

A Constellation is a group of fixed stars.

THE EASTERN CONTINENT.

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that every ship carries. Do you see the ships on both sides of the *piers*, or landing-places? And the forest of masts? Here is a pier where our steamship can stay and take on board more coal and supplies; Here we step ashore upon the *Eastern Continent*.

ORAL AND WRITTEN EXERCISES.

(Tell what you know in complete sentences.)

In what direction from your home are the great ice-fields? If we travel a long way south, what sorts of fruit shall we find growing there? What part of Canada contains those vast grassy plains called prairies? How long did our steamer take to cross the Atlantic? How long does an express train take to cross Canada from ocean to ocean? How did our captain know which way was east in the darkness of midnight? When the stars rise at sea, on what part of the sky-ring do they first appear? When they sink out of sight, in what part of the horizon do they disappear? Are all the stars of the same size and brightness when they shine out overhead? On the first starlight night look out towards the east, and watch a star rise. Keep close watch on some bright star, and watch it set in the west. Look carefully at the stars that shine in the northern part of the sky, for we need to know them best of all. On the previous page there is a picture of the stars as they often look at the north side of the sky. Copy the picture for yourself. It is called a star-map. Note all the large bright stars, and look for them in the sky. There is one star in the map that we must know very well. Notice the seven bright stars on the left of the picture. They are sometimes called the Dipper. The two on the right are called the Pointers. The first bright star above them in their line is the North Star or Pole Star.

5. The Eastern Continent.

Do you see the zig-zag shape of the Atlantic Ocean in the picture? The dotted line shows the track of our ship. You see that we crossed at one of the narrow places, and yet it took our ship a week at high speed. Point out another narrow place in the Atlantic. Find the Isthmus of Panama, and notice that the ocean is widest opposite the central part of America. Look at the outline of the Atlantic again, so that you may be able to draw it from memory.

You see this picture is made round, and when you hold it far off it looks like a ball, with the great continents and the ocean on the outside. Remember this, because the picture means more than this book has told you so far. See how very long the Atlantic is from north to south. This picture does not show all the southern end of it, but the picture on page 9 shows the full length, which is more than nine thousand miles, and would require a whole month for our steamer to traverse even in fine weather. Can you imagine now what a vast world of waters this great ocean really is? See how very much larger this great Atlantic is than the whole of North and South America. Yes, there is far more water than land, and by-and-

by we shall cross a mightier ocean that will make the Atlantic look quite small. You must learn to expect more water than land in our travels, because only about one part in four of this beautiful world is land; the other three parts are covered by the restless waters of the wide, pathless ocean.

Now we must set to work to find out what the Eastern Continent is like. It is the greatest mass of land on the face of the earth, and years and years of hard work had to be spent before men found out its shape. The picture on

the next page shows how it came out at last. It would take us years and cost us

thousands of dollars to find it all out for ourselves, because the distances are very, very great; but the picture tells us at once what thousands of people slowly found out. Look at the cardinal points of the compass, marked on the map, and also at the other points printed at the corners of the map. Do you know them again? The dotted line at the north-west show the track of our good steamer and the island where we landed. Look very closely at that island. It is the most famous in the whole world. That island is Great Britain, our



The Atlantic Ocean.