

Marls, or Calcareous Marls*.

1st Family.

In an earthy or semi-indurated form. *Mergel-erde* of Werner.

Generally yellowish grey, more rarely yellowish white.

Lustre o. Transparency o.

Surface dusty.

Slightly compacted together, frequently loose.

Feels dry and rough. Spec. grav. from 1,600 to 2,4.

It strongly effervesces with acids, and, when dissolved therein, the residuum, dried in a heat of 100° Fahr. weighs from $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ of the whole; that is to say, this marl contains from 30 to 80 per ct. of calx.

It is fusible in a heat of from 130° to 140° of Wedgwood.

In water it soon falls into powder, and is not ductile; the compacted part farther moulders by exposure to the air.

It consists of mild calcareous earth, in the proportion of from 66 to 80 per ct. the remainder clay, with which mica, and other foreign ingredients, and frequently shells, are mixed. But clay itself contains two ingredients, namely, argill and filix; and hence this family divides into two

* Though there are different distinctions of marls, yet by the term *marl*, without farther addition, calcareous marls are understood.

branches;