

him no little labour. He had to walk all around it, and notice in which direction each boundary fence extended; and at first it puzzled him to know how long to make each line on paper to correspond with the length of the farm lines. He first thought of using a long rod to measure each distance, but this was very slow work. His father, who had now become interested from seeing his boy so full of his plans, suggested that he should count his steps as he walked over the ground he wished to measure. This was easily done. He therefore took pains to make his steps as equal in length as possible, and by a little practice could soon measure a distance pretty accurately. His teacher now made him a present of a small pocket compass, and showed him how to use it. With this he could tell exactly which way the lines run. He now worked with much satisfaction. He would take his compass and a pencil and paper with him, and starting early in the morning, would commence operations. Looking at his compass, he noticed that the first boundary fence ran nearly north and south. He walked to where it turned eastward, counting his steps, and found it was one hundred and thirteen steps. Then he marked on his paper, N. 113. The next line he marked N. E. 67, meaning sixty-seven steps in a north-east course. Thus he continues walking and marking until school-time. In a few days he had in this way completed his survey of the boundary lines.

Then came the drawing of them, which was easily done. He had a small pocket-rule, divided into inches and sixteenths, and he made each inch on paper represent sixty-four steps. This gave four steps to each sixteenth of an inch. Then, by drawing a "North and South line," and giving each line its proper direction, according to the notes of his survey, he soon had a pretty accurate outline of the farm. The work of dividing into fields was done in the same way. This occupied him several days longer. He also mapped out the brooks, swamps, and other prominent natural features of the place, and when it was completed, and each field was described, he had a work of which he might well be proud. It was the geography of his father's farm.

The boy was not satisfied until he had made himself a geography of the town in which he lived. This he was enabled to do by copying a map which he procured. In order to be sure that the map was correct, he spent many Saturdays in walking over the different roads laid down upon the map. He also introduced many additions of his own, by marking the situations of the churches, school-houses, mills, &c.

All this was a work of months; but at the end of that time he had become a real enthusiast in the study of geography, and was never better pleased than when

looking over maps, and learning the situation of places about which he read in books and newspapers.

Now, then, you see how easy it will be for you to make a Geography on a small scale for yourself; and if, like the boy we have been writing of, you think this a dry, uninteresting study, you will find, by trying a similar experiment, that it will become a real pleasure. Perhaps you will feel proud enough of your map of the farm, when completed, to send us a copy. It would certainly be to us a pleasing evidence that you had read this article to some purpose.

### ATHLETIC EXERCISES.

#### WALKING, RUNNING AND LEAPING.

In olden time, before there were railroads or steamers, men used to ride and walk far more than they do now. Men thought nothing of travelling twenty miles on foot or on horseback, to go to market, or visit a friend. Boys, too, in those days, took more exercise than they do now. They did not smoke as much as they have since learned to do; but they could run and leap far better than the boys of our time, and they were fond of foot-races, and games in which jumping and running were the secret of success.

Surely a walk of ten miles each day would not be too much for every boy of fourteen and upwards. Perhaps this distance would be too great to begin with. Four miles would fatigue a person not used to walking. One might begin with this, and gradually increase it, till the whole ten miles could be traveled without severe fatigue. It ought not to take over three hours to walk this distance. A good walker at full speed, will travel six miles for the first, and, if he be very strong, for the second hour also; but four miles an hour is a very good pace, and for that one must have a level road. In Europe, it is very common for young men to travel great distances afoot, for the purpose of enjoying themselves, and seeing the country. It is an excellent practice, and one which might be followed very agreeably in some of the beautiful parts of this country.

Running, too, is fine sport. Foot-races have always been famous and popular sports; the old Greeks and Romans thought so much of them that they made them religious exercises, and the swiftest runner was supposed to be a special favorite of the gods. I don't see, myself, that they have anything to do with religion; but I am sure they have much to do with health and strength. The distance to be run in races of this kind should be short, not more than a couple of hundred yards, at most; as boys sometimes do themselves a mischief by overtaxing their strength. But in races where the competitors are bound to keep at a walk, the distance may be a mile or two. In

running and walking, you will find it to your advantage to throw off coat and neck gear of every kind; to buckle a strap round your waist; to wear strong, well-fitting shoes, neither too large nor too small; to throw your head well back; not to swing your arms too much; to resist the tendency to quick and deep breathing, and not to put forth your whole strength at the beginning of a race.

If you walk and run well, you will also be fond of leaping. This, too, is fine exercise for the muscles. Straight leaps, or perpendicular leaps over hurdles, with a run, will bring out the muscles of the legs finely. For these leaps, you should have a run of about twenty yards; your steps should be short, and should increase in rapidity as you approach the object to be leaped. For the straight leap, a trench, increasing in width from ten to twenty feet, will answer very well; you can begin at the narrow end, and practice leaping till you can cross it at a bound near the wide end. A hurdle of twigs, or fence with a loose light cross piece, is the best arrangement for the high leaps. When you try to leap it with a run, be careful to alight on your toes, not your heels. Leaping with a pole exercises the arms and chest; it is fine sport. You ought to have a short run, then plant the pole, and, leaning your body forward, swing round the pole: be careful, in this leap, not to grasp the pole too high, or you may lose your balance in air. Vaulting is another form of leaping which will give you great strength of arm and chest. You should begin with a fence as high as your waist, and resting your hands upon it, swing your body over, keeping your legs straight. With a little practice, you will soon be able to vault a fence as high as your chin. Vaulting may sometimes prove a useful accomplishment; as, for instance, if you are unlucky enough to be chased by a mad bull in a fenced field.

There are many sports in which running and jumping are the essentials; such as Foot-ball, Leap-frog and several other games of the same kind.

To make an end—walking, running, leaping, and all such exercises, are good and useful in their way. Those wise old men who lived a couple of thousand years ago at Rome, used to say that a man's mind could not be sound unless it dwelt in a sound body; and their plan, to make their bodies sound, was to encourage running, leaping, and other athletic exercises.

CURIOUS BIBLES.—There is now in state of good preservation, at Göttingen, a Bible written on palm leaves, containing 5876 leaves. Another copy, of the same material, is at Copenhagen. There were also in Sir Hans Sloane's collection more than twenty manuscripts, in various languages, on the same material.