

3. The region of the wine grape and maize.
4. The region of the wheat and oak.
5. The region of barley, oats, and fir.
6. The region of mosses and lichens.

LAND and WATER. — The area of the earth's surface is 197,000,000 of square miles, nearly three-fourths of which are covered with water; about three-fourths of the land surface is situated on the north of the equator.

CONTINENTS AND ISLANDS. — The land surface of the globe is estimated at 51,500,000 square miles. Very large bodies of land are called **CONTINENTS**; smaller portions, entirely surrounded by water, are called **ISLANDS**. There are three continents, the Eastern Continent, or Old World, including Europe, Asia, and Africa; the Western Continent, or New World, including North and South America; and Australia. The area of the Eastern Continent is about twice as great as that of the Western, and ten times that of Australia.

EUROPE has the greatest extent of seacoast in proportion to its size; it also contains the most powerful nations and the most celebrated institutions of learning. In the south are three noted peninsulas, of which the eastern and central were respectively the centres of the Grecian and Roman empires. The most powerful empires of modern Europe are Great Britain, France, Russia, Austria and Prussia.

ASIA is the largest of the six divisions. Its mountains, plains, and rivers are on a grand scale. The Himalaya Mountains, of which the highest point is 29,000 feet above the sea-level, are the most elevated in the world. Asia is noted