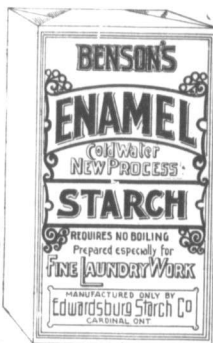


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According to the Ledger Monthly the English-speaking countries have four different miles—the ordinary mile of 5,280 feet and the geographical or nautical mile of 6,080 feet, making a difference of about one-seventh between the two; then there is the Scotch mile of 5,928 feet, and the Irish mile of 5,720 feet; four various miles, every one of which is still in use. Then almost every country has its own standard mile. The Romans had their mile passuum, 1,000 paces, which must have been about 3,900 feet in length, unless we ascribe to Caesar's legionaries great stepping capacity. The German mile of to-day is 24,318 feet in length, more than four and a half times as long as our mile. The Dutch, the Danes and the Prussians enjoy a mile that is 3,440 feet long, three and one-half times the length of ours, and the Swiss get more exercise in walking one of their miles than we get in walking ten miles, for their mile is 9,125 yards long, while ours is only 1,760 yards. The Italian mile is only a few feet longer than ours, the Roman mile is shorter, while the Tuscan and Turkish miles are 130 yards longer. The Swedish mile is 7,341 yards long, and the Vienna postmile is 8,796 yards in length. So here is a flat of twenty different miles, and besides this there are other distances of old long Ynka and other measures of distance, not counting the French kilometer, which is rather less than two-thirds of a mile. The Brazilians have a milla that is one and one-fourth times as long as our mile, the Neapolitan milio is about the same length; the Japanese ri, or mile, is two and one-half times ours; the Russian verst is five-eighths as long as our mile, while the Persian standard is a fersakh, four and a half miles long, which is said to be equal to the parasang, so familiar to the readers of Xenophon's Anabasis. The distance indicated by the league also varies in different countries.

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