

GEOGRAPHICAL READER.

WHAT WE LEARN IN GEOGRAPHY.

ge-og'-ra-phy.

| de-scrip'-tion.

| in'-ter-est-ing.

1. WHEN we want to learn all about a thing, so as to be sure of making no mistake, we like to see and examine it for ourselves. We are not content to know only what others can tell us, for we feel that our eyes are our surest teachers.

2. That is the best way to learn many things about the EARTH; for we live upon it, and it is all around us, and before our eyes at all times. But the earth is so great, and most people travel so little, that they can see for themselves only a very small part of it, even if they use their eyes busily wherever they go.

3. There are a thousand things that every one wants to know about his country, and about other parts of the world, which he must learn by reading books. But these books tell us only what is on the outside, or *surface*, of the earth; for that is all that interests most people. A book which tells about the surface of the earth, and the people and countries upon it, is called a *Geography*; for geography means *a description of the earth*.

4. When we look around us, we see that the earth has two kinds of surface. One is firm and solid; and