

A Strong Clay—contains about twenty parts in one hundred of sand, capable of separation.

A Clay Loam—contains a large proportion of sand, easily separated.

A Loam—contains one-half or more sand, readily separable.

A Sandy Loam—contains eight or nine-tenths sand.

A Sandy Soil—contains one-tenth or less of clay.

The above are the varieties of soil as regards the base *clay*.

In reference to the second important constituent, *lime*, we have a *marl*, containing from five to twenty per cent of lime.

A Calcareous Soil—in which lime is the predominate constituent. Marls are always characterized as sandy, louny or clay marls, according to the portion of sand.

In respect to decayed vegetable matter, there are soils which owe their character to this. Such are our swamp soils or *muck*, in which masses of ferns and the roots of dead grasses predominate, forming a black fibrous mass. *Vegetable or leaf-mold*, formed by the decay of leaves, found in our wood lands, is one of the most valuable items to the gardener. *Muck*, however, can not be used with safety in compost with other soils, until it has been meliorated by exposure to the sun and air, to the admixture of some alkali it contains; potash, soda, lime or magnesia are the most efficacious alkalis used, and are found in several forms, such as wood ashes, common salt, etc. The term *peat* is frequently used in speaking of soils, resulting from decayed vegetable matter; the term *muck* has a very different signification with our English fellow-laborers, though the popular phrase with us.—*Germantown, Telegraph*.

FOOD FOR HORSES.—The *Working Farmer* says:—Carrots have a value far beyond that which can be attributed to the mere nutriment they contain, for in addition to what they furnish in this way, they contain a quantity of pectic acid, and this carries the property of gelatinizing the vegetable and animal matters held in solution, and thus enabling the peristaltic motion of the intestines to seize hold of their contents, so digestion of all matters of food is perfected by the presence of carrots. It is for this reason that a bushel of carrots and a bushel of oats, are better for the horse than two bushels of oats; not from the nutritious matter contained in the carrot, but in part from the power of the carrot to cause all the nutriment of the oats to be appropriated in the making of muscle, instead of part of it being evacuated in excrement. This action is true in regard to all the vegetable substances which go to make up the variety of food for animals, and the very instinct of every animal gives evidence of this truth.

Horticultural.

THE EFFECTS OF TREES ON BUILDINGS.

Trees, whether single or in groups, whether young or old, are obviously of the greatest use in accompanying buildings of every kind; but there seems to be a much closer union between them and low buildings. Cottages appear to repose under their shade, to be protected, sometimes supported by them; and they, on the other hand, hang over and embrace the cottage with their branches; it seems as if they could never have been separated from each other; and there would be a sort of cruelty in dividing them. If trees thus adorn the cottage, that in return, by the contrast of its form and colour no less enhances the peculiar beauties of vegetation, and often fixes the attention on trees, which, in other situations, would be unnoticed; no wonder, then, if we are struck with any of the beautiful exotics when so placed—with an acacia, a pine, a cedar, that shade part of a village house—with an arbutus, or a cluster of lilacs, over-topping the walls or the pales of its garden. In those cases, besides the real and less familiar beauty of such trees and shrubs and the effect of contrast, there is another circumstance that helps to attract and fix attention; they are separated from that infinite variety of similar productions, which, while it amuses, distracts the eye in shrubberies and collections of exotics.

But though trees and shrubs of every kind have a peculiar and distinguished effect, in consequence of accompanying and being accompanied by the houses of a village, there is another tribe of plants which gain still more by such a situation, and which,