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Climate and soil! Climate was always assumed to be a very important factor in explaining why centers of civilization were restricted to certain regions. Now, it is believed to be a determining influence with soil, for the reason that weather, through frost and wind, cause erosion and transportation and therefore mixing of soils. Areas which are frozen for long periods are found to differ from those of warmer regions, as the cold stops organic and chemical processes. The deep soils are near the equator and the shallower ones farther north. Climate also determines largely the kind of plant cover, and this in turn the amount of accumulated humus.
