



The sea is full of floating fields of ice.

to stay there all the year, we should find that there is no winter and that snow and ice are never seen except on the tops of the highest mountains.

At length we leave the forests behind and enter open country again. As we advance we notice that our shadows at noon fall toward the *south*, instead of toward the north as at home. We also notice that there is a winter season and a summer season, but that it is winter during the months when it is summer at home. Think of it: if we lived there, we should wear overcoats on the First of July and straw hats at Christmas!

We go forward and gradually reach a colder region, where the winters are long and the summers short, until at last we are stopped by a vast expanse of salt water. The sea is again before us! We have reached the end of the land toward the south!

#### TOPICS FOR ORAL OR WRITTEN WORK.

(Answer in Sentences.)

- I. DIRECTIONS. How can you find north? South? East? West? In what directions does the land end? Where have you found the sea?
- II. HEAT AND COLD. What kind of weather is there far north of your home? Where is a land that has no winter? When is there winter in the far south?

#### 5. The Continent of America.

In what directions have we traveled? What has stopped each journey? Where, then, is the sea?

If we travel from home in *any* direction, we shall at last come to the sea, for the sea lies on all sides of the land.

Were we to follow the shore of the sea entirely around the land until we reached our starting place again, we should find that the shape of the land is something like the outline on the next page. The pic-

ture which you draw of a house or a tree is smaller than the thing itself. In the same way, this map of the land is much smaller than the land itself. The real land is so very large that it would take several years to walk all around its edge.

On this map the land is shaded, but the sea is white, so you can easily tell the one from the other. The directions are marked near the edges of the map. The east side of the land is the side toward the east side of the map, the west side of the land is the side toward the west side of the map, and so on. You see that most of the land is in one great mass, but that along its margin there are several smaller masses of land, each completely surrounded by water. The continuous mass of land is called a *continent*. It is the continent of America. The smaller masses of land surrounded by water are called *islands*. The continent and islands together are sometimes called simply America.

We cannot pass through until we have cut a path.