The proportions in the component parts of the potato vary much in the natural and dry state.

	Natural.	*Dry in round numbers.*
Water	75.52	
Starch	15.72	64
Dextrin	0.55	
Sugar	3.30	and Gum 15
Albumen, Casein and Gluten	1.41	Protein Compounds 9
Fat	0.24	1
Fibre	3.26	11
	100.00	100

The ash of the Potato consists of according to

	Boussingault.	*Fromberg.*
Potash	59.95	55.75
Soda	traces	1.86
Lime	2.09	2.07
Magnesia	6.28	5.28
Oxide of iron and alumina	0.59	0.52
Phosphoric acid	13.16	12.57
Sulphuric acid	8.27	13.65
Chlorine	3,14	4.27
Silica	6.52	4.23
	100.00	100.20
Per centage in the dry state	4.00	3·92

The ash of the fibrous parts consists of :

	Fibre.
Potash and soda with a little common salt.	3.72
Lime	50.84
Magnesia	10.21
Oxide of Iron	3.82
Phosphoric acid	19.66
Sulphuric acid	5.74
Silica	5.54
	99.53
Per centage of Ash	1.40

Professor Johnston remarks that the fibre leaves only one-third of the quantity of ash which is left by the whole Potato—consisting chiefly of carbonate and phosphate of lime. There the alkaline matter is found to exist chiefly in the sap—the phosphate of lime being chiefly attached in an insoluble state to the fibre ; so that growing stock would be most benefitted by the fibre, milk cows by the sap.

On comparison, the potato and yellow turnip are not found to differ much—the advantage—being on the side of the turnip:—the mangold-wurtzel exceeding the potato in protein compounds in the ratio of 15½ to 9. These compounds supply animals with the materials of muscle—the mangold-wurtzel containing 2½, while the potato averages only 2lbs.