



A Watershed.

In what direction does the northern part of the central plain slope? How do you know? Find on the map the divide between the Mississippi and the basins north of it. This divide is not very high and in some places the ground slopes from it so gradually that it appears to be level.

What large river flows towards Hudson Bay down the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains? A low plateau—the Laurentian—which curves round Hudson Bay forms a dam across the lower end of the valley of the Saskatchewan River. This obstruction has caused the water to spread out and fill the hollow place until it has found an outlet over the lower point of the dam. Such a great pond of water is called a *lake*. What is the name of this lake? It is quite large; in the widest place you cannot see across it. What river flows out of it? A river flowing out of a lake is called its *outlet*, while a river flowing into a lake is called an *inlet*. How many inlets do you think a lake may have? How many outlets?

What river flows down the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains and then turns northward into the Arctic Ocean? What three lakes are in its course? There are thousands of lakes scattered about in the northern part of the central plain, only a few of which, however, are shown on any map. Can you explain the origin of many of these lakes? See page 30. Trace the divide between the Saskatchewan and Mackenzie basins.

What three river basins of North America have we found extending as far west as the Rocky Mountain highland? What great river basin of the central plain does not extend as far west as this highland? What lakes are included in the St. Lawrence basin? These are called the Great Lakes on account of their size. Which of them is the largest? It is the largest fresh water lake in the world.

Into what oceans do all the basins we have studied empty their waters? Into what ocean do the other

great river basins empty? The Rocky Mountain highland divides North America into two great slopes, one towards the Pacific Ocean, the other towards the Atlantic and Arctic Oceans. This great watershed is called the *continental divide*. Along the top of what mountains does most of it lie?

What is the most northern river of the Pacific slope? Into what sea does it flow? What large river of the Pacific slope flows directly into the Pacific Ocean? What river flows into the Gulf of California?

There are several small rivers which flow down the eastern slope of the Appalachian Mountains into the Atlantic Ocean. Name two of these.

ORAL AND WRITTEN EXERCISES.

Where is the Mississippi basin? How far does it extend? Name its three slopes, its chief branches. What is meant by the flood plain of a river? Explain the origin of a delta. Name a river that has not a delta. Give a reason for this. What is a divide? What is a continental divide? Where is the continental divide of North America? What are the two main slopes of North America? Name the other slopes. Of the two main slopes which is the longer? Name one river in the Arctic slope, three of the Atlantic slope, three of the Pacific slope.

19. People and Subdivisions.

The map below shows by means of the little dots, the parts of North America in which most of the people live. Where the dots are closest the number of people is greatest.



PEOPLE ARE MOST NUMEROUS WHERE THE DOTS ARE THICKEST.