

We have extracted the following piece, and the other passages which are annexed to the pages of the Calendar, from the Letters of Agricola. They consist of practical directions for the more important operations of husbandry-----and at the present moment when every individual is interested in the success and advancement of our agriculture, they will be found, we trust, more acceptable to the public than any other matter we could have chosen:

*Analysis of Soils.*—In the field to be examined, take earth a little below the surface, from four separate places, about 1 4lb. avoidupois from each. Expose it to the sun, or before the fire, till it is completely dry; and turn it over frequently that it may be well mixed together. From the heap take exactly four ounces, and pass this through a fine sieve, which will allow all the particles of sand and gravel to escape, but which will hold back stones, small fibrous roots and decayed wood. Weigh the two parts separately, and take a note of each. The stones and other bulky materials are then to be examined apart from the roots and wood. If they are hard and rough to the touch, and scratch glass easily, they are silicious or stony; if they are, without much difficulty, broken to pieces by the fingers, and can be scraped by a knife to powder, they are aluminous or clayey; or if, when put in a wine glass and common vinegar poured upon them, small air bubbles ascend to the top of the liquid, they are calcareous. The finely divided matter, which ran through the sieve, must next undergo the test of experiment. After being weighed, agitate the whole in water, till the earth be taken up from the bottom and mechanically suspended, adding water till this effect be produced. Allow the mass then to settle for two or three minutes; and in that time the sandy particles shall have all sunk to the bottom. Pour off the water, which will then contain the clay in suspension, and the insoluble earth arising from animal and vegetable decomposition. The sand should first be attended to, and if from inspection it be thought either silicious or calcareous in its nature, the requisite tests may be instantly applied.—By this time the mixture will have deposited at the bottom of the vessel the clay, and other earths, with the insoluble animal and vegetable matter. After pouring off the water, dry the sediment, and apply a strong heat by placing it on the bottom of a pot ignited to redness, and the animal and vegetable matter will burn and fly off in aeriform products. The remainder lying in the bottom will be found to consist of clay, magnesia, or lime. To obtain accuracy, another 1-4lb. of earth should be taken from the same heap, and the whole process gone over a second, a third or even a fourth time, that the operator may rectify any blunders he had previously committed, and be satisfied as to the results of his experiment. He should provide himself with a pair of fine scales and a set of weights divided at least into ounces and drachms.—Although vinegar will detect lime by effervescence, it does not dissolve it so effectually as the nitric or muriatic acid; small quantities of which may be procured from the druggists.