

Soil from the banks of the Nile, above Cairo, producing about fifty bushels of wheat annually.

Organic matter,.....	13.10	per cent.
Silica, (sand.).....	69.15	"
Iron, as peroxide and alumina,.....	13.75	"
Lime, estimated as quick lime, equal to 2.00 of air slaked lime,.....	1.12	"
Magnesia, (pure calcined,).....	1.02	"
Potash,.....	50	"
Soda,.....	35	"
Chlorine,.....	20	"
Sulphuric acid,.....	16	"
Phosphoric acid,.....	21	"
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	99.56	per cent.

I am indebted for the above sample to the Rev. Mr. Jones, Chaplain to the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

This soil, though containing so large a proportion of vegetable (organic) matter, yet, nevertheless, from its large per centage of clay and fine sand, had great tenacity, and was a soil of very fine absorbent capacity. It bore a strong resemblance to some of our very best white oak soils. The lime in it existed partially as carbonate, as silicate and sulphate, perhaps also as phosphate. Had each of these been estimated in the condition in which they existed, the one hundred parts would have appeared. The soil was digested in muriatic acid and water, according to the plan usually followed, from the filtrate of the iron and alumina, the lime was precipitated as oxalate, this was converted into carbonate by burning, from which the quantity of oxide of calcium, pure quick lime, was calculated.

One hundred grains of this soil, after being burnt to destroy all of the organic matter, contained of fine sand 71.30, and of coarse sand 28.70 grains. Any one familiar with the analysis of soils would at once pronounce this to be a most productive soil. The above analysis was made with great care and caution, and is the most thorough and complete of any that I have seen published of the famous Nile soil. It is the very soil to which one would naturally go in time of famine to procure wheat, as did the sons of Jacob. In one of the volumes of Silliman's Journal there is an analysis of the mud of the Nile, by M. Laissaigne, which the editor says is "more recent and complete than that given by Lieut. Newbold, from Regnault." It is as follows:

Silica.....	42.50	per cent.
Alumina.....	24.25	"
Magnesia.....	1.05	"
Peroxide of iron.....	13.65	"