, river in the world. Why is this? Because, with its tributaries flowing from the Rocky Mountains, and its tributaries from the Appalachian Mountains, it waters an immense rich valley inhabited by millions of people, and is a great natural highway for trade. The St. Lawrence is a very noble river. See why it is useful. Almost every pupil knows of some river near where he lives, which may not be a tenth part as long as the Mackenzie River, and yet which is of very great use, either because steamers can sail on it, or because it turns the machinery of mills.

### FOR RECITATION.

1. What are the “Great Lakes”?
   The “Great Lakes” are Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. Lake Superior is the largest; it has many rapids or shallow places, which keep steamers from making long trips on it.
2. Which is the largest?
   Lake Superior is the largest.
3. Which is the longest river in North America?
   The Mississippi.
4. What can you say of the Mississippi?
   The Mississippi (including the Missouri) is four thousand miles in length, being the longest river on the globe.
5. Name four other great rivers of North America.
   The Rio Grande, Columbia, Mackenzie, and Yukon.

### READING-LESSON XIII.

### ANIMALS, RACES, AND COUNTRIES.

#### COUGAR

- **Bison**
- **Man-a-tee'**
- **Co-cod-cood’**
- **Pu’tu’ns**

It is a curious fact that none of our familiar domestic animals were found in the American New World when it was discovered. On the other hand, there were found some animals that belong only to America, and for the most part only to North America. Let us learn a little about the most interesting of these. They are the grizzly bear, bison, musk-ox, puma, big-horn, bald eagle, wild turkey, alligator, and manatee.

The dreaded grizzly bear lives in the mountains of the Pacific Highland. It is the largest and fiercest of bears, and his back is often found nine feet in length. All other animals stand in fear of the grizzly. Among the Indians, to kill a grizzly has always been thought a great honor. A necklace formed of the claws of this animal is the greatest prize a hunter can have, because no one is allowed to wear this ornament unless he has himself killed the bear.

The bison, usually called the buffalo, is found only in North America, to the east of the Rocky Mountains. It has a ferocious look, with its short curly horns and its great shaggy coat and mane. To the native Red Man the bison is one of the most valuable of animals, as its body supplies him with almost every thing he needs.

The musk-ox belongs to the Arctic region. It has very large, curiously-shaped horns, which form a kind of helmet on the top of the forehead. Its hair is so long that it almost reaches the ground; so that the animal looks more like a large sheep or goat than an ox. The skin is made into articles of dress by the Eskimos.

The puma, sometimes called the cougar, is the strongest animal of the cat kind in...
North America, and is found in the mountains and forests from northern New York southward to Mexico. It lives chiefly on deer, upon which it springs from a branch overhanging their paths and watering-places. It will kill as many of a herd as it can, sucking only a little of the blood of each. It is cowardly by nature, and will flee from man; but if wounded it will turn on the hunter, and fight him fiercely.

In the Rocky Mountains is found a curious sheep called the big-horn, from the great length of its horns. It is hunted as game. Often on the highest mountain-peak one of the band is placed as a sentinel, and while the others are feeding he keeps watch. They have even sharper eyes and quicker smell than the deer; and, when the sentinel gives the alarm, the whole herd scampers up the mountain, higher and higher, throwing down showers of rocks and stones.

The white-headed eagle, generally called the bald eagle, is the largest among the feathered tribes of North America. You know that the white-headed eagle is the emblem, or sign, of our country; but perhaps you have never heard that when it was first proposed to use the eagle to represent the United States, Benjamin Franklin opposed the idea, saying that "he is a bird of bad character, and does not get his living honestly." This is quite true; for the bald eagle is a great robber and tyrant. Yet he is a splendid bird, with his outstretched wings (nearly eight feet from tip to tip), his snowy white head and neck shining in the sun, and his large hooked, yellow beak.

The wild turkey, the finest of game-birds, is a native of North America. The Indians called it oocoocoo, on account of the funny gobbling sounds it makes; and perhaps this is a better name than "turkey," which was given to it when it was first brought to Europe, because people fancied it came from Turkey!

In the waters of the Southern States is found the alligator. This huge reptile grows to the length of fourteen or fifteen feet. Alligators love stagnant ponds and the creeks of the large Southern rivers, where they may be seen in great numbers, poking their great flat heads through the leaves of water-plants, and watching for their prey. The alligator has been known to seize and destroy men and large animals.

In the Gulf of Mexico and the West Indies is a huge creature which looks like a fish and lives in the water, but is not a fish. This is the manatee, or cow-fish. It is sometimes found as long as fifteen or twenty feet. This animal inhabits the sea-shore, and is found in troops near the mouths of rivers, feeding on water-plants and grasses. It is of a gentle disposition, and is harmless even when attacked. Its flesh is good to eat, and its oil and thick strong skin are valuable.

Besides these we find the deer, bear, seal, beaver, elk, wolf, wild-goose, wild-duck, and numerous water-birds. Large herds of cattle, horses, swine, sheep, and other domestic animals are raised.

There are three principal races in North America. First, there is the white, or Caucasian race, the offspring of settlers from different countries of Europe. The white inhabitants are the most numerous; they are highly civilized, and are engaged in agriculture, mining, manufactures, and commerce. Secondly, there is the colored race, the offspring of Africans who were brought from their own country to be slaves here. They are chiefly employed in agriculture. Thirdly, there are the Indians, or Red Men, and these are the offspring of the native inhabitants of America: they are savages, and live by hunting and fishing. There are also many Chinese laborers in different parts of the country, and a few Eskimos in the north, who live by hunting and fishing. The Chinese and Eskimo belong to the Mongolian race.

FOR RECITATION.

1. Name some of the native animals of North America.
   - The grizzly bear, bison, musk-ox, puma, big-horn, bald eagle, wild turkey, alligator, and manatee.

2. What are the three chief races of North America?
   - The whites, the colored people, and the Indians.
MAP QUESTIONS.

Boundaries.—What country north of the United States? What country partly bounds it on the south? What ocean is east? West?

Capes and Peninsulas.—What four capes on the eastern coast? What two on the western coast? What is the largest peninsula in the United States?

Coast Waters.—Name two large bays on the eastern coast of the United States. What large gulf south of the United States? What bay and sound on the western coast?

Mountains.—What are the greatest mountains in the United States? What mountains near the Pacific coast?

Lakes.—What four lakes are between the United States and Canada? What lake between Michigan and Wisconsin? What lake between New York and Vermont? What lake in Utah?

Rivers.—What river drains the great lakes? Name three large rivers flowing into the Atlantic Ocean. What great river drains the Mississippi Valley? What is the largest eastern branch of the Mississippi? The largest western branch? What two large rivers flow into the Mississippi south of the Missouri? What river forms a boundary between the United States and Mexico? What river flows into the Gulf of California? What large river in the north-western part of the United States?
Our country is called the "United States." Why so named. It is so named because it is made up of forty-four states, all united, or joined together, under one government. Let us first learn how it came to be called the United States.

We have already seen that, after Columbus discovered America, the Spaniards went on taking Mexico and Central America, and the West Indies, and settled there. Very soon the Spaniards were masters of all the southern part of North America. Indeed, they said that the whole of America belonged to them. For about a hundred years the Spaniards were almost the only white people in North America. Then several other nations in Europe began to think it was not right that the Spaniards should own all the New World.

The English had by this time grown to be a great seafaring people, and from time to time English ships crossed the Atlantic, and tried to make settlements on the eastern coast. These trials all failed till early in the seventeenth century. Then one band of Englishmen planted themselves firmly in Virginia (1607); and soon afterwards (1620) another band, the Pilgrim Fathers, made their home much farther north, in Massachusetts.

As time passed, other settlements were made near Virginia, and others near Massachusetts, and still others between the two. At last there came to be thirteen of these settlements, or colonies. They were all under the King of England, and they were all on or near the Atlantic coast. There were no settlements west of the Appalachian Mountains.

These are the names of the thirteen colonies: New Hampshire, Massachusetts, The old Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Thirteen, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

These colonies grew more and more, until a little more than a hundred years ago. Then they felt that the English king was treating them unjustly. And very soon they felt that they could get along without being under the English government. In 1776 they declared their independence, and they won it after a long war of seven years.

The colonies were now States. So they joined together as a nation which they called the United States. And, as they had thrown off the rule of the King of England, they made the government of the new nation quite different from the government of England. They formed a republic, which means a government where the people themselves rule, through men whom they choose to speak for, or, as we say, to represent them.

All the laws and rules for this government the wise fathers of our country agreed upon, and they wrote them out in the Constitution. The Constitution is the highest law of the land.

At first there were only thirteen states.

But as the people grew in numbers, and as more and more people came here from old and crowded countries, they began to spread out beyond the mountains into the West. They drove the Indians before them, and cut down the forests, and built cities, and founded new states.

So now there are forty-four states in place of thirteen. And whereas, at the time when the Constitution was formed, there were less than three millions, there are now over sixty millions of people in the United States.

In our government the body of men chosen to make laws is called Congress. It consists of the Senate and House of Representatives.

The chief officer who carries out the laws is the President, who is elected for a term of four years. The Vice-President is also chosen at the same time.

When any difficulty arises under the laws of the United States, the Supreme Court decides what is right in the matter.

The capital of the United States is Washington, which is in the District of Columbia. Here Congress and the Supreme Court meet, and the President has his residence, called the "White House." Each state has also its own government. Each has its representatives to make laws, its governor to carry out these laws, and its courts to do justice under them.

**Job Recitation:**

1. Why is our country called the United States? Because it is made up of states united under one government.

2. What were the first English settlements made in the United States? The settlement in Virginia (1607), and that in Massachusetts (1620).

3. How many colonies were there when our country was under British rule? There were thirteen colonies. These became states by the Declaration of Independence.

4. How many states are there now? There are forty-four states.

5. What is the population of the United States now? It is over sixty millions.

6. By what body are the laws of the United States made? They are made by Congress, consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

7. Who is the chief executive officer under our government? The President, elected by the people every four years.

8. What body interprets the laws of the United States? The Supreme Court.

The United States lies in the central part of North America, and is wholly in the North Temperate Zone, except Alaska, which lies partly in the North Frigid Zone. It extends about three thousand miles from east to west, and more than thirteen hundred miles from north to south. It is almost as large as Europe, about equal in area to British America, and three times the size of Mexico.

The surface of the United States may be divided into three sections: 1. The Atlantic or Eastern Highland. 2. The Central Plain, or Mississippi Valley, which extends west to the base of the Rocky Mountains, the part nearest those mountains forming the Great Plains. 3. The Pacific or Western Highland, stretching on to the Pacific Ocean. Near its western borders are the Cascade Mountains, and the Coast Range, with the Sierra Nevada Mountains somewhat farther inland. Between these mountain-chains and the Rocky Mountains is the Plateau Belt, in the center of which lies the Great Basin, the southern portion of which is a desert.

The climate in the northern part of the United States is cold, and during the short summers only the hardier kinds of grain, fruit, and vegetables can be raised. In the south the climate is very warm, vegetation is luxuriant, and many tropical fruits abound.

Inhabitants.

The inhabitants of the United States number more than sixty millions. The greater part of these are whites, belonging to the Caucasian race; they are highly civilized, and are engaged in agriculture, manufactures, mining, and commerce both foreign and domestic.

The negroes belong to the black or African race, and are employed chiefly in agriculture; they number about one-eighth of the entire population. The Indians belong to the Red race; they are savages, and get their living by hunting and fishing. The Chinese are of the Mongolian, or yellow race, and are employed chiefly as laborers and house-servants.
THE NEW ENGLAND STATES.

Questions on the Map.

Which are the New England States? What country is north of this section? What ocean is east and south of New England? What state is west? Which is the largest of the New England States? The smallest? Which three are nearly equal in size? Which has no sea-coast? What range of mountains extends through Vermont? What mountains are in New Hampshire? What mountains in Maine? What large island is on the coast of Maine? What two south of Massachusetts? What large island south of Connecticut? What two capes are on the coast of Massachusetts? What two on the coast of Maine? What bays are on the coast of Maine? What large island on the coast of Maine? What sound between Connecticut and Long Island? What lake is between Vermont and New York? In the central part of New Hampshire? In the northern part of Maine? What are the three largest rivers of Maine? What is the longest river of New England? Between and through what states does it flow? What river is in the southern part of New Hampshire?

Of what state is each of these cities the capital?
- Augusta
- Concord
- Montpelier
- Providence
- Newport
- Hartford
- Boston
- Manchester
- New Haven
- Portland

Reading-Lesson XV.

Nature of the Country.

What a number of busy and interesting scenes! Here are men in the great pine-forests, cutting down trees, and loading the timber on a sled, to be hauled by a team of oxen to the river. It is winter; but when spring comes, and thaws the ice, the logs will be floated down to some large saw-mill. As we are speaking of ice, we may glance at the
New England is the north-eastern section of the United States. It includes six states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

How many states does it include?

By whom was its coast first explored?

What is New England?

What of the climate of New England?

What is the highest mountain in New England?

Which are the most noted rivers?

What are the principal kinds of business carried on in New England?

New England has many miles of sea-coast, and in the waters are found cod, mackerel, and other fish. Would you not, then, expect to find many people making their living by the fisheries? We also notice on the coast many wide and deep harbors; so we may guess there will be many vessels sailing out of these harbors, carrying the products of New England to other lands, and bringing back what her people need. And, of course, where so many ships are needed, many must be built, and for this the fine timber is very handy.

We have now seen what are likely to be the principal kinds of business in New England. They are manufacturing, farming, lumbering, ship-building, and fishing. To these we may add quarrying and ice-cutting. And, lastly, commerce.

MT. WASHINGTON AND RAILROAD.
New England is not able to produce all the food the people need, for the soil is not generally fertile. But the New-Englanders are good farmers; and, by tilling their fields very carefully, they raise better crops than poor farmers do from the best soil. Then in many parts there are fine mountain pastures; and in Vermont sheep and cattle raising, and making butter and cheese, bring the people in more money than any other business.

In the vast forests of Maine and New Hampshire there are thousands of men engaged in lumbering, and we have already learned a little about how this work is carried on. Bangor, in Maine, is one of the greatest lumber places in the country.

There is considerable ship-building, especially in the coast towns of Maine and Massachusetts. There are also many fishermen in these towns. Some fish off the coast, others go to the Banks of Newfoundland for codfish, and others to the Pacific Ocean and the northern seas for whales. New Bedford, in Massachusetts, is the port from which most of the whalers go out.

There is a great deal of business done in quarrying,—that is, getting out different kinds of building-stones, as granite, marble, sandstone, and slate, and in getting out limestone to be burnt for lime.

The people of New England carry on a very large trade, because they make a great many more things than they can use. They make them to sell. These goods are shipped by water or by railroad to all parts of our country and to other lands; and the New-Englanders receive in return articles which they want, but cannot grow. The principal exports of New England are her various manufactured goods, lumber, canned foods, ice, granite, and marble.

Boston, the capital of Massachusetts, is the largest city in New England. It is noted for its manufactures and commerce, and for its schools, libraries, and museums.

Burlington, on Lake Champlain, is the largest city in Vermont. It is noted for its great lumber trade.

Providence, the second city of New England, is the largest city in Rhode Island; it is noted for its mills and manufactures.

New Haven is the largest city in Connecticut; it is noted as the seat of Yale New Haven College, one of the most famous institutions of learning in the United States.

FOR RECITATION.

1. What is the most important business in New England?
2. What are the two principal branches of manufacture?
3. What of agriculture?
4. In which state is dairying a great business?
5. In which state is lumbering a great business?
6. Where are ship-building and the fisheries important?
7. What are the principal exports of New England?
8. What is the largest city in each state?
QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.


MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES.

Nature of the Country.

When we speak of the “Middle States” we speak as our forefathers did, when the thirteen states were all situated on the Atlantic coast. They are New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware. Of these, New York is the largest. Pennsylvania is nearly as large as New York, about thirty-seven times the size of Rhode Island, five times as large as Massachusetts, and less than one-fifth the size of Texas. New Jersey is one-sixth as large as Pennsylvania. Maryland is one-fourth, and Delaware one-twenty-fifth, the size of New York.

New York was settled by the Dutch. Pennsylvania (meaning “Penn’s woods”) was settled by William Penn and a company of English Quakers. New Jersey and Maryland were settled principally by the English. Delaware was settled principally by the Swedes.

Through this section stretch several chains and ranges of the great Appalachian Mountains. In New York they are called the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains; in Pennsylvania and Maryland, the Alleghany and the Blue Mountains. The rounded summits of these mountains are in many parts clothed in grand forests, while beautiful green valleys lie between the hills, and pretty cascades tumble over the rocky ledges. The south-eastern portion of this section is a part of the Atlantic Plain. West of the mountains is the Western Plateau, which slopes towards the Ohio river.
In the mountains are two treasures,—a mineral coal and a metal more valuable to man than gold or silver. These are the mineral coal and the metal iron. Coal and iron are found in great quantities in Pennsylvania; and most of the other Middle States are well supplied with one or the other,—New York and New Jersey with iron, Maryland with coal.

As this part of our country is so richly stored with coal and iron, we may look to see many men occupied in mining in the Middle States. And as coal is the best fuel for making steam to drive machinery, and as so very many things are made from iron, we may also look to see manufacturing largely carried on.

The Middle States have for the most part a milder climate than New England; and there is also a more fertile soil. From these two things we may look to see farming a very great business.

The Middle States have a long line of seacoast and several great navigable rivers. The Hudson and its chief tributary the Mohawk, in New York. The Ohio and its tributaries the Alleghany and Monongahela, in western Pennsylvania. The Delaware with its branches, the Lehigh and the Schuylkill, in eastern Pennsylvania. The Susquehanna, which rises in southern New York and flows through central Pennsylvania and Maryland; and the Potomac, which forms the western boundary of Maryland. On the western border are two of the "Great Lakes,"—Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.

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We have thus seen what are likely to be the principal kinds of business carried on in the Middle States. They are farming, mining, manufacturing, and commerce. In the next lesson we shall learn more about the occupations of the people in this section.

FOR REVISION.
1. Name the five Middle States.
   They are New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware.

2. What are the mountains in this section?
   They are chains and ranges of the Appalachian Mountains.

3. What valuable substances are found in these mountains?
   Coal and iron are found in large quantities.

4. What kind of climate and soil has this section?
   It has a temperate climate and a generally fertile soil.

5. Name three large and useful rivers in this section.
   The Hudson, the Delaware, and the Potomac.

6. Which of the "Great Lakes" border on this section?
   Lakes Erie and Ontario.

FOR RECITATION.
1. There are many thousands of men in the Middle States employed in mining. Why so?
   Pennsylvania is the great center of the coal and iron business, and the petroleum trade.

2. What are the chief products of the Middle States?
   They are wheat, rye, oats, corn, hay, hops, tobacco, garden-vegetables, and orchard-fruits.

3. What is market-gardening in the Middle States?
   Market-gardening is very profitable, owing to the large cities in the Middle States.
States.—New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore.

New York City, the chief commercial port in America, is situated on and about Manhattan Island, at the mouth of Hudson River. This river was first explored in 1609 by Henry Hudson. Dutch settlers soon began to come over. They bought the island from the Indians for twenty-four dollars, and built a fort and houses upon it. They called the place New Amsterdam, after a noted city in Holland. This was the beginning of the great city of New York.

It is said that nearly twenty thousand vessels enter this port every year; so that shipping along the water-front you constantly see a forest of masts. It is wonderful to visit the wharves, and see the loading and unloading of ships and steamers carrying away cotton and grain and wool and tobacco from our country, and bringing in the products of every part of the world. The population of New York City is more than a million and a half.

Philadelphia is the third largest city in the Union. It is not on the ocean; but the broad Delaware River is an easy water-way for the largest ships. The name Philadelphia (meaning brotherly love) was given to the city by William Penn, its founder. In 1776 the Declaration of Independence was signed in the "Old State House," which is still standing. The chief wealth of Philadelphia is in its manufactures. It is the greatest manufacturing city in the United States, there being in it nearly ten thousand manufactories.

Newark and Jersey City are the largest cities in New Jersey. They are great manufacturing places, and Jersey City, which is opposite New York, has much shipping.

Baltimore, the leading city in Maryland, is a bright, handsome city. Various important industries are here carried on. It has many large iron-works, rolling-mills, nail-factories, sugar-refineries, and tanneries. The commerce with foreign countries is very large.

Wilmington, on the Brandywine, is the principal city of the little State of Delaware. It is noted for its ship-building and for its manufactures of steam-engines and cars.

THE SOUTHERN STATES.

We now go from the two parts of the country where the principal business of the people is making things, to that part where the principal business is growing things. We go from the land of the mine, the mill, and the factory, to the land of the cotton, tobacco, sugar, and rice field.

We go from the states where people are gathered in great cities, to states where cities are few and small, and people live on broad plantations. In fact, we go to the Southern States.

This is a very large section of our country. In it are thirteen states. Some of these are on the Atlantic coast, but most of them are in the great Valley of the Mississippi. Ten of the Southern States are east, and three are west, of the Mississippi. Why are these and some other things so much called for, and the Southern States are so well suited to grow them, the people of this section are
QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.

How many states are there in this section? Which states border on the Atlantic Ocean? Which on the Gulf of Mexico? Which on the Mississippi River? Which on the Ohio?

What mountains extend through the greater part of this section? Ans. The Appalachian Mountains. Name three ranges of the Appalachian Mountains. What can you say of Mount Mitchell? Ans. It is the highest peak of the Appalachian Mountains (6,676 feet high).

What large bay in the north-eastern part of this section? Name two capes at the entrance of Chesapeake Bay. In which two states is the Dismal Swamp?

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READING-LESSON XXI.

WHAT IS GROWN ON THE PLANTATIONS.

Cotton is the most important product of the Southern States. The world depends mainly on these states for its supply of cotton. It is produced in all the states of this section; but Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas are the greatest cotton states. The finest cotton is that grown on the "Sea Islands" of South Carolina.

It is likely that many pupils who live in the Northern or Western states have never seen cotton, except in the shape of "cotton goods," such as calicoes, muslins, etc. But before the cotton was spun and woven in the mills it was a soft downy substance, somewhat like wool, and grew in the pods of the cotton-plant. As the seeds ripen the pods burst open, showing the snow-white cotton pushing out. In the autumn months it is ready for picking, and this is done by hand.

Lines of negro pickers, men, women, and children, with wide-mouthed sacks hung from their shoulders or waists, pass between the rows of plants, and gather the fleecy cotton from the open pods. It is then placed in baskets at the end of the rows, and from there is carried in wagons to what is called the gin-house. But it may be that some pupils do not know what a "gin-house" is. The cotton gin made a great deal of money by growing cotton, they felt that they needed more and more hands to do the work in the field. This is the reason why the colored people increased so very rapidly in that section; so that even now, when there is no longer slavery, they form more than half the population in some of the cotton states.

A good deal of it is made into cloth in our own country; but most of it is packed in bales, and sent to England, where it is woven into a great variety of fabrics in many thousands of busy looms. Cotton is such a great thing that it is sometimes called "King Cotton." There is another thing in regard to cotton which I must tell you. In the South, most of the laboring people were till a few years ago negro slaves. When the planters in the cotton states found out that they could make a great deal of money by growing cotton, they felt that they needed more and more hands to do the work in the field. This is the reason why the colored people increased so very rapidly in that section; so that even now, when there is no longer slavery, they form more than half the population in some of the cotton states.

The sugar-cane is a plant that needs a warm climate to ripen it; and, since along the Gulf of Mexico is the hottest part of the United States, this is where the sugar-cane is grown. It is cultivated in Texas, and somewhat in Florida; but the great sugar state is Louisiana. As you sail up the Mis-
Tobacco Plant.

There is another plant belonging to the Southern States, which must not be overlooked, though it is not so useful as some of the other plants about which we have been reading. This is tobacco. The “tobacco-belt” is in the northern portion of this section; and the great tobacco states are Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

The tobacco-plant is a native of America, and was unknown to the rest of the world till the time of Queen Elizabeth, when Sir Walter Raleigh took some of it to England from Virginia. For a time in the early history of Virginia the raising of tobacco was almost the only business of the people, and at this time tobacco took the place of money. James I., who was king of England at the time when Virginia was settled, was much opposed to the use of this “vile weed;” and he tried to stop its use by writing a book, in which he gave all the bad names he could think of.

FOR RECIPIATION.
1. What is the most important product of the Southern States?

Cotton is the most important product of the Southern States.

2. Which are the greatest cotton states?

They are Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas.

3. In which states is the sugar-cane principally grown?
The sugar-cane is principally grown in Louisiana, Texas, and Florida.

4. In which states is rice most largely grown?

Rice is most largely grown in South Carolina, Georgia, and Louisiana.

5. In which states is tobacco most cultivated?

Tobacco is most cultivated in Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

descendants of the original French settlers are called Creoles.

Little Rock is the capital and largest city of Arkansas. Dallas, in the northern part, is the largest city of Texas. It is a new and growing city, and has a large trade in cotton and other Texan products and manufactures.

FOR RECIPIATION.
1. Which are the largest cities in Virginia and West Virginia?

Richmond in Virginia, and Wheeling in West Virginia.

2. In North Carolina and South Carolina?

Wilmington in North Carolina, and Charleston in South Carolina.

3. In Kentucky and Tennessee?

Louisville in Kentucky, and Nashville in Tennessee.

4. In Georgia and Florida?

Atlanta in Georgia, and Key West in Florida.

5. In Alabama and Mississippi?

Mobile in Alabama, and Vicksburg in Mississippi.

6. In Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas?

New Orleans in Louisiana, Little Rock in Arkansas, and Dallas in Texas.
THE CENTRAL STATES.

QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.

What country is north of this section? What two states are east? What two states and territories are south? Which state of this section consists of two peninsulas? What great lake is north of the northern (or upper) peninsula of Michigan? Between what two lakes is the southern peninsula? By what river is Lake Superior connected with Lake Huron? What two states are on the east bank of the Great Lakes? What is the largest strait is Lake Michigan connected with Lake Huron? What two states are south of it? What is the source of the Mississippi River? What is the largest tributary of the Mississippi in Wisconsin? In Illinois? What mountains in Missouri? In South Dakota? What river forms the southern boundary of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois? Name one tributary which the Ohio receives from the north. Name two tributaries which the Ohio receives from the south. Into what river does the Ohio River flow? What lake in Minnesota is the source of the Mississippi River? What is the largest tributary of the Mississippi from the west? Where does the Missouri River rise? Are the Rocky Mountains. What is the largest tributary of the Mississippi in Wisconsin? In Illinois?

Of what state is each of these cities the capital?

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<td>Columbus</td>
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READING-LESSON XXIII.

THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE.

There is a part of our country which may be called the granary of the United States. It is a vast region, where a fine climate and fertile soil enable the farmer to raise such large quantities of corn and wheat that he not only has all he needs for himself, but more than enough, so that he sells it to supply the people of the Eastern States. He also sends his corn and wheat to the seaboard, where thousands of vessels carry the grain from the ports of the Atlantic coast to the countries of Europe, whose people are not able to grow all the breadstuffs they need.

This section of the map is known as the Central States. Sometimes we speak of it as “the West.” It is in the northern half of the Mississippi valley. Five states are east of the Mississippi, and seven states are west of it. Those east of the Mississippi are Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Those west of the great river are Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota.

The Central States are filled with a busy people, who in doing things that are new and fresh excel the people of most of the other parts of our country. Their cities and towns are well built. They are noted for their enterprise in building cities and railroads and other great public works. They are also noted for their intelligence and love of education.
At the time when Washington was President there were west of the Appalachian Mountains only a few pioneers. Here and there was a log fort, in which were a few soldiers to protect the western border of our country against the many savage tribes of Indians. But soon after this many people began to move to "the West." Then all over that wide region could be seen long lines of slow-moving wagons (for this was before the day of railroads) carrying the families and goods of the hardy settlers on their way to break up the prairies into fertile fields. As they moved onward, the Indians were driven before them to seek new hunting-grounds still farther west. Mountains only a few pioneers. Here and there were west of the Appalachian Ridges and peaks called the Ozark Mountains. Some prairies are as level as a still prairies. The reason why the prairies have no spring up; trees planted by the settlers keep them. When no fires come, trees begin to grow rapidly.

In Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. The northern part of Michigan and the southern part of Missouri are mountainous. The northern part of Michigan and the southern part of Missouri are mountainous. The northern part has a climate like that of Maine and New York; the southern part like that of Maryland and Virginia.

The people did well in their new homes, and as time passed after state was formed, till now the whole of the "Great West" is thickly settled. There is another thing which should be kept in mind. The people who settled the West were noted for what we sometimes call their "go-ahead" disposition. And as they moved from the older states, where there were set ways of doing things, to a country where they had to depend very much on their own wits, they soon learned to do things in new and better ways.

The Central States have, for the most part, a level surface. Indeed, the greater part of this section, and especially the middle row of states (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska), are prairie-lands. Prairies are great tracts of land without forests, but covered with natural grass. Some prairies are as level as a still prairie lake; others have a rolling or wave-like surface. The reason why the prairies have no trees is that great fires have often swept over them. When no fires come, trees begin to spring up; trees planted by the settlers keep the fires away, and they grow rapidly.

In some of the Central States — especially in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota — are great forests. Others are too hilly to be called prairie states. Thus the northern part of Michigan is mountainous; and in the southern part of Missouri are rugged ridges and peaks called the Ozark Mountains. What has been learned about the climate of the states on the Atlantic coast will help us to understand about the climate of the Central States. Looking at the map of the United States, and remembering that climate is in belts, we may carry the eye along from Maine and New York westward to Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota; and so from Maryland and Virginia westward through Ohio and the prairie states. Then, when we think of the cold winters and short summers of Maine and New York, we may guess that the grains and fruits of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Dakotas must be much the same as are raised in Maine and New York; that is, wheat, potatoes, apples, etc. And as not only wheat and corn are grown in Maryland and Virginia, but also tobacco and hemp, and the vine, we may expect to find these products in the more southerly of the Central States.

FOR RECITATION.

1. Which are the Central States?
   They are Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, east of the Mississippi; and Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota, west of the Mississippi.

2. For what is this section noted?
   It is noted as being the granary of the United States.

3. What can you say of the surface?
   The surface is for the most part level.

4. In which states are great forests?
   In Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

5. Which states are partly mountainous?
   The northern part of Michigan and the southern part of Missouri are mountainous.

6. What of the climate in this section?
   The northern part has a climate like that of Maine and New York; the southern part like that of Maryland and Virginia.

The great business in the Central States is farming. The farms are very large, and the ground is very level. Since the farms are large, and the fields level, agriculture can be carried on in a very different way from what it can in states where farmers have small farms and a rugged soil. From the plowing of the ground to the threshing of the wheat, all the work is done in the West by improved machinery, — by the steam-plow, the reaper, the thrasher, — and it is all done on a great scale. How different from the old days when there was only the sickle to gather in the harvest!

The largest crop is the corn-crop; for corn grows finely in all the Central States. Corn. This grain is a native of America. The Indians called it mahiz, a name which we have changed to maize; and the Spaniards called it Indian-corn, because they first saw it cultivated by the American Indians. The quantity of corn grown in this section is very large. Indeed, what becomes of it? It is eaten at home; it is sent abroad; and it is used for feeding hogs, cattle, and horses.

Wheat is another grain that is raised very largely in the Central States, — especially in the northern range of states. Wheat is more valuable than corn even, because it is more generally used throughout the world. It is sold by the farmer to those who make it into flour by grinding and bolting, and in this form it is sent in barrels to every part of the earth. This grain was not known in America till it was brought here from Europe by the early settlers; but now Europe sends this country to very large quantities of wheat and flour.

Besides corn and wheat, the other grains and...
plants of the Temperate Zone—as oats, barley, Other grains—rye, garden vegetables, fruits, hemp, and tobacco—are all raised very largely in this section. Great quantities of hay are made, and sent to parts of the country where it is not produced. In several of the states, especially in Ohio and Missouri, the vine is cultivated for wine-making.

Grazing is, next to agriculture, the greatest business in the Central States. Before man had made his way into the Western wilderness, the grassy prairies fed vast herds of buffalo and deer: now they feed vast herds of cattle, horses, and sheep. The cattle are sent East to furnish beef and hides. They come from as far west as Kansas, where stock-raising is followed very largely on the plains.

It is quite profitable to raise hogs in the West, because of the cheapness of corn, on which they are fattened. The traveler may see any day, in most of these states, great droves of hogs on the way to market. No doubt they are to be forwarded to Cincinnati, Chicago, Kansas City, or some other one of the great centers of the “pork-packing” business, and from them pork, hams, bacon, and lard are shipped in great quantities.

This section is rich in minerals. In all these states great beds of coal are found. Iron is most plentiful in Michigan and Missouri. Iron Mountain, in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri, is a whole mountain of iron ore. In northern Michigan are the richest copper mines in the world. Lead is found in Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa. South Dakota has rich deposits of gold. In the northern states of this section are found iron, copper, coal, and iron ore. Odenbach, in Missouri, is a great center of trade. It is an old French town, and has been the scene of many a battle. Des Moines is the capital and largest city of Iowa.

The Central States have a vast commerce. They exchange the corn and wheat, the beef and pork, raised by their farmers, for the manufactures of the New England and Middle States, and for the goods brought into the Atlantic cities from all parts of the world. This commerce is carried on by means of thousands of steamers which ply upon the rivers and "the Great Lakes," and by means of many railroads which connect the valleys of the Mississippi with the Atlantic coast.

For Recitation.
1. What is the great business in the Central States? The great business there is agriculture.
2. What are the two principal graminaceous plants of this section? The two principal graminaceous plants are corn and wheat.
4. What are the four principal minerals in this section? They are coal, iron, copper, and lead.
5. Where is lumbering largely carried on in this section? Lumbering is largely carried on in the northern states of this section.
6. Which are the two principal manufacturing states in this section? They are Ohio and Illinois.

CITIES.

The three largest cities in the Central States are Chicago, in Illinois; St. Louis, in Missouri; and Cincinnati, in Ohio. Chicago is finely situated on Lake Michigan. It is a great center of trade, and the second city in the Union. Chicago is the greatest grain-market in the world. From the railroad-cars the grain is run up into elevators by buckets fastened to an endless chain, and worked by steam-machinery, and is then poured through spouts into the holds of vessels. More business in live-stock is done in Chicago than in any other city of the Union. It is said that every day as many trains of cars enter and leave the city as there are days in the year.

St. Louis, on the Mississippi River, is another great center of trade. It is an old city, having been founded by the French nearly two hundred years ago. St. Louis is very largely engaged in the manufacture of iron-ware. The Mississippi at this point is spanned by a splendid steel bridge. St. Louis is noted for its fine schools, and for its literary and benevolent societies.

Cincinnati, on the Ohio River, is the center of trade for the Ohio valley. It is known as the "Queen City of the West." Around it are handsome hills, on which are many elegant residences. Cincinnati is noted for its varied manufactures.

Indianapolis is the capital and largest city of Indiana. Many railroads meet here, and much manufacturing is done.

Milwaukee, is the largest city of Wisconsin. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the West, and is noted for its great trade in wheat.

Detroit is the largest city in Michigan. It has a fine harbor, and is noted for its trade and manufactures.

Minneapolis is the largest city of Minnesota. It is noted for its beautiful situation and fine water-power, and for its manufacture of flour and lumber.

Des Moines is the capital and largest city of Iowa.

Kansas City is the largest city in Kansas. It has active trade and manufactures.

Omaha is the largest city in Nebraska. It is on the Missouri River, and has an active trade.

Sioux Falls, on the Big Sioux River, is the largest city in South Dakota; and Fargo, on the Red River of the North, is the largest city in North Dakota.

For Recitation.
1. What are the three largest cities in the Central States? The three largest cities in the Central States are Chicago, St. Louis, and Cincinnati.
2. Name the largest city in each of the other Central States.

Indianapolis, in Indiana; Milwaukee, in Wisconsin; Detroit, in Michigan; Minneapolis, in Minnesota; Des Moines, in Iowa; Kansas City, in Kansas; Omaha, in Nebraska; Sioux Falls, in South Dakota; and Fargo, in North Dakota.
QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.

Reading-Lesson XXVI.

The Rocky Mountain Region.

In reading about North America we learned a little about the Pacific Highland. It is that great region which stretches from the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains westward to the Pacific coast. This section is so large that it is more than one-third of our whole country. Yet, though it is so very large, the number of people in it is less than are found in single states in the more thickly settled sections of the United States.

There are eight states and three territories in this section. We may best study them in two divisions, the Rocky Mountain region and the Pacific Coast region, because these two divisions are in many ways very unlike. They are unlike in the kind of country, in the nature of the soil, in climate, and in the occupations of the people.

The Pacific Coast division includes three states and three territories. They are California and Oregon, and Washington, with Alaska Territory. In the Rocky Mountain region are five states, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, and Nevada. The other three divisions on the map are the names of territories.

Seeing all these names of states and territories, it is wilderness. It is not a very wonderful thing to learn that only about thirty years ago the Rocky Mountain region was a wilderness. Almost the only inhabitants were wandering tribes of Indians. It is true that a few bold explorers had ventured into this mountain-land; but people generally cared very little about it. They did not think there was anything to pay them for going there. Yet there was, as we shall see.

In the year 1848 happened that wonderful discovery, the finding of large quantities of gold in California. At once men began...
to think there might be gold or silver in the country east of California. And they were right; for, soon after this, mines of silver were found in Nevada richer than any known in the world before. About the same time it was found that there was gold in Colorado. After this people went on finding more and more gold and silver in different parts of the Rocky Mountain region. This brought many new settlers to those parts; and so the different territories and states have grown up. The story is more wonderful than any fairy-tale.

As the states on the Pacific coast grew in population and riches, and mining-towns sprang up in the Rocky Mountains, it was thought that a railroad was needed to join the Pacific coast with the Atlantic coast. So an iron track “across the continent” was built from Omaha on the Missouri River (in Nebraska) westward to the Pacific coast. This great work was finished in 1869; and now we may travel the whole three thousand miles from New York to San Francisco in seven days.

The Rocky Mountains are famous for their grand scenery. And if you look on the map at the place where Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho come together, you will see the grandest parts. It is named the “National Park,” because Congress gave it to the whole people of the United States. Though it does not look very large on the map, it is as large as the state of Connecticut. In it are many lofty waterfalls, deep canyons (which are great rents in the rock), beautiful lakes, and several thousand boiling springs and geysers. It is surely the grandest park in the world.

In the greater part of the Rocky Mountain region scarcely any rain ever falls. The reason of this is, that, as the rain-clouds from the Pacific Ocean blow eastward, most of the moisture is taken from them by the cold tops of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. You may easily guess, then, that there is not much vegetation in this region. And this is so.

Still, in some parts, as in Colorado, there is rain enough to grow good crops. And in many other parts of the Rocky Mountains there is fine grazing. More and more people are taking to stock-raising. But the great business in this section is mining,—mining for gold and silver. The great business. And, as the wish to find these, first drew the solitary gold-seeker with his pick and shovel into this mountain wilderness, so it is the mining of these metals that supports the hundreds of busy “camps” all over this region.

The largest places are Denver, Salt Lake City, Virginia City, and Helena. There are few great cities in the Rocky Mountain region. The largest places are Denver in Colorado, Salt Lake City in Utah, Virginia City in Nevada, and Helena in Montana. Denver is a young, but brisk, busy city. It is the principal trading-place for a large part of the mining country.

Salt Lake City is the capital of Utah. It was first settled by a people called Mormons. The place is pleasantly laid out. It is named the “National Park,” because Congress gave it to the whole people of the United States. Though it does not look very large on the map, it is as large as the state of Connecticut. In it are many lofty waterfalls, deep canyons (which are great rents in the rock), beautiful lakes, and several thousand boiling springs and geysers. It is surely the grandest park in the world.

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The three great states where mining is carried on in some parts are Colorado, Idaho, and Nevada; and these states have grown up. The story is more wonderful than any fairy-tale.

So much for mining and grazing. But the great business here is mining. Mining for gold and silver.

What is the great business here? Mining for gold and silver.

7. What are the three largest places in this section?

The largest places are Denver, Salt Lake City, Virginia City, and Helena.

In California there are only two seasons. These are the rainy season, or winter, and the dry season, or summer. The rainy season begins in December, and ends in April. During the rest of the year not a drop of rain falls: the sun shines bright and cloudless; the heat, except along the coast, is very great; and the hills and valleys have a very barren look. But in January, soon after the first rains, the whole face of the country is covered with green grass and hundreds of kinds of brilliant wild-flowers. It is as if their gold that first made California famous. And, though farming is now a greater business than mining, yet mining, working the precious metals is still an impor­tant occupation. Besides gold, quicksilver and several other metals are found.

If one were to visit California for the first time in the summer season, when the soil is all parched, he would say that it must be very hard to raise any thing in such barren-looking ground. But what a mistake! For after the soil has been soaked by the winter rains it yields abundantly. All the grains and fruits of the Temperate Zone flourish finely; and the common vegetables, such as beets, cabbages, potatoes, etc., grow to a wonderful size.
While farming and lumbering are the chief occupations in this region, the people are fast building up various kinds of manufactures, as those of cotton and woolen cloths, flour, furniture, boots and shoes, etc. Portland is the chief city of Oregon. A large trade is carried on here. There are several large places in Washington; of these Seattle and Tacoma are on Puget Sound, and Spokane is in the east.

OR RECITATION.

1. **What three states and one territory are on the Pacific coast?**
   - Oregon
   - Washington
   - Alaska
   - Oregon and Washington

2. **What is the size of California?**
   - California is nearly twice the size of all the New England States taken together.

3. **What can you say of mining in California?**
   - Mining is still an important occupation.

4. **What is the principal occupation in California?**
   - The principal occupation is agriculture.

5. **What are the three principal exports of California?**
   - They are wheat, wool, and wine.

6. **What is the largest city on the Pacific coast?**
   - San Francisco is the largest city.

7. **What kinds of business are most largely carried on in Oregon and Washington?**
   - Agriculture and lumbering.

**TOPICAL REVIEW QUESTIONS ON THE UNITED STATES.**

In what part of North America is the United States? Where and when were the first two English settlements made? How many states are there now? What is the population of the United States? Name the New England States. Name the five Middle States. Name the seven states west of the Mississippi. Name the states west of the Mississippi. Which of the "Great Lakes" border on the Great Lakes? What are the great rivers of the United States? What are the five largest seaports? What is the leading business in the Middle States? Which of the "Great Lakes" border on the Great Lakes? What is the leading business in the Middle States? Which are the two most important branches of manufacture? In which states is lumbering a great business here? In which states is lumbering a great business here? Why is there little vegetation in most of the Rocky Mountain region? Why is there little vegetation in most of the Rocky Mountain region? What are the principal occupations in New England? Which are the two most important branches of manufacture? In which states is lumbering a great business here? In which states is lumbering a great business here? Why is there little vegetation in most of the Rocky Mountain region? Why is there little vegetation in most of the Rocky Mountain region? What are the principal occupations in New England? Which are the two most important branches of manufacture? In which states is lumbering a great business here? In which states is lumbering a great business here?

**FOR RECITATION.**

1. **Name the four most noted rivers of New England.**
   - Connecticut
   - Merrimack
   - Nashua
   - Piscataqua

2. **Name the largest navigable rivers in the Middle States.**
   - Ohio
   - Mississippi
   - Missouri

3. **Name the seven states west of the Mississippi.**
   - Oregon
   - Washington
   - Idaho
   - Montana
   - Wyoming
   - Colorado
   - New Mexico

4. **Name the three largest seaports.**
   - New York
   - Boston
   - Philadelphia

5. **What are the three principal exports of California?**
   - Wool
   - Wheat
   - Gold

6. **What is the principal occupation in California?**
   - Gold mining

7. **What are the three chief agricultural products of California?**
   - Wheat
   - Wool
   - Cotton

8. **What is the size of California?**
   - California is nearly twice the size of all the New England States taken together.

9. **What can you say of mining in California?**
   - Mining is still an important occupation.

10. **What is the principal occupation in California?**
    - The principal occupation is agriculture.

11. **What are the three principal exports of California?**
    - Wool, wheat, molasses.

12. **What is the capital of the United States?**
    - Washington, D.C.
OTHER COUNTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA.

READING-LESSON XXVIII.

GREENLAND AND ICELAND.—ALASKA.

Danish
au-flora.
bo-re-a'lis
Frk'ni
.Reyk'ja-vik
A-la-ka.

It is an interesting fact in the life of Columbus, that among his early sea-voyages, before he set out on that voyage which led to the discovery of America, was a visit to Iceland. While in Greenland Columbus must have heard of that part of North America called Greenland; for the Icelanders had discovered and made settlements in that country several hundred years before, and Columbus may very likely have seen and talked with sailors who had visited the Greenland coast.

A long time ago both Greenland and Iceland came into the hands of a people of Europe called the Danes. But the right name of it is the "Greenland's icy mountains." It is as cold as "Greenland's icy mountains." But though it is so far north, it has a milder climate than some countries farther south. This is on account of a warm ocean current that flows near it.

There are high mountains in Iceland, with great glaciers. There are also many volcanoes. The most noted is named Hecla. It is a mile high, and has five craters, from which, at times, pour floods of lava and showers of ashes. Another natural curiosity is the wonderful boiling springs called geysers. Some of these throw up jets of hot water two hundred feet high, and the vapor forms clouds that are seen for miles away.

The Icelanders are a thrifty, well-educated people; their principal occupations are tending their domestic animals, and following the fisheries.

The capital is Reykjavik, which means steam-town, and this name was given the place on account of the boiling springs near it.

Alaska is chiefly valuable for its fur-seal fisheries.

DOmINION OF CANADA.—Northern Region.

The great region to the north of the United States belongs to the British, and hence is often called British America. But the right name of it is the Dominion of Canada.

Canada is nearly as large as the United States. Most of it consists of vast thinly inhabited territories to which different names are given. Then we have the divisions
The arctic region of Canada is a cold, desolate country. The only people living there are a few tribes of Eskimos. It is evident that we should care very little about their fate.

North-west Passage. The waters that flow between the United States and the North Pole are called the “North-west Passage.” It was first attempted in 1576.

Fur-bearing Animals of Canada. The fur of the animals that live in Canada is extremely valuable. The trappers of Canada are employed chiefly in catching the sable, marten, beaver, and ermine. These animals are the home of the caribou, which are the home of the caribou, sable, ermine, marten, beaver, and many other valuable fur-bearing animals.

Here the agents of the company stay all the time; and when the hunting season is over, and the trappers come in with their furs, they take the furs, and give the hunters in exchange the things which they want, as cloth, powder, knives, and tobacco.

FOR IRRIGATION.

1. Where is the Dominion of Canada?
   The Dominion of Canada is north of the United States.

2. How large is Canada?
   It is nearly as large as the United States.

3. What of the Arctic region of Canada?
   It is a cold, barren region, and the only people living there are a few tribes of Eskimos.

4. What two wishes have led many bold navigators to sail into the Arctic region?
   The wish to sail around the northern part of America, and to reach the North Pole.

5. Name four of these explorers.
   Franklin, Kane, Hayes, and Hall.

6. What do the “Hudson Bay Company” do?
   It employs great numbers of trappers to kill or catch animals that have valuable fur.

7. Name some of these animals.
   The sable, marten, beaver, and ermine.
I, snow, to the merry tinkle of the bells! all; for the people then enjoy themselves very end. You think it must be dreary? Not at and roads. The busy river-trade comes to an man for his work. As it is winter, most of large city in this province. Quebec.

Quebec is a very interesting old city, first built by the French. It is the capital of the province of Quebec, which is an interesting old city, set up by the French, and is the great port for British war-ships in Canada.

In the province of Quebec, the winters are long and cold. Then, a great blanket of snow six feet deep covers the fields of France. The busy river-trade comes to an end. You think it must be dreary? Not at all; for the people then enjoy themselves very much. What is gardening and sleighing! And much. What fun and laughter as, wrapped in warm buffalo-ropes, they skim over the smooth, hard snow, to the merry tinkle of the bells! Many of the people of this province are French in their language, manners, and customs. The country-people speak a kind of old-fashioned French; and you would be much interested to see the men in their blue bonnets like nightcaps, and the women in their white Norman caps, and both men and women wearing wooden shoes. But you must not suppose that all the people of this province are of French descent; for, though these are the largest part, there are many thousands of English, Scotch, and Irish Canadians.

There are two large cities in this province, Montreal, which is the largest city in Canada; and Quebec, which is interesting to us because it is an old, walled city.

Looking towards the provinces on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, we find, first, New Brunswick. Here the people are much engaged in lumbering, and in fishing for cod, mackerel, and salmon. Next, Nova Scotia, where the people are busy in fishing, farming, and coal-mining. In Halifax, the chief city of Nova Scotia, British men-of-war may be seen almost any time. Thirdly, Prince Edward Island; and here, too, the great business is fishing.

Canada is not an independent country, but is under the government of England. The capital of the Dominion of Canada is Ottawa, in the province of Ontario.

The large island of Newfoundland, though it belongs to the British, is not a part of Canada. It is a British province by itself. Newfoundland is an almost barren land. The coast is hidden nearly always in thick fogs. Yet Newfoundland has great wealth in its fisheries. The "Banks of Newfoundland" are the feeding-place of great shoals of codfish. Any summer you may see hundreds of American and French and English fishing-smacks engaged in taking these fish. On the shore the fish are cured; that is, are cleaned, salted, and dried. They are then packed in bundles, and put in warehouses, to be shipped to all parts of the world.

1. What are the chief occupations in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec?
   The chief occupations are agriculture, manufacturing, and trading.

2. What is the greatest business carried on in the provinces near the Gulf of St. Lawrence?
   The greatest business in these provinces is fishing for cod, mackerel, and salmon.

3. What other occupations in these provinces?
   Lumbering in New Brunswick, and coal-mining in Nova Scotia.

4. What is Newfoundland?
   It is a large island, where the people are much engaged in fishing for cod. It is not a part of Canada, but with 700 miles of Labrador coast forms a separate colony.

5. What is the greatest business carried on in Newfoundland?
   The chief occupations are agriculture, manufacturing, and trading.
civilized race called Aztecs. They cultivated the soil skillfully. They made cotton cloth and earthenware, and vessels of gold and silver. They had large cities, in which were splendid temples and palaces.

Soon afterwards a bold but cruel captain named Cortez, with a band of Spaniards, sailed from the West Indies to seize Mexico. They had cannon and guns, horses and coats-of-mail; so the natives, with their bows and arrows, were no match for them. After much fighting the Spaniards reached the capital city of Mexico, and in a few years they seized Mexico. They had large cities, in Spanish language, dress, manners, and customs. The country resembles Mexico very much, and its products are similar. It is a country of volcanoes with ever-smoking craters.

After much fighting the Spaniards reached the capital city of Mexico, and in a few years they became masters of the whole country.

Mexico after this belonged to the King of Spain. Soon large numbers of Spaniards went to Mexico; for the land was rich in gold and silver. Many married with the natives; and their children have kept the Spanish language, dress, manners, and customs, to this day.

Most of Mexico is in the Torrid Zone. In the low lands along the coast the plants are tropical. Here are forests of palms and mahogany-trees; and on the plantations the people cultivate the coffee-plant and the cacao-tree, the banana, indigo, sugar-cane, and cotton. As we leave the coast the country becomes rugged, and at last we reach a broad table-land. This is the great plateau of Mexico, and is from a mile to a mile and a half above the low plain on the coast.

When we have reached the table-land we find that the climate is very different from that of the low coast plains. We left the Torrid Zone a little while ago, and now we are in a temperate region. And, if you remember that heat always grows less and less as we rise above the sea, it will be easy to understand why this is so. The climate on the plateau is delightful. In fact, there are November; and the dry season, which continues during the other months.

The plants and flowers of Mexico are very numerous and very beautiful. The plants of the most interesting plants of the cactus kind is the cochineal cactus, which is much cultivated for the sake of the cochineal insect which feeds upon its leaves. These insects are brushed from the plants into bags, plunged into boiling water, and then dried in the sun. Their tiny bodies, when ground to powder, yield a brilliant crimson dye called cochineal.

Another useful plant is the agave, or American aloe, which is very common in Mexico. Its leaves, which are from six to eight feet long, supply the natives with covering for the walls and roofs of their dwellings; its fibers furnish a strong thread or twine which is made into ropes, lassos, and nets; its roots are eaten as food; and from its juice a liquor is made, called pulque, of which the Mexicans are very fond. Still more useful is the cacao-tree; because from it cocoa and chocolate are obtained.

Indian corn and beans are raised in all parts of Mexico, and form the principal food of the people. Instead of bread they have corn-cakes, which they call tortillas. These are made of coarsely-pounded corn steeped in boiling water, rolled into thin sheets, and baked before an open fire. A national dish consists of beans, called frijoles, highly spiced with Chili-pepper pods.

Let us now learn what are the principal occupations of the Mexicans. Many people are engaged in stock-raising; and we find that hides are largely exported. Many others are engaged in farming; but agriculture is carried on in a very rude manner. There are but few manufactures; and the rich mines of gold and silver are not much worked.

The principal exports of Mexico are silver, copper, cochineal, hides, and some medicinal herbs. Trade has been much hindered by the lack of good roads. It is only lately that railroads have been built.

The Mexican government is a republic like our own; but it can not be said that the people in general are highly civilized. The Mexicans love to dance to the music of the guitar. Everybody smokes, and even the ladies puff their cigarettes. The common head-dress of a woman is a scarf or mantle, instead of a bonnet. The gentlemen wear a velvet jacket richly embroidered with gold and silver, and pantaloons open from the knee down, and set with large buttons. With their broad-brimmed hats, scarlet sashes, and jingling spurs, and mounted on their spirited little horses, they look like very dashing fellows indeed.

The beautiful city of Mexico is the capital. Central America contains five republics—Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. The people are like the Mexicans in race, language, and customs. The country resembles Mexico very much, and its products are similar. It is a country of volcanoes with ever-smoking craters.
We leave the mainland of America, and we sail among those tropical islands called the West Indies. They are sunny isles, where the splendid palm waves, and where groves of orange-trees, bananas, and pine-apples abound.

The largest of the West-India islands are Cuba and Porto Rico, which belong to Spain; Jamaica, which belongs to England; and Hayti, which is divided between two republics of colored people.

As the West Indies are in the Torrid Zone, you may think that the climate there is always very, very hot. But this is not so; for these islands are set in the midst of the ocean, and the people get refreshing sea-breezes. There is no winter in the West Indies. The people there never see snow fall, and they have no ice except what is brought there in ships. Instead of our four seasons they have two seasons,—the rainy and the dry. The rainy season is our summer and autumn months; during the other months scarcely any rain falls.

As these islands have a very long summer and a very long rainy season, you may guess what kind of vegetation grows there. We find palms and tree-ferns, the sugar-cane and tobacco-plant, oranges, bananas, and other plants that ripen only in hot countries.

Let us now see what the productions of the West Indies are. These are very valuable and important, and we use some of them every day. Perhaps you may have seen on grocery-stores the sign "West-India goods." This is a general name for certain kinds of groceries, such as sugar, molasses, tobacco, ginger, allspice, indigo, fruits, etc. Now, all these are grown or made in the West Indies.

The West Indies are the great sugar-cane region of the world; and it is said that one-half of all the sugar used comes from Cuba alone. In the picture at the top of the next page you see a sugar-plantation, and the men—negroes and Chinese—cutting the cane, bundling them up, and hauling them off to the mill to be crushed. From the sugar-cane molasses and rum are also made.

If you were to visit Havana, which is the capital of Cuba, and the largest city in the West Indies, you would see the harvest piled high with sugar and molasses ready to be shipped to the United States and other parts of the world. You would also notice very large cigar-factories.

We shall not forget that we receive tropical fruits from the West Indies, when we think of oranges and bananas. The banana is a great article of cultivation, not only in these islands, but in all parts of the hot belt of America, where it is one of the most used foods. The people find it very profitable to grow, because it yields so plentifully. The fragrant pimento-tree grows in Jamaica. The unripe berries of this plant, dried in the sun, form what we call allspice, or Jamaica pepper. Another condiment which we owe to this island is Jamaica ginger.

What are the principal exports of Mexico? The largest city is Havana, in Cuba.

Visit to Cuba.

The races of the islands. As the West Indies were in a state of slavery, so were these islands. They were cruel task-masters. So France, too, got a share. And on one of the islands, named Hayti, the colored people grew tired of being under foreign masters, and set up a government of their own. Now we understand who are the races of the West Indies. Of the whites, the most part are people of Spanish descent, though there are English settlers in the islands held by Great Britain, and French settlers in the islands held by France. There are also in the various islands many mulattoes, and other persons of mixed blood. And in Cuba there are many Chinese laborers, called coolies.

For Recitation.

1. In which zone is Mexico?
   Most of it is in the Torrid Zone.

2. How is it divided?
   It is divided into the low hot coast, and the temperate tableland.

3. What are the principal exports of Mexico?
   The principal exports are silver, copper, cochineal, hides, and plants for medicine.

4. How many republics in Central America?
   There are five republics.

5. What of the country?
   It is much like Mexico, and the exports are the same.

6. How is the country divided?
   It is divided into the low hot coast, and the temperate tableland.

7. What are the principal exports of the West Indies?
   The principal exports are silver, copper, cochineal, hides, and plants for medicine.

8. To whom do these islands belong?
   Cuba and Porto Rico belong to Spain; Jamaica belongs to England; and Hayti has two republics of colored people.

9. What are the chief exports of the West Indies?
   The chief exports are sugar, molasses, rum, tobacco and cigars, fruits and spices.

10. What is the largest city?
    The largest city is Havana, in Cuba.

11. In which zone is Mexico?
    Most of it is in the Torrid Zone.
NATURE OF THE COUNTRY.

SOUTH AMERICA.

QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.


Islands. — What island is near the mouth of the Orinoco? What island is at the mouth of the Amazon? What islands east of Patagonia? What large island south of Patagonia? What islands near the coast of Peru? What islands west of Ecuador?

Capes. — What is the most northern cape of South America? The most eastern cape? What cape near Rio Janeiro? Near the mouth of the Plata River? Which is the most westerly cape? What cape at the southern extremity of South America?

Coast Waters. — What gulf north of Colombia? What strait between Tierra del Fuego and Patagonia? What gulf west of Ecuador? What bay south of the Isthmus of Panama?

Mountains. — What mountains extend along the western coast of South America? What lofty peak near the Equator? What lofty peak in Bolivia? What lofty peak in Chili? What mountains between Venezuela and Brazil?

Rivers. — What river flows northward through Colombia? What river flows north-eastward through Venezuela? Near what line is the mouth of the Amazon? Name the five principal branches of the Amazon. What are the principal branches of the Plata?


Reading-Lesson XXXIII.

SOUTH AMERICA is a land of mighty mountains, vast plains, and great rivers. The greatest mountains are the Andes. Very grand is the scenery of these mountains, with their steep sharp cliffs, their dangerous passes, and their dreadful gorges and chasms. Some of their loftiest summits rise more than four miles above the level of the sea.

There are many volcanoes in the Andes. — no fewer, it is said, than fifty-two. At times they are in eruption; that is, they are throwing forth smoke and ashes and lava. Two of the greatest volcanoes are named...
Cotopaxi and Chimborazo. The former is the most beautiful of all volcanoes. The flames sometimes rise three thousand feet above its crater.

The whole region of the Andes suffers from terrific earthquakes, which have from time to time shaken down its cities, caused huge sea-waves to flow over the land, and destroyed thousands of people.

The Andes region consists of several great plateaus, from which rise lofty mountains. On the high table-lands are great fertile tracts at a height of many thousands of feet above the ocean. Here most of the people of the Andes countries live. Here, too, are most of the large cities.

Now, looking at the map above we see that the country to the eastward of the Andes is a vast plain sloping toward the Atlantic Ocean. In this region there are two highlands—the Guiana Highland and the Brazilian Highland. These mountains are mere dwarfs compared with the Andes. In the northern part of the great eastern plain we see the llanos, through which flows the Orinoco River. In the central part we see the selvas, through which flows the Amazon. In the southern part we see the pampas, through which flows the Plata River, or Rio de la Plata.

For what is the Andes region noted?

1. It is a land of mighty mountains and vast plains and great rivers.
2. It is noted for its volcanoes and earthquakes.
3. For what is the Andes region noted?
   - It is noted for its llanos and pampas.
   - It is noted for its three great rivers:
     - The Amazon (a Spanish word meaning "level fields")
     - The Orinoco
     - The Plata
4. What are the three great plains east of the Andes Mountains?
   - The llanos
   - The pampas
5. What are the three great rivers of South America?
   - The Amazon, Orinoco, and Plata
6. What kind of land is South America?
   - It is a land of mountains and vast plains.

Climate, Vegetation, and Animals.

The llanos (a Spanish word meaning "level fields") are great treeless plains. As soon as the rainy season sets in, the llanos are quickly covered with grass. They are then the feeding-places of vast herds of cattle, horses, and sheep. In the dry season the plains are cracked by the great heat. At this time the cattle have to be driven elsewhere for pasturage. Sometimes during the rainy season the llanos are quite covered with water. The cattle then flee to higher land. The Indians climb the palm-trees, and live there till the water falls.

The selvas (a Spanish word meaning "woods") are great plains covered with a thick growth of trees, gigantic palms and mahogany trees and great ferns. These are woven together with climbing vines and tangled underbrush: so that the forest forms a dense thick. Only wild beasts can force their way through it; and a path must be cleared with an ax before a person can go even a short distance into the interior. In the rainy season the selvas are changed into a vast swamp.

The pampas (a Spanish word meaning "plains") are treeless plains covered with pampa grass. This grass grows from ten to fifteen feet high, and its waving seed-plumes are very handsome. Over the pampas range countless herds of wild horses and cattle.

The Amazon is one of the longest rivers in the world. Steamers can sail up it for three thousand miles, or nearly to the Andes; and it is a hundred and fifty miles wide at its mouth.

The Andes in the western part extend through the whole length of South America. It is a land of mighty mountains and vast plains and great rivers. In the southern part we see the pampas, through which flows the Plata River, or Rio de la Plata.

The Amazon is one of the longest rivers on the globe. It pours more water into the ocean than any other river in the world. Steamers can sail up it for three thousand miles, or nearly to the Andes; and it is a hundred and fifty miles wide at its mouth.

For Recitation.

1. What kind of land is South America?
2. Describe the Andes.
3. What are the three great rivers of South America?
4. What two highland regions are in the northern and eastern parts?
5. What three great plains are east of the Andes Mountains?
6. What are the three great rivers of South America?
CLIMATE, VEGETATION, AND ANIMALS.

The southern part of South America is in the South Temperate Zone. Here the climate is much like that of the United States. But the cold increases southward, instead of northward as with us. The vegetation is very rich. More than one hundred kinds of palms are found in the forests of the Amazon. The palms and the other tropical regions. These supply the Indian with nearly all he wants. Their fruit furnishes him with food in abundance. He builds his hut and floors it with their wood, and he thatches it with their leaves. From the trunks of some he forms his canoes; from others he gets oil, wax, cord, thread, mats, baskets, arrows, and a drink that serves him for wine.

The caoutchouc-tree is the name for what we call the india-rubber tree. The india-rubber is obtained by India-tapping the trees, and in the gashes placing little clay cups, into which the sap of the tree runs. When this juice has been thickened, and passed through the black smoke of a fire made of palm-nuts, it is ready to be sold.

Coffee is largely raised in all the tropical countries of South America. The coffee-bush is about the size of a small plum-tree, with leaves of dark shining green, and white flowers. Inside the berries are the coffee-beans, inclosed in a soft red pulp like a cherry. The negroes gather the berries in deep baskets, and lay them on large flat stones, where the grains are spread out to dry after the red juicy part is rubbed off.

The forests of the Amazon are filled with troops of monkeys, which live among the branches of the trees. Here, also, are found the great boa-constrictor, the largest of snakes; and the jaguar, a kind of tiger, one of the most dangerous of wild beasts. The armadillo is a curious little animal with a hard horn-like covering. The tapir is the largest of the four-footed animals. The sloth can hardly crawl on the ground, but it is quite active in climbing among the branches of the trees.

The most interesting of the animals found on the highlands of the Andes is the llama. It has been called the “small camel,” and is much used as a beast of burden. This animal is about the size of a stag, so it is not large or strong enough to carry a man; but it can bear a load of from fifty to a hundred pounds. These animals move in long files of five hundred or a thousand, marching in perfect order, and in obedience to the conductor. The alpaca is smaller than the llama, and looks somewhat like a sheep. It has a long, soft, fine fleece, of a silky luster. The chinchilla is an elegant little animal, covered with very thick and soft fur of a grayish color. This fur is greatly admired for winter clothing, and is made into muffs, mantles, trimmings, etc. On the rocky heights of the Andes is found the condor, the largest of the vulture tribe.

FOR RECRITATION.
1. In which zone is the greater part of South America? In the Torrid Zone.
2. What of the climate in this zone? In the plains it is hot; but on the table-lands it is temperate.
3. What of the climate in the southern part? It grows colder toward the South Pole.
4. What are some of the interesting trees and plants of South America? They are many kinds of palms, the india-rubber tree, the cinchona and cacao trees, the coffee-plant, and the tea-plant.
5. Name some of the animals found in the tropical forests. They are monkeys, the anaconda, the jaguar, tapir, and armadillo.
6. Name some of the animals found in the Andes region. They are the llama, the alpaca, and the condor.

Countries of the Andes.

In the Andes are five countries, beginning with Colombia on the north, and ending with Chili on the south. You may easily remember the name of the country which is next south of Colombia by thinking of the

Cal-li-ri'-ma (le')
Ec-ua-dor'
Guay-a-quil' (gwi-a-k ee l')
Qui'to
Val-pa-rai'so (-ri')

Lima (le')
Quito (qu')
Val-pa-ra ISO (ri')

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Countries of the Andes.
Equator, which crosses it. Now, the Spanish for Equator is Ecuador. To the south of Ecuador is Peru. To the south of Peru is Bolivia, called after a famous general named Bolivar.

Bolivia joins on to Chili. South of Chili is the region called Patagonia. The Andes region was conquered by the Spanishiards soon after the discovery of America. An army of Spanish adventurers under Pizarro marched into Peru, which was at this time peopled by a partly civilized Indian race. The Spaniards made slaves of the Indians, and forced them to work in the mines.

The people of the Andes countries now consist of whites of Spanish descent, of native Indians, and of various mixed races. The Indians are the larger part of the population. All these countries are republics. The people speak the Spanish language.

Trade in the Andes countries is very much hindered by the want of good roads and bridges. For the most part, goods have to be carried on the backs of mules and llamas. Travelers are often carried in chairs strapped to the backs of sure-footed Indians. Often the only bridges are ropes stretched across deep chasms. In late years, however, there has been a good deal of improvement, and railroads have been built from the Pacific coast to the cities on the table-land. Of the things sent out from the Andes countries by way of trade, some of the most important are: coffee, cocoa, and cotton from Colombia; cocoa and dye-stuffs from Ecuador; Peruvian bark and guano from Peru; salt-peter and silver-ore from Bolivia; and wheat, copper, and wool from Chili.

The three largest cities of the Andes countries are Santiago in Chili, Lima in Peru, and Quito in Ecuador. Quito is one of the highest cities in the world, being nearly two miles above the level of the sea. Within sight are eleven lofty summits of the Andes, covered with perpetual snow. The city enjoys a spring-like climate throughout the year.

The three principal seaports on the Pacific coast are Guayaquil in Ecuador, Callao in Peru, and Valparaiso in Chili.

For Recitation.
1. How many countries are there in the Andes region? There are five countries in the Andes region.
2. Name them, beginning at the north. They are Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Chili.
3. By what people of Europe were the natives of the Andes countries conquered? They were conquered by the Spaniards.
5. What are the principal exports of the Andes countries? The principal exports are coffee, cocoa, cotton, dye-stuffs, Peruvian bark, guano, salt-peter, copper, wheat, and wool.
6. What are the largest cities in the Andes countries? They are Santiago, in Chili; Lima, in Peru; and Quito, in Ecuador.
7. What are the chief seaports? They are Guayaquil, in Ecuador; Callao, in Peru; and Valparaiso, in Chili.

Coffee-picking.

There are six countries in the great eastern plain. In the valley of the Orinoco is Venezuela, and next to it is Guiana. The word Venezuela means Little Venice, and the name was given to this region by the Spanish explorers, who found Indian villages built upon piles on the flat shore, and they thought these looked somewhat like Venice. Venezuela exports sugar, coffee, cocoa, cotton, indigo, hides, and cattle.

Guiana is divided into three colonies, belonging to Great Britain, Holland, and France. The exports are sugar, coffee, indigo, rum, and cayenne-pepper.

In the valley of the Amazon in Brazil, a country as large as the whole of the United States. Brazil was settled by the Portuguese, whereas all the rest of South America was settled by the Spaniards. Brazil is a republic, being the last country in South America to adopt that form of government. The present inhabitants of Brazil consist of the descendants of the Portuguese, of mixed races, of negroes, and of Indians.

The principal articles which the Brazilians produce for sale are coffee, sugar, cotton, India-rubber, and diamonds. More than half of the coffee used in the world comes from the coffee-plantations of Brazil. The diamond-mines are the richest in the world. Rio Janeiro, the capital, is the largest city in South America.

In the valley of the Plata are one large country called the Argentine Republic, and two small countries which are named Uruguay and Paraguay. The Argentine Republic is the most civilized of these countries. In this land are the pampas, with their herds and flocks. The wild horses are killed for their hides, and the cattle for their flesh, hides, horns, and tallow. The seaport of Buenos Ayres is the capital and chief city.

Uruguay exports the same articles as the Argentine Republic. It has a commodious seaport named Montevideo.

Paraguay is the smallest and weakest of the South-American republics.

For Recitation.
1. How many countries are there in the eastern plain? There are six countries.
2. Name them. Venezuela, Guiana, Brazil, the Argentine Republic, Uruguay, and Paraguay.
3. What are the chief exports of Venezuela and Guiana? The chief exports are sugar, coffee, cocoa, cotton, indigo, hides, and cayenne-pepper.
4. What is the government of Brazil? It is a republic.
5. What are the chief exports of Brazil? They are coffee, sugar, cotton, India-rubber, and diamonds.
6. What seaport is the capital? Rio Janeiro, the largest city in South America.
7. Name the exports of the Argentine Republic. They are meats, hides, horns, and tallow.
8. What large seaport is the capital of this country? The seaport of Buenos Ayres.
9. What large seaport is in Uruguay? The seaport of Montevideo.
EUROPE.

QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.

Divisions.— What country occupies the eastern part of Europe? What four countries join Russia on the west? What small country south of Turkey? What country west of Turkey? What small country north of Italy? What two countries form a peninsula in the south-western part of Europe? What country joins Spain on the north-east? What three small countries on the North Sea? What two countries form a peninsula in Northern Europe? What islands between the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean?

Islands.— What group of islands east of Spain? What two islands west of Italy? What island south-west of Italy? What island south-east of Greece?

Capes.— What is the most northerly cape of Europe? The most southerly cape? The most westerly cape?


Mountains.— What mountains on the eastern boundary of Russia? What mountains range extends from the Black Sea to the Caspian? What mountains in Austria? North and west of Italy? What mountains between France and Spain? What mountains between Sweden and Norway?

Rivers and Lakes.— What large river flows into the Caspian Sea? What two large rivers in the southern part of Russia? What river flows through Austria and Turkey into the Black Sea? Through Spain and Portugal? What are the three principal rivers of France? What two large rivers flow into the North Sea? What three large lakes in Russia?

Capitals.— Name the capital of each country of Europe.

Reading-Lesson XXXVII.

Nature of the Country.

Europe is the smallest of the five grand divisions of land. It is about the same size as the United States. From the map we see that it is a large peninsula joined to the north-western part of Asia.

Through the smallest, Europe is the most important of the grand divisions, because it is the home of so many great and strong nations. The Europeans number six times as many as the people of the United States. They have railroads, telegraphs, steamships, all kinds of machinery, schools, churches; that is, they are highly civilized people.

One of the first things we notice in looking at the map of Europe is how many bays, gulfs, and seas there are on the coast. There is no part of Europe very far away from the sea-coast, and in the gulfs and bays are many good harbors. Hence the Europeans have for centuries been great traders, and this has helped make Europe the most important of the grand divisions.

The larger part of Europe is low and level. In the eastern part, and forming more than half the surface, is the “Great Plain of Russia.” (See map, p. 84.) And you may observe (by the green color) that this plain goes westward, in a strip, to the Atlantic Ocean. One may travel from the Atlantic Ocean eastward to the Urals without having to cross a mountain.

Still there are very great and famous mountains in Europe, though no such long chains as the Rocky Mountains or the Andes. No doubt you have read or heard of
the Alps, which are visited by thousands every year, to see the grand glaciers and lofty snow-crowned peaks. You must have heard of Mont Blanc, which is the best-known peak.

Europe has many noble navigable rivers, though none that are so long or so large as the great rivers of America. The Volga, which is the longest, flows through the "Great Plain of Russia" into the Caspian Sea. The Danube, in Germany, is also into the Black Sea. It is the most useful of this, are very useful. Who has not heard of there are rivers which, though not so long as the "Great Plain of Russia" into the Caspian Sea. The Danube, which is the next longest, is the most useful for trade, and is a very beautiful river, with many old castles on its banks. Then the Alps.

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foremost country in the world. There are thousands of cotton-mills and woolen-factories; and all these have grown up since the invention of the steam-engine and of improved machinery for spinning and weaving. There are also thousands of persons employed in weaving linen and silk, and in making pottery and glassware.

The English are also skillful farmers, and the country is like a garden, so highly is it cultivated. So, too, the English raise the finest breeds of cattle, sheep, and horses; and on all parts of the coast are towns and villages in which fishermen live.

The people in the middle of Scotland are largely engaged in manufacturing, for the reason that plenty of coal and iron is found there. Farming also is carried on with great skill. The "Highlands" of Scotland (the name given to the hilly northern part) are noted for their grand scenery, and especially for their beautiful mountains and lakes.

Ireland is finely fitted for farming, grazing, and dairying. The farms are generally small patches of ground; and potatoes, which are so great an article of food in Ireland, are raised on these. Many persons are engaged in tending the flax-plant, which is used in making linen. Butter is sent from all the ports; and the people in England and Scotland get also eggs, potatoes, pigs, pork, bacon, and cattle from this beautiful island.

In the British Isles are many very great cities. Greatest of all is London, the capital. It is the largest city in the world, and has three times as many people as New York City. Liverpool is the largest city in Scotland. It is the great seaport for trade with the United States. Manchester is the chief center for the manufacture of cotton goods, as Birmingham is for hardware. Glasgow is the principal manufacturing and trading city of Scotland. It builds more iron and steel steamers than any other city in the world. Edinburgh is also a Scotch city, and is noted for its beauty. Dublin is the largest and finest city in Ireland.

For Briritation.
1. What kingdom occupies the British Isles?
2. Of what does the British Empire consist?
3. What is the chief business in England?
4. What are the principal articles made?
5. What are the principal occupations of the Scotch?
6. What are the principal occupations of the Irish?
7. What can you say of London?
8. Name six other large cities.

Ireland is also a Scotch city, and is noted for its beauty. Edinburgh, the capital, is noted for its fine palaces, public buildings, and museums of art. It consists of this kingdom, together with all the British colonies.

In the northern countries of Europe are Sweden and Norway, Denmark, and Russia. It is easy to see that in all these countries, except in the southern part of Russia, the winter must be long and cold.

Russia has a large traffic with Central Asia and China. This is carried on by means of sleighs or sledges which glide over the snow-covered ground, and of caravans which cross the deserts. Great quantities of tea are brought in this way from China to Russia, for tea is the national drink of the Russians.

Great fairs are one of the interesting features made of butter and cheese are the most important occupations. The Danes are also very fond of the sea, and goods are often carried from one country to another in Danish ships. Copenhagen, the capital, is noted for its fine palaces, public buildings, and museums of art. Russia is larger than all the other countries of Europe together. Of course, being so extensive, its various parts differ very much in climate and productions. The northern part is a great dreary region, with a winter lasting for seven or eight months. In the central section is a large district covered with forests. Bears, wolves, and other wild animals abound, and often not a house is to be seen for miles together. Southern Russia is a region of plains, called steppes, which afford food to great herds of half-wild horses and cattle.

The people are engaged chiefly in agriculture and grazing. They raise rye, wheat, oats, flax, and hemp. Iron is the metal most largely worked in Russia; but the country has no coal-beds, and hence Russia is not much engaged in manufactures.

Russia has a large traffic with Central Asia and China. This is carried on by means of sleighs or sledges which glide over the snow-covered ground, and of caravans which cross the deserts. Great quantities of tea are brought in this way from China to Russia, for tea is the national drink of the Russians.

Great fairs are one of the interesting features.
in the trade of Russia. The largest fairs are held at a place called Nijni Novgorod; they are attended every year by thousands of visitors from all parts of Europe and Asia.

Russia is ruled by an emperor, called the Emperor Czar. He alone can make laws, hence and capital, the people are not free. St. Petersburg, the capital, is farther north than any other great city in the world.

The northern part of Sweden and Norway, and the part of Russia near by, are called Lapland. This region is in the North Frigid Zone. Here for some weeks in winter the sun does not rise at all, and in mid-summer there is one long day of several weeks. The people are called Lapps. They are very small, and dress in furs, with trousers and shoes of reindeer-skin.

The northern part of Sweden and Norway, and the part of Russia near by, are called Lapland. This region is in the North Frigid Zone. Here for some weeks in winter the sun does not rise at all, and in mid-summer there is one long day of several weeks. The people are called Lapps. They are very small, and dress in furs, with trousers and shoes of reindeer-skin.

FOR IRRICATION.
1. What are the countries of Northern Europe?
   The countries of Northern Europe are Sweden and Norway, Denmark, and Russia.

2. Which two of these countries are governed by one king?
   Sweden and Norway.

3. What natural wealth have they?
   They have great forests, fine iron, and profitable fisheries.

4. What are the principal occupations of the Danes?
   The principal occupation is agriculture.

5. How does Russia compare in size with other European countries?
   Russia is larger than all the other countries of Europe together.

6. What is the principal occupation in Russia?
   The principal occupation is agriculture.

7. What is the ruler of Russia?
   He is called the Czar, and he alone can make laws.

FRANCE is one of the oldest and most highly civilized nations of Europe. It is a fine country, with a fertile soil, and a mild climate. Frenchmen call it "la belle France," beautiful France.

Four Frenchmen out of every five are engaged in farming of some kind. What they raise depends on the part of the country in which they live. The northern part is the land of wheat, barley, oats, rye, beets for making sugar, hemp, flax, and the common fruits. Central France is the land of the vine. In Southern France the vine, the olive, the orange, and the mulberry-tree are cultivated. On the leaves of the mulberry-tree the silk-worm feeds.

The vineyards in the central and southern parts of France are exceedingly beautiful. The vines are made to grow on stakes, in long rows, with just room enough to walk between them. The time of the grape-gathering is called the vintage. Then all the children turn out to help their fathers and mothers gather the grapes; and everybody seems glad at the time of vintage. Why is the grape grown so much in France? It is grown for the purpose of making wine. More wine is made in France than in any other country. Bordeaux, on the river Garonne, is the chief port near the vineyards.

The most important manufacture of France is that of silk goods. French silks surpass those of any other country in richness of material, brilliancy of color, and taste and elegance of design. Lyons is the great place where velvets and other silk goods are made. The French broadcloths are famous, as are also the fine cotton goods, such as muslins and cambrics. We receive from the French our best gloves, most beautiful embroideries, finest jewelry, and choicest perfumery. In fact, the French excel wherever taste and skill are required.

Paris, the capital, though not so large as London, is the most famous and splendid city in the world. It is noted for its great public buildings, gardens, and places of amusement. It is also famous for its great libraries, museums, and art galleries, and for the manufacture and sale of articles of taste, ornament, and fashion.

Belgium is a small country bordering on the north-eastern part of France, and full of busy people. It is rich in mines of coal and iron, and on this account the Belgians are much engaged in various kinds of manufactures. Here are made the fine laces and linens, and the beautiful carpets and glassware, that are known all over the world. Brussels, the capital, is a kind of small Paris. Belgium is famous for its grand and beautiful land.

FOR IRRICATION.
1. Describe France.
   France is a fine country, with a fertile soil, and a mild climate.

2. What is the principal occupation in France?
   The principal occupation is agriculture.
Central Europe.

3. What articles are manufactured?
Silks, broadcloths, fine cotton and woolen goods, and many articles of taste and fashion. Wine also is largely made.

4. What is the capital of France?
Paris is the capital.

5. Name some articles of manufacture for which Belgium is noted.
Belgium is noted for the manufacture of carpets, lace, and glassware.

6. What are the principal occupations of the Swiss?
They are dairying, and the manufacture of watches, jewelry, etc.

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Reading-Lesson XLI.

Central Europe—Netherlands, Germany, and Austria.

Amsterdam (am-strä’m) — Hamburg (härm’-burg)
Bremerhaven (brürm-er-hav’n) — Munich (müm’-nik)
Crawcrove (kraw’-kro) — Potsdam (pot-s‘däm)
Dresden (dré’-zen) — Prague (pra’-gik)

The kingdom of the Netherlands is usually called Holland, and the people are known as the Dutch. A large part of this country was once under the sea, and even now the water is only kept out by great banks of earth called dikes.

The Dutch are fine farmers, and make butter and cheese in great quantities. They are skilled in some kinds of manufacture. The Dutch own valuable islands in the East and West Indies, and carry on a large trade.

The vine also flourishes, and wine is largely made. In parts Austria is rich in minerals. Near Cracow are mines of rock-salt, which are the largest in the world. Vienna, Prague, and Pesth. Pesti are the largest cities.

Vienna is the capital, and is the third in size in Europe. Prague and Pesth are the next largest cities. Trieste, on the Adriatic Sea, is the chief seaport.

For Recitation.

1. What is the capital of Holland?
It is Amsterdam.

2. What is the chief occupation?
The chief occupation is dairying.

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Southern Europe.

South-east of Germany is another empire, Austria. The Emperor of Austria is also King of Hungary. The Austrians are principally Germans, and speak the German language; but the Hungarians are of quite another race, and speak a language of their own.

The plains are very fertile, and large quantities of wheat and other grains are grown. The product of wool is large. In parts Austria is rich in minerals. Near Cracow are mines of rock-salt, which are the largest in the world.

Vienna, the capital, is a fine city, and is the third in size in Europe. Prague and

For Recitation.

3. What is the German Empire?
The German Empire is a large and strong country in Central Europe.

4. Which is the most important kingdom in this empire?
Prussia is the most important kingdom. The King of Prussia is Emperor of Germany.

5. What are the principal products?
They are grain, wine, zinc and other metals.

6. Name the three largest cities.
Berlin, Hamburg, and Breslau.

7. What kingdom south-east of Germany?
Austria.

8. What are the principal products of Austria?
They are wheat, wool, wine, and salt.

9. What are the largest cities of Austria?
Vienna, Prague, and Pesth.

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Reading-Lesson XLII.

Southern Europe.

The southern shore of Europe is laved by the Mediterranean Sea, and into this sunny sea extend three peninsulas,—the lands of Spain, the Spanish peninsula, Italy, and Turkey with Greece. These lands enjoy a most beautiful climate, and produce the finest fruits.

Two of them were the homes of the most famous nations of ancient times,—Italy and Greece. Namely, Greece, the land of poets and orators and artists; and Italy, the home of the Roman people, who at one time ruled the whole civilized world.

The Spanish peninsula is divided between two nations,—Spain and Portugal. In the plains and valleys of Spain are vineyards, mulberry-plantations, and groves of the olive, orange, lemon, and fig. In the plains of Portugal grains and fruit abound.
the mountain-land of Spain are the fine-wooled merino sheep. The mountains also contain rich mines of quicksilver and lead. The principal exports of Spain and Portugal are silks, wool, olive-oil, cork, wine, and fruits.

Madrid is the capital and largest city of Spain; it contains the grandest picture gallery in the world. Lisbon is the capital and largest city of Portugal. The most terrible earthquake ever known visited Lisbon about the middle of the last century. A large part of the city was flooded by a great sea-wave, and in six minutes about sixty thousand persons perished.

The greater number of the Italians cultivate the ground, and take care of their vineyards and olive-plantations and mulberry-groves. Every pupil must have heard how skilled the Italians are in the fine arts, especially in music and painting.

The chief products of Italy are wheat, olive-oil, fruits, and silk.

Rome is the capital of Italy, the home of art, and the residence of the Pope; Naples is situated on a beautiful bay, on one side of which is the famous volcano of Vesuvius; Venice is built on many islands, and some of its streets are canals, where people go about in gondolas, a curious kind of boat. Florence is noted for its works of art.

Greece is now a petty kingdom, and every kind of industry is in a backward state. Athens is still the capital; but it is no longer the city of temples and palaces, the home of poets and artists and orators. Only its ruins are interesting.

The Turks hold quite a number of countries in the region where Europe, Asia, and Africa meet. These lands form the Turkish Empire. It is a very fertile country; but, owing to bad government, the people are not prosperous or happy.

The Turks themselves form only a small part of the population of Turkey. They came from Asia several centuries ago, and conquered and settled down in the country which they now occupy. Their way of living is not like that of any other nation of Europe. They are Mohammedans in religion, and believe in polygamy, or the right of a man to have several wives. The ruler of Turkey is called the Sultan.

The principal farm products of Turkey are maize, rice, tobacco, cotton, rye, barley, and millet. The chief exports are tobacco, wine, olive-oil, fruits, silks, and carpets.

Constantinople (meaning the city of Constantine, one of the Roman emperors) is the capital of Turkey. By looking at the map you may see how finely it is placed for commerce. The splendid harbor is called "The Golden Horn." From a distance the city looks very bright and gay, with its many mosques and other buildings in the oriental style; but its streets are narrow and unpaved, and are not lighted at night.

On the map of Europe (p. 82), you may see the names Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro. These small countries, till a few years ago, belonged to Turkey; but they are now independent.

FOR RECITATION.

1. What three peninsulas extend into the Mediterranean Sea?
   The Spanish peninsula, Italy, and Turkey with Greece.

2. What are the principal exports of Spain and Portugal?
   Silks, wool, olive-oil, cork, wine, and fruits.

3. What are the chief products of Italy?
   They are wheat, olive-oil, fruits, and silk.

4. Name four cities of Italy.

5. What can you say of Greece?
   It is a petty kingdom.

6. What are the principal exports of Turkey?
   They are tobacco, wine, olive-oil, fruits, silk, and carpets.

7. What is the capital of Turkey?
   Constantinople is the capital.

8. What can you say of Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro?
   They were till lately parts of Turkey, but are now independent.
ASIA

QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.

Divisions. — What country occupies the northern part of Asia? What large empire in the eastern part of Asia? What island empire east of China? Where is Indo-China? What country occupies the central peninsula? The south-western peninsula? On what sea does Turkey border? What country east of Asiatic Turkey?

Islands. — What island is crossed by the tropic of Cancer? What group of islands east of Indo-China? What four large islands south-east of Asia? What large island off the southern extremity of Hindostan?

Peninsulas. — What peninsula east of Siberia? In the eastern part of the Chinese Empire? South of Indo-China? South-west of Persia?

Capes. — What is the most northern cape of Asia? The most eastern cape of Asia? What cape south of Indo-China? At the southern extremity of Hindostan?


Mountains. — What mountains north of Hindostan? In the eastern part of Siberia? What mountains form the southern boundary of Siberia? What two mountain-ranges form parts of the boundary between Asia and Europe?

Rivers. — What three large rivers flow into the Arctic Ocean? What two flow into the Yellow Sea? What three in Indo-China? What two great rivers in Hindostan? What two rivers unite near the head of the Persian Gulf? What river forms a partial boundary between Asia and Europe?

ASIA.

REVIEW LESSON XLIII.

NATURE OF THE COUNTRY.

Asia is interesting to us for several reasons. First, it is much the largest of the grand divisions. Secondly, there are more people in Asia than in any other grand division: indeed, one-half of all the many millions of inhabitants of the earth live in Asia. Thirdly, Asia was the first home of all the European peoples: so that if we go far enough back we shall find that our own forefathers came from Asia.

The map on the next page shows us the different zones through which Asia extends. We see that a small part of it is in the North Frigid Zone. Here we know we shall not find many people, or much trade, or any great nations. Then we notice that much the greater part of Asia is in the North Temperate Zone. Still, a very important part of Asia is in the Torrid Zone. We notice that Arabia, Hindostan, and Indo-China are in the hot region of the world; and we shall learn that these countries are of great importance, on account of their many useful products, which grow only where the climate is very warm and moist.

By looking at the map on the next page we may learn a good deal about the surface of Asia. We see that all the northern and north-western part is a great lowland (colored green), called the Plain of Siberia. In the central part are great plateaus. The highest of these you see named the Table-land.
of Thibet. The two great deserts—the Desert of Iran and the Desert of Gobi—are also plateaus.

The loftiest mountain-chain of Asia is that named the Himalaya Mountains. In this chain is Mount Everest, which is famous as being the highest mountain in the world. Its top is five and a half miles above the level of the sea.

The southern part of Asia consists of three great peninsulas. These are Arabia, Hindostan, and Indo-China.

Asia is the home of many large and interesting animals. Some of these have been tamed, and others are wild and fierce. Of the domesticated animals the camel is the most useful. There are two kinds of camels, the common camel of Arabia, and the Bactrian camel, which has two humps. The elephant, too, is a most useful servant and companion to man. The yak with its long woolly coat, the zebu with its curious hump, and the straight-horned buffalo, are the largest and most useful members of the ox family. Of the thick-skinned animals the most important are the one-horned rhinoceros of India, and the white-backed tapir of Sumatra. Asia is the home, also, of numerous beasts of prey; among them that greatest and most terrible of the cat tribe, the tiger of Bengal, and the leopard-like cheetah.

Three of the five races of men live in Asia. These are the Caucasian, the Mongolian, and the Malay races. The Mongolians are most numerous; the Malays least so.

FOR RECITATION.
1. What part of the population of the globe lives in Asia?
   One-half the population of the globe.
2. In which zones is Asia?
   The northern part is in the North Frigid Zone, and the southern part in the Torrid Zone; but the greater part is in the North Temperate Zone.
3. Which parts of Asia form a great plain?
   The northern and north-western parts.
4. Name the highest plateau.
   The Table-land of Thibet.
5. Which are the loftiest mountains?
   The Himalaya Mountains are the loftiest, and Mount Everest is the highest mountain on the globe.

China and Japan.

6. What three great peninsulas in Southern Asia?
   Arabia, Hindostan, and Indo-China.
7. Name some of the animals of Asia.
   The elephant, camel, yak, and zebu, the rhinoceros and tapir, tiger and cheetah.
8. What three races of men live in Asia?
   The Caucasian, Mongolian, and Malay races.

Reading-Lesson XLIV.

The Chinese Empire is made up of several countries, but the most interesting of these is China itself, or, as the Chinese call it, the "Central Flowery Land."

The first thing to be noticed about China is the vast number of human beings that live there. The number of people in China is over four hundred millions; that is, one-third of the whole human family.

China is one of the oldest of civilized nations. The people of that country, in Europe. But we cannot say that the Chinese are a civilized people, according to our ideas. Their way of doing things and thinking about things is the same today as described in their books two thousand years ago.

Two thousand years ago the Chinese built along the northern border of their country the "Great Wall." It is about fifteen hundred miles long, from fifteen
to thirty feet high, and so broad that six horse­men may ride abreast on it. This Great Wall was built to guard the country against the wild Tartar tribes. Till lately the Chinese would have no dealings with the rest of the world; but now they trade with the "outside barbarians." Many of them have come over to occupy a very small patch of ground. The grain most cultivated is rice. This is the great food of the people, as bread is with us. The national drink is tea, and both plant and name are Chinese. The culture of the tea-plant is a very large and important business in China. The tea-plant is an evergreen shrub, growing five or six feet high, the leaves of which are gathered, and dried in shallow pans over charcoal fires.

The dress of the common people of China is almost entirely of cotton cloth. Hence we judge that the cotton-plant must be largely grown in China; and this is the case. But the richer classes always wear robes of silk stuffs; and from this we may judge that the manufacture of silk must be another important business in China. In fact, the art of rearing silkworms, which feed on mulberry-leaves, and of unraveling the threads of cocoons, was first practiced by the Chinese. The Chinese have many manners and customs that seem strange to us. The people remove the shoes instead of their hats when they go into a house. They eat with two small sticks, instead of with knives and forks. They take off their shoes instead of their hats. They eat with two small sticks, instead of with knives and forks.

The Japanese are skillful and diligent tillers of the soil. They raise rice, cotton, tobacco, tea, and all kinds of fruits and vegetables suited to their climate. They excel in horticulture and landscape-gardening. They are also much engaged in the fisheries, and fish is with them the chief article of animal food. The Japanese manufacture fine porcelaín and lacquered ware. Their silks and crapes are beautifully delicate. They are skillful workers in steel and bronze, and make a great variety of paper goods. These various articles they export. The Japanese dress consists of one or more loose gowns, with long wide sleeves, Japanese and fastened at the waist with a belt. The Japanese live so near the Chinese, and fastened at the waist with a belt. Hence we judge that the manufacture of silk must be another important business in China. The Japanese manufacture fine porcelain and lacquered ware. Their silks and crapes are beautifully delicate. They are skillful workers in steel and bronze, and make a great variety of paper goods. These various articles they export. The Japanese dress consists of one or more loose gowns, with long wide sleeves, Japanese and fastened at the waist with a belt. The houses are low, with large piazzas and projecting roofs. The people have no chairs or beds, but sit on straw mats, and sleep on rugs. A common way of traveling is shown in the picture below.

The capital of Japan is Tokio. It is nearly as large as New York. Here is the residence of the Mikado, as the emperor of Japan is called. Yokohama is the chief seaport; it is connected with Tokio by a straight road, or street, seventeen miles long, lined on both sides with tea-houses, gardens, and shops, in which are set out for sale all kinds of Japanese wares.
FOR RECALL.
1. How many people live in China?
   More than four hundred millions, or one-third of the whole human family.
2. What is their chief food and chief drink?
   The chief food is rice, and the chief drink is tea.
3. What are the principal exports of China?
   The principal exports are teas and silks, nankeens, laces, porcelain, lacquered ware, ivory-work, fire-crackers, and rattan.
4. Name three principal cities.
   Peking, which is the capital; and Canton and Shanghai, which are the chief seaports.
5. What does Japan include?
   Japan includes several large and many small islands north-east of China.
6. What can you say of the progress of the Japanese?
   The Japanese have made great progress in recent times, and are a civilized people.
7. Name the principal exports of Japan.
   They are porcelain, lacquered ware, silks and Japan includes several large and many small islands north-east of China. The principal exports are teas and silks, nankeens, laces, porcelain, lacquered ware, ivory-work, fire-crackers, and rattan.
8. Name the capital and chief seaport.
   Tokio is the capital; Yokohama is the chief seaport.

READING-LESSON XLV.

INDO-CHINA, MALAYSIA, AND INDIA.

Afghans-in-tai-tai'      Colombo (c.4)
Bangkok                Colombo (c.4)
Bat-coo-chia-tai'       Colombo (c.4)
Bom-bay'                Colombo (c.4)

INDO-CHINA contains three kingdoms,—Burma, Siam, and Anam,—besides several Indo-Chinese small states. The climate is very hot and moist; and hence all the tropical plants grow there, such as palms, rice, tobacco, the sugar-cane, the guutta-percha tree, sandal-wood, bamboo, and many kinds of spices.

Indo-China is the home of many of the most noted Asiatic animals. In the vast forests are found wild elephants, tigers, enormous serpents, and the orang-outang. In Siam there are several thousand trained elephants in the royal army; and whenever a white elephant is found it belongs to the king.

Bangkok is the chief city of Indo-China. Half of the people live on floating bamboo rafts, arranged like streets. Singapore, the principal seaport, belongs to the British.

MALAYSIA (so called because it is the chief home of the Malay race) includes the many islands between south-eastern Asia and Australia. The four largest of these islands are Borneo, Sumatra, Celebes, and Java.

Spices are the most noted product of Malaysia. The Moluccas are celebrated for cloves and nutmegs; Sumatra and Java for black pepper, ginger, and camphor. Java is noted for its coffee and guutta-percha; the Philippines, for tobacco. Sugar, cotton, rice, sago, and indigo are cultivated on all the islands. Besides these, all kinds of tropical trees, plants, and fruits grow luxuriously, as bamboo, the india-rubber tree, the camphor-tree, the mangrove-tree, ferns, magnolias, ebony, teak, sandal-wood, and hundreds of varieties of cabinet woods.

British India includes most of the great peninsula of Hindostan, parts of Indo-China, and the island of Ceylon. The name Hindostan means literally the land of the Hindoos. The Hindoos are a people of a brownish-olive complexion; but they are not Mongolians: they belong to the Caucasian race. In Hindostan there are more people than in any other country in the world except China,—five times as many as in the United States.

India is more than ten times as large as the British Isles, and contains six times as many people; and yet it is ruled by the English. A long time ago the English began trading there, and little by little they took nearly the whole of it. Now, by means of a small army, the British Governor-General keeps the whole country under control. The British have built railroads in the country, and have done much to increase trade.

On account of the hot, moist climate, the vegetable productions of India are rich and tropical. We find there the immense banyan-tree, palms of various kinds, such as the sago and the cocoanut palm, the fragrant sandal-wood, the bamboo, the teak, and the various trees. The grain most grown is rice, which is the principal food of the common people. Cotton is raised here more largely than in any country except the United States.

The Hindoos make fine cotton, silk, and woolen goods. No doubt you have heard of the famous Cashmere shawls; these are woven by hand from the wool or hair of a goat found in the Vale of Cashmere, in the Himalaya Mountains.

Bombay is the great commercial city of India. To this port come the French and English steamers which pass through the Suez Canal. Calcutta is the residence of the British Governor-General of India.

FOR RECALL.
1. What are the three principal divisions of Indo-China?
   They are Burma, Siam, and Anam.
2. What does this region produce?
   It produces all kinds of tropical plants.
3. Name the largest city and largest seaport.
   Bangkok is the largest city; Singapore, the largest seaport, belongs to the British.
4. Name the four largest islands of Malaysia.
   They are Borneo, Sumatra, Celebes, and Java.
5. What are some of the chief products of Malaysia?
   They are spices, coffee, tobacco, sugar, cotton, indigo, india-rubber, and cabinet woods.
6. What does British India include?
   It includes Hindostan, parts of Indo-China, and the island of Ceylon.
In the central part of Asia is Turkestan. Here are great treeless plains covered with grass, and called steppes. These are inhabited by a fierce race called Tartars. They live in tents, and go from place to place to find pasturage for their horses, camels, sheep, and goats. In the parts called Afghanistan and Beloochistana the Tartars lead a somewhat more settled life.

More than one third of Asia belongs to the Russian Empire. The greater portion of Asiatic Russia is called Siberia, and is as large as the United States. It is important for its minerals and fine furs. The Russian government sends every year several thousand persons who have broken the laws as exiles to work in the mines of Siberia.

Persia, at the time of Alexander the Great, was the strongest nation in the world; but now it is a weak country. The Persians are skilled in the manufacture of silk and woolen goods, and of shawls and carpets. They also export dried fruits, perfumes, drugs, and gums.

Arabia is the great peninsula lying between the Red Sea and Persian Gulf. The interior is mostly a high barren plateau. The most fertile parts are the coast valleys and the small oases of the deserts. Arabia is divided among different states and tribes. Most of the Arabs have settled abodes; others are wandering Bedouins, each under its own ruler, called a sheik. The wealth of the Bedouins consists in their herds of horses and camels and their flocks of sheep.

The principal exports of Arabia are coffee, gums, spices, horses, and pearls. The finest coffee comes from a seaport named Mocha, in the south-western part. The coast of Arabia along the Red Sea belongs to the Turks. Here are two famous cities, — Mecca and Medina. In Mecca was born Mohammed, who lived more than a thousand years ago, and who wrote in a book named the Koran the rules of a religion called Mohammedanism. The Persians, Arabs, Turks, and several other peoples in Asia, follow this religion, and thousands of Mohammedans make pilgrimages to Mecca every year.

Turkey in Asia includes other countries, and among them some of the most interesting places in ancient history. Along the coast of the Mediterranean is a country now called Syria, part of which is Palestine, or the Holy Land. Jerusalem is the chief city; but it is not now like the city of David. North of Palestine was the land of the Phenicians, who were very skilful sailors, and who invented the alphabet. On the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates are the ruins of Babylon and Nineveh,—two great cities of which you may read in ancient history.

The trade of Turkey in Asia is carried on by means of caravans which cross the Syrian and Arabian deserts. The cities of Aleppo, Damascus, and Bagdad are the chief centers of caravan traffic. Smyrna is the principal seaport of Asiatic Turkey.

FOR RECITATION.

1. What people live in Turkestan?
   The Tartars, a fierce wandering race.

2. What is the name of the largest Russian territory in Asia?
   Siberia.

3. What articles are exported from Persia?
   Shawls and carpets, dried fruits, perfumes, and drugs.

4. What articles are exported from Arabia?
   Coffee, gum, spices, horses, and pearls.

5. What famous Mohammedan cities in Arabia?
   Mecca and Medina.

6. What can you say of Mecca?
   Mecca was the birth-place of Mohammed.

7. What is the chief seaport of Asiatic Turkey?
   Smyrna.
AFRICA.

QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.


Coast.—What is the most eastern cape? Most southern? What cape west of Cape Agulhas? Most western? What large sea on the north of Africa? What sea on the north-east? What channel between Africa and Madagascar? What large gulf on the west coast?

Mountains.—What mountain-range in the north-western part of Africa? What range near the eastern coast? What mountains in the southern part of Africa? What mountain-range south-west of Soudan?

Rivers.—What great river flows northward into the Mediterranean Sea? In what lake does the Nile rise? What large river flows into Mozambique Channel? What large river crosses the Equator? What is the largest river flowing into the Gulf of Guinea? What two large lakes are crossed by the Equator? What large lake is south of Albert and Victoria Lakes? What lake west of Mozambique?

AFRICA is next in size to Asia, but there is not so much to be told about it as “The Dark Continent.” cause it has no great civilized nations. It has always been the least-known part of the world, and is sometimes called “The Dark Continent.” But we have lately learned a great deal about it from brave explorers.

More than one-fourth part of Africa is desert. In the northern part is the Great Desert, which is nearly as large as the whole of Europe. It is called by the Arabs Sahara, which means “the sea without water.” It is the most parched, sandy, and desolate part of the world.
It would not be possible for man to cross this great desert without the aid of the camel, well named the “ship of the desert.” There are often no other traces of a path across the sandy waste than the whitened bones of men and camels that have perished along the great caravan routes of travel, from thirst, sand-storms, or sickness.

The oases are thickly covered with date-palms, which offer their grateful shade and sweet fruit to the weary caravans, while the clear springs afford delicious draughts of water to thirsty men and patient camels.

The name “rhinoceros,” which means nose-borne, calls attention to the curious horns that project from the nose of this animal. They are, however, not true horns, but simply growths of the skin. The rhinoceros, when full grown, is over five feet high. The skin is so thick that the beast can not be killed by an ordinary leaden bullet, and this tough hide is used by the natives to make whips and war-shields.

The lion, the grandest creature of the cat-tribe, is found both in North Africa and South Africa. When fully grown, the male lion measures about eleven feet in length, and four feet in height at the shoulder.

The giraffe, the tallest of beasts, is found only in Africa. It is from eighteen to twenty feet high, and this great height helps it reach the leaves of trees on which it feeds.

Most of the chains of mountains are near the coast. In the north-west are the Atlas Mountains, in the west the Kong Mountains, and in the south the Snow Mountains. In the East African mountains are several ranges, one of which is called the Mountains of the Moon. These mountains are the highest peaks in Africa. It is called Mount Kilimanjaro; it is four miles high, and, though in the Torrid Zone, its summit is white with snow all the year round.

Africa has several lakes said to be as large as the “Great Lakes” of North America. They are near the Equator, and have only recently been explored and described. In two of these, called Albert and Victoria Lakes, rises the river Nile. For thousands of years nobody knew where it came from, and its true source was discovered only very lately. The Nile flows through a long, narrow valley, where there is no rain all the year round. If it were not for this river, Egypt would be a hot and arid desert.

There are three other important rivers in Africa — the Niger, the Congo, and the Zambesi. The Congo River was fully explored by the celebrated traveler, Stanley, who went down the river from its source to its mouth. It was Stanley who discovered the famous missionary and traveler, Dr. David Livingstone, some years before.
feeds. It is a gentle and playful animal, and is hunted for its flesh, and for its strong, thick hide, used for making shoe-soles, shields, etc.

The zebra, with its creamy white skin, regularly marked with black stripes, is a most beautiful animal. It is mild and timid, but hard to tame. A strange animal is the gnu. When first seen, you are in doubt whether it is a horse, a bull, or antelopes.

The ostrich, the largest of birds, lives in the hot, sandy deserts of Africa, feeding principally on wild melons, which grow there. It is valued chiefly on account of its beautiful plumes.

The gorilla is a large ape which lives in the thick jungles in the western part of Africa. It is as big as a man, and much stronger. It is so ferocious that the natives fear it even more than they fear the lion. Hidden among the thick branches of the forest, it will watch for a negro to pass by. It then lets down its terrible hind foot, grasps the man round the neck, lifts him up, and drops him dead on the ground.

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Egypt is the oldest nation of which we have any history. The Egyptians were a highly civilized people four thousand years ago. They built the grandest temples ever raised by man, and the Pyramids, which are still the wonder of the world.

The Nile, fed by rains from the mountains of Abyssinia, rises every summer, and, overflowing its banks for two or three months, leaves on the surface a deposit of very fertile soil. The Egyptians are principally engaged in cultivating the Nile valley.

They raise wheat, barley, maize, rice, cotton, and dates. The chief exports are cotton, rice, and wheat; and large quantities of gold-dust, ivory, ostrich-feathers, etc., are brought from the interior of Africa to be sent to Europe by way of Egypt.

Alexandria is the largest seaport.

FOR RECIATION.

1. What is to be remarked about Africa?
2. How much of Africa is desert?
3. Where are most of the mountain-chains?
4. What is the largest seaport?
5. Where is the source of the Nile?

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The negroes of Soudan are partly civilized. They live in villages, and have settled habits. They cultivate their fields, weave cotton cloth, and dye it with bright colors; and they make some iron weapons, tools, and rude pottery. They live on the manioc-root, rice, millet, yams, the fruit of the palms, and what is yielded by their flocks. Many of their towns are of considerable size. The commercial products are gold-dust, ivory, and ostrich-feathers, together with slaves.

In Central Africa is the new Congo State, which has been opened up to trade. There are many trading-stations on the Congo, and agents of European merchants carry on trade with the natives from these points. In South Africa are several interesting native races. The Hottentots, who live in Cape Colony, speak a curious language, full of clicking sounds. The Caffres live in Caffraria. The men are strong and well-built, and the women quite good-looking. They put great faith in charm-doctors, rain-makers, and prophets. The Zulus are a handsomer race than the negroes generally. In color they are like the Indians of North America. Dr. Livingstone tells us that they are noted for their honesty and hospitality.

Most of the colonies of South Africa belong to the British. Cape Town is the principal city. The South African Republic and the Orange River Republic are small states founded by the Dutch Boers. Many diamonds have been found in the diggings near the Orange and Neal Rivers.

Liberia, on the west coast, is settled by negroes from the United States, and Sierra Leone is a British colony for negroes rescued from slave-ships. Several European nations have trading-stations along the west coasts of Africa.

FOR RECIATION.
1. What great region is south of the Sahara? Soudan.
2. What is it like? It has a tropical climate, abundant rains, a fertile soil, and many valuable productions.
3. What can you say of the negroes of Soudan? They are partly civilized.
4. What are the chief products? Gold-dust, ivory, and ostrich-feathers.
5. Name some of the races of South Africa. The Hottentots, Caffres, and Zulus.
6. To what nation do most of the colonies of South Africa belong? To the British.

QUESTIONS ON THE MAP.
On the map just studied we see three great groups of islands in the Pacific Ocean. These are called Oceanica, which means the great island-world in the ocean. These islands number several thousands. Each of the three groups is called by a separate name. Thus in the north-west we see Malaysia, about which we learned something when studying about Asia. In the central part we see the group called Australasia, and in the eastern part Polynesia.

In Australasia the largest island is Australia. This island is so very large that it is sometimes called a continent. It is occupied by several British colonies. Australia was discovered nearly three hundred years ago by the Dutch, who called it by the name of New Holland. Captain Cook, the great English navigator, visited it about one hundred years ago, and shortly afterwards the English began to use it as a place to which they might send persons guilty of crimes. But as more and more free settlers made their homes in Australia, the English at last gave up sending convicts to this country. In 1851 gold was discovered here, and thousands of persons rushed to the mines, and the rapid growth of Australia then began. There are no large animals native to Australia, but quite a number of very curious creatures. Among these are the pouched animals, of which the kangaroo is one. Animals are gold, of which it produces more than any other country except our own. It is also a good farming country, and is especially fitted for sheep-raising. Australia produces more wool than any other country, and large quantities of wheat and cotton.

Trade is carried on principally with Great Britain. Australia exports gold, copper, wool, hides, and preserved meats, and receives in exchange the cotton and woolen goods, iron and hardware, of England. It has a line of steamships communicating with San Francisco, and a line with England by way of Panama and New York. Melbourne and Sydney are the largest cities in Australia. They are the capital.

In Polynesia are the largest islands on the globe. The natives are a black-colored race. These islands are all in Australasia.

Polynesia means many islands, and the name is a good one, for in this division are almost countless islands, or clusters of islands. Some of the islands are volcanic, others coral islands. The people of Polynesia are light-colored tribes belonging to the Malay race. Many of them have been converted to Christianity by the labors of American and English missionaries.

Besides the cocoa-nut palm is found all over Polynesia, and is of the greatest use to the inhabitants. It needs no culture, pruning, or attention of any kind, while it is the staff of life to the islanders. They repose beneath its shade, eat its fruit, and find a beverage in the milk of the nut. Their huts are thatched with the leaf-stalks, of which also they make baskets for catching fish, while the leaves furnish bonnets, and the leaflets fans. Hardly less important is the bread-fruit tree, the fruit of which supplies a nourishing and pleasant food.

The Sandwich Islands form the most interesting of the Polynesian groups. For many years past the Sandwich-Island islands have been civilized. They have convenient towns, roads, a small fleet, a written language, and export sandal-wood, coffee, sugar, oil, etc. Honolulu is the capital. Steamers and whale-ships stop there for supplies. In the island of Hawaii is the most wonderful volcanic mountain in the world. It is called Mauna Loa (meaning "high mountain"), and is nearly fourteen thousand feet high. It has many craters on the sides and near the summit. One of these, named Kilauea, is nine miles in circumference. From these craters lava frequently shoots up in great columns hundreds of feet high.

FOR IRRIGATION:

1. What are the three great groups of islands in Oceanica?
   - They are Malaysia, Australasia, and Polynesia.

2. What of Australia?
   - It is the largest island in the world, and is sometimes called a continent.

3. By whom is it occupied?
   - By several British colonies.

4. What are the chief exports?
   - They are gold, copper, wheat, wool, hides, and preserved meats.

5. What other large islands in Australasia?
   - Tasmania and New Zealand, which are British colonies.

6. What is Polynesia?
   - It is the many islands and clusters of islands east of Australasia.

7. What is the most interesting group in Polynesia?
   - The Sandwich Islands.

8. What is the capital?
   - The capital is Honolulu.

9. What great volcano in these islands?
   - The volcano of Mauna Loa, in the island of Hawaii.
CIRCLES AND LINES.

CIRCLES AND LINES ON GLOBES AND MAPS.

1. Circles and Lines.—The Equator, the tropics and polar circles, and the parallels and meridians are circles or lines drawn on globes and maps. (See maps, p. 1.)

2. The Equator is a circle imagined to pass around the earth, equally distant from each pole.

3. It represents the earth divided into a northern and a southern hemisphere.

4. The tropics and the polar circles show the boundaries of the five zones. The five zones are the Torrid Zone, the North Temperate Zone, the South Temperate Zone, the North Frigid Zone, and the South Frigid Zone.

5. The tropics are the two circles that bound the Torrid Zone.

6. Their names.—The northern tropic is called the Tropic of Cancer; the southern tropic is called the Tropic of Capricorn.

NOTE.—The Tropic of Cancer marks the northern limit of places that can have the sun directly overhead, and the Tropic of Capricorn marks the southern limit of such places.

7. The polar circles are the two circles that separate the Temperate from the Frigid zones.

8. Their names.—The northern polar circle is called the Arctic Circle; the southern, the Antarctic Circle.

NOTE.—On the inner edge of the polar circles the day is longer than 24 hours; but towards each pole the day grows longer and longer, and at the poles there are six months' constant sunshine followed by six months' constant night.

9. The parallels and meridians show the situation of places on the earth's surface.

10. The parallels show the latitude of a place, or its distance north or south from the Equator.

NOTE.—Every circle is divided into 360 parts called degrees.

11. Latitude is reckoned by distances called degrees, thus: north latitude from the Equator, where the latitude is zero, to the North Pole, where the latitude is ninety degrees north; south latitude, from the Equator to the South Pole, where the latitude is ninety degrees south.

12. The meridians show the longitude of a place, or its distance east or west from some fixed point, called the "first meridian."

NOTE.—The "first meridians" most used on maps are the meridian of Greenwich Observatory, near London, and that of the Naval Observatory in Washington.

13. Longitude is reckoned from the first meridian, both eastward and westward one hundred and eighty degrees, or half-way around the earth.

NOTE.—The length of a degree of longitude is nearly seventy miles at the Equator, but the degrees constantly lessen towards each pole, where they have no length.

Mathematical.—What is the shape of the earth? What is its size? What is the Equator? Into which hemispheres does the Equator divide the earth's surface? What is the North Pole? The South Pole? Name the tropics. Name the polar circles. What do the tropics and polar circles show? How many zones are there? Between what circles is the Tropic of Cancer? What is the Tropic of Capricorn? The North Temperate Zone? The South Temperate Zone? Between what circles is the Tropic of Tardid Zone? The South Frigid Zone? How is the situation of places shown on maps and globes? How many degrees of latitude between the Equator and the North Pole? Between the Equator and the South Pole? How is longitude reckoned?


What is the longest river in the world? Name four other great rivers of North America. Which is the largest river in the world? Name two other great rivers in South America. Which is the longest river in Europe? Name three other great rivers of Europe. Name a famous river of England. Of France. Of Germany. Name the two great rivers of India. Of China. Name the three largest rivers of Africa. Name the "Great Lakes" of North America. Name the largest lakes in Europe. In Asia. In Africa.


Grand Divisions.—How does North America compare in size with the other grand divisions? Which is the smallest grand division? The largest? What ocean separates Europe from North America? South America from Africa? Asia from North America? Which grand divisions are wholly in the northern hemisphere? Which are in two hemispheres?

Topics for Review.

Countries.—Name the countries of North America. Bound each. Name the countries of the Andes region. What large country is in the eastern part of South America? What country is in the Iberian Ilanos? What countries in the pampas? What country occupies the British Isles? What country occupies about one-half of Europe? What countries in the three peninsulas of Southern Europe? Bound France. What country east of France? Southeastern Germany? To what nation does the northern half of Asia belong? To what nation does India belong? Australia? Canada? What nation has countries at the meeting-point of Europe, Asia, and Africa? What nation occupies the eastern part of Asia? Name the Barbary States. What country occupies the Nile Valley? Which is the most populous country on the globe? To what race do the Chinese belong? Which is the next most populous country in the world? To which race do the Hindustan belong? What is the population of the United States? Of the British Isles?


Cities and Seaports.—What is the largest city in the world? Which European city is second in size? What is the largest city in South America? Name two cities of Europe as large as New York.

What is the capital of France? Of Germany? Of Russia? Of China? Of India? Which is the most populous city in South America? Name the chief seaport on the west coast? Of America? Of South America? Name the largest city in South America. What city is the chief seaport on the west coast? Of Asia? Of Europe? Which is the most populous city on the globe? To what country do the Chinese belong? Which is the next most populous country in the world? Which is the most easterly cape of North America? The most westerly? Name the countries of the Andes region. What large country occupies about one-third of the British Isles? What country occupies about one-third of the British Isles? Of the British Isles. To what nation was India once a colony? To what is the British Isles the largest island continent? Which is the next largest? What island continent in the Eastern Hemisphere? Name the islands. What island continent in the Western Hemisphere? Name the islands. Of the British Isles. Of the British Isles. Of the British Isles. Of the British Isles.
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<td>3,757,752</td>
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<td>Bangkok, Indo-China</td>
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Philadelphia ....... fli'ke-jen.
Pluto ........... ploot.
Polyvnia ........... pol-ee-veen'ia.
Porto Rico ...... por'to ree'co.
Portugal ....... port'u-gal.
Portuguese ...... por'tug'i.
Porto Rico ...... por'to ree'co.
Portugal ....... port'u-gal.
Poughkeepsie ... po-kip'se.
Poughkeepsie ... po-kip'se.
Potosi ........... pah-toz'e.
Potosi ........... pah-toz'e.

Quebec ........... kwe-bec'.
Quito ........... kee'to.
Racine ....... ra-seen'.
Racine ....... ra-seen'.

Sahara .......... sah-ha'ra.
Salamanca ....... sal-ah-man-kah.
Salamanca ....... sal-ah-man-kah.
Salina ........... sa-lin'e.
Salina ........... sa-lin'e.
San Antonio .... san ah-toh-ni'AH.
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