



**Henry Hikes
to Fitchburg**

D. B. Johnson

One summer day, Henry and his friend decided to go to Fitchburg to see the country.

"I'll walk," said Henry.

"It's the fastest way to travel."

"I'll work," Henry's friend said, "until I have the money to buy a ticket to ride the train to Fitchburg. We'll see who gets there first!"





His friend waved. "Enjoy your walk," he said.



Henry walked down the road to Fitchburg. "Enjoy your work," he called back.



Henry's friend filled the woodbox in Mrs. Alcott's kitchen.
10 cents.



Henry hopped from rock to rock across the Sudbury River.



His friend swept out the post office. *5 cents.*



Henry carved a walking stick. *25 miles to Fitchburg.*



Henry's friend pulled all the weeds in Mr. Hawthorne's garden.
15 cents.



Henry put ferns and flowers in a book and pressed them.



His friend painted the fence in front of the courthouse.
10 cents.



Henry walked on stone walls.



Henry's friend moved the bookcases in Mr. Emerson's study.
15 cents.



Henry climbed a tree. *18 miles to Fitchburg.*



His friend carried water to the cows grazing on the grass in town.
5 cents.



Henry made a raft and paddled up the Nashua River.



Henry's friend cleaned out Mrs. Thoreau's chicken house.
10 cents.



Henry crossed a swamp and found a bird's nest in the grass.
12 miles to Fitchburg.



His friend carried flour from the mill to the village baker.
20 cents.



Henry found a honey tree.



Henry's friend ran to the train station to buy his ticket to Fitchburg.
90 cents.



Henry jumped into a pond. *7 miles to Fitchburg.*



His friend sat on the train in a tangle of people.



Henry ate his way through a blackberry patch.



Henry's friend got off the train at Fitchburg Station just as the sun was setting.



Henry took a shortcut. *1 mile to Fitchburg.*



His friend was sitting in the moonlight when Henry arrived.
"The train was faster," he said.

Henry took a small pail from his pack. "I know," he smiled.
"I stopped for blackberries."