235. Fig. 67 shows how a parabola can be marked on paper. The edge of the square *MN* is the directrix, *O* the vertex, and *F* the focus. Fold through *OX* and obtain the axis. Divide the upper half of the
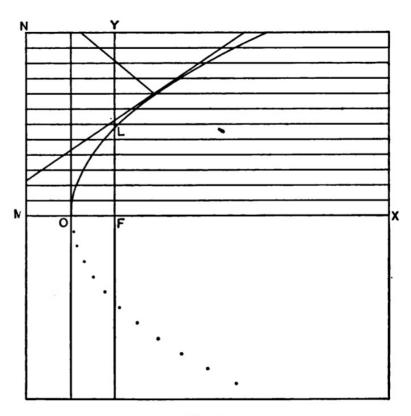

Fig. 67.

square into a number of sections by lines parallel to the axis. These lines meet the directrix in a number of points. Fold by laying each of these points on the focus and mark the point where the corresponding horizontal line is cut. The points thus obtained lie on a parabola. The folding gives also the tangent to the curve at the point.

236. *FL* which is at right angles to *OX* is called the semi-latus rectum.

237. When points on the upper half of the curve have been obtained, corresponding points on the lower half are obtained by doubling the paper on the axis and pricking through them.