

Jan. 23rd 1894.

Some things I have
learned about soil.

The soil is the upper
part of ^{the} surface of the
earth, in which plants
grow. The sub soil is that
which lies beneath the
surface soil or below the
depth which is usually
cultivated. Most soils are
sandy, clayey or loam.
A sandy soil is one that
contains much more
sand than anything
else, and a clayey soil
contains much more
clay than any other
substance, and if a soil
is composed of about
equal parts of sand
and clay it is a loam.

Decayed vegetable matter in soils is called humus; but the greater part of nearly all soil is made of finely pulverized rock. Air and water have done the most of the work of making soils, though frost and the movement of glaciers have helped to reduce rock to the fine particles of which the soil is composed. Soils which remain where they were formed are called sedentary soils and those which have been moved in process of formation or

after they were formed are called transported soils. Of transported soils, those which have been carried by moving water are called alluvial soils, and those deposited by glaciers are called drift. Sometimes drift and alluvial soils are both present in the same soil. Vegetable matter in soils makes them light in weight and dark in color, and increases their power to absorb moisture from the air; it also makes clay less and sand more

compact; hence soils which contain much vegetable matter; are generally fertile. No soil should be cultivated when too wet, though sandy soils are not injured as much as clay soils by working when too wet. Some soils need some kind of manure to make them productive, and nearly all soils are made better by the application of barnyard manure.

Ben Sparks.

Rev. Sparks.
Sond 1834.

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1.

Jan. 23," 1894
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The soil is the upper part of the surface of the earth, in which plants grow. The sub-soil is that which lies beneath the surface soil or below the depth which is usually cultivated. Most soils are sandy, clayey or loam. A sandy soil is one that contains much more sand than anything else, and a clayey soil contains much more clay than any other substance, and if a soil is composed of about equal parts of sand and clay it is a loam.

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Geo. Sparks

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Soil 1894