(1) America. — The two Americas are alike in lying between the Atlantic and the Pacific. North America, in accordance with the law, has on the Pacific side — the side of the great ocean — the Rocky Mountains, on the Atlantic side the low Appalachians, and between the two there is the great plain of the interior. This is seen in the annexed section (Fig. 16) from



west to east: on the west, the Rocky Mountains, with the double crest, at b; the Sierra Range at a; between a and b the Great Basin; at d the Appalachians; c the Mississippi; and between d and b a section of the Mississippi river system.

The Appalachians, on the east, reach an extreme height of but 6700 feet, and are in general under 2500 feet.

To the north of North America lies the small Arctic Ocean, much encumbered with land; and without any distinct mountain-chain facing the ocean.

South America, like North America, has its great western range of mountains, and its smaller eastern range (Fig. 17); and the Brazilian line (b) is



closely parallel to that of the Appalachians. The Andes (a) face the very broad South Pacific, and have more than twice the average height of the Rocky Mountains; moreover, they rise more abruptly from the ocean, with narrow shore plains.

Unlike North America, South America has a broad ocean on the north, — the North Atlantic in its longest diameter; and along this northern coast a mountain chain extends through Venezuela and Guiana.

(2) Europe and Asia. — The land covered by Europe and Asia is a single area of land, only partially double in its nature (page 22). Unlike either of the Americas, it lies east-and-west, with an extensive ocean facing Asia on the south; and its great feature lines are in a large degree east-and-west. The small Arctic Ocean is on the north; the larger North Atlantic on the west; the still larger North Pacific on the east; Africa and the broad Indian Ocean, singularly free from islands, are on the south. The boundary is a complex one, and the land between the Atlantic and Pacific is over 6000 miles broad.