For the Republican.

THE VOICE OF SPRING.

I come with perfume in my breath,
Scattering odorous sweets in the air,
Bursting forth from the embrace of death,
All beautiful, glorious and fair.

With light joyous steps, I now tread,
While nature in music resounds,
My rich velvet carpet is spread,
Decked with rainbow hu'd flowers around.

The tall sturdy Oak, that seemed crushed,
In the arms of the rough wintry blast,
Its moanings and sighings are hushed;
Each bough with rich verdure o'er cast.

The Lark, Linnet, Nightingale, Thrush,
From each limb, pours a silvry strain;
And bending o'er each little bush
In songs welcome spring back again.

The rivulets, rivers and lakes,
From the ice bound chain of their king,
In soft murmering strains now awake;
Bursting forth, in sweet unison sing.

The tiny fish start from their tomb,
Riding forth on each glittering wave;
The spring of their life is now come,
They emerge from their watery grave.

Rich pastures with herds too appear,
Grazing quietly in the sun;
While flocks with their lambkins are near,
Gambling round full of frolick and fun.

The dairy maid steps forth to view
The beauties that round her are spread;
Each Flower is bending with dew,
While her cheek is crimson with red.

Not so the gay belle, whose repose
Is scarce roused by the music of birds;
She slumbers in doze after doze,
Till the sun rays around her are poured.

None value spring beauties like those
Who toil before dawn of the day:
Health, wisdom and pleasure, they know,
With spring time, is passing away.

All, all, earth is vocal with praise,
To the great Benefactor of men;
Has man not a still higher lay
To give to his ever best friend.

His conscience too of 't answers no,
My lips with vile sins have been sealed;
Yet to this great God will I go,
Who's mercy in Christ is revealed.

He can tune my sad heart with his love,
That as in sweet incense will rise,
With hosts of bright angels above,
Where spring time and summer ne'er dies.

Mrs. M. A. W.

THE FARMER.

LIME AND ITS USE IN AGRICULTURE.

Lime is one of the most abundant substances in nature—usually as a carbonate consisting of 56½ parts of carbonate, and 43½ of carbonic acid escapes in the form of steam!!! It's then quick lime. After exposure to the atmosphere, it absorbs water, slacks, and falls into an apparent dry powder; it is then hydrate of lime, and is in the form in which it is generally used for agricultural purpose. It is the most valuable, when used directly after it has fallen into powder. If long exposed to rain and dews before being spread upon the land, it loses a great portion of its fertilizing powers, which principally consists in its action upon vegetable matters, causing them to decompose, and in its neutralising power upon acids, which abound in some soils.

The Quantity of lime to the Acre.—In Great Britain from 100 to 400 bushels applied at once, at intervals of ten, fifteen, or nineteen years—the term which leases run. In this country, the most common practice is to apply 30 or 40 bushels once in three years, which is the preferable mode. We have seen it applied with good effect, however, at the rate of 800 bushels to the acre. This was upon a very stiff, cold clay. Three hundred bushels would be about ten tons to the acre. Ten inches depth of soil, would weigh about 1,000 tons. That would give one per cent, of lime. A case is reported in England, of soil upon which 120 bushels of lime had been used, being analyzed, which apparently contained the same component parts as that along side, which had not been limed for a great number of years. Yet the limed land produced 20 tons of turnips to the acre, while the unlimed portion only produced two tons, tops and all. This was upon red sand-stone land. One of the effects of lime is, it gives the soil power to absorb ammonia from the atmosphere, and retain that which is disengaged by the decomposition of vegetable matter and manure in the soil. Hence the importance of applying lime with green crops, or using course manure with the lime.

Indications of want of Lime in the soil, may be seen in heavy crops of straw, and light crops of grain; and in root crops where they seem to run to *fingers* and seed.—Expriments should be made by every farmer with lime, upon various crops in all his fields, ascertain whether lime would be beneficial to him. Very few places will be found where it will not be so.

To Apply Lime to the Soil, spread it evenly upon a crop of clover about to be plowed under, or sow it upon the surface with the wheat, and harrow thoroughly. It should never be combined with manure, unless the whole is immediately plowed in.

To wheat Soils is Lime Applicable.—Every clay soil, every peaty soil, and every soil in which vegetable fibre does not readily decay, because that is a sign that it contains some antiseptic acid, which prevents decay. This is the case in peat beds and swamps. Sandy, gravelly, or thin soils, may be over limed and injured; because, in causing the decay of vegetables, it sets free the ammonia, the very substance of fertility required. To prevent this, more food must be given for the lime to act upon. No farmer, who knows what the action of lime is, upon all soils, will ever do without it, as an accessory to his manure. It is a component part of all crops grown by the farmer. When applied to land which had not borne wheat for many years, it has at once restored it to fertility for that crop. Where it has failed once to remunerate the farmer using it, it is proved of the greatest benefit a hundred times.

Use of Lime with Peat.—The slow decomposition of peat is an objection to its use. By the term, we mean all swamp muck, partaking more or less of that character. All peat contains resinous matter, which prevents decomposition. By adding lime, the resin is combined and forms soap, and the fibre then decays as rapidly as any other vegetable substance.

Lime in the Soil.—Many farms which once produced good crops of wheat, because there was lime enough in the soil to supply the requisite quantity to the grain, have ceased to be productive. They still produce a large growth of straw, but not a remunerating crop of grain. In some instances, such lands have been restored to their former fertility without applying a bushel of lime. Do you ask how?—Simply by plowing deeper. In the hard, untouched and unexhausted subsoil, there was plenty of lime lying hid, which only wanted stirring up and exposing to the action of the atmosphere, and bringing within reach of the roots of the plants, to produce the same effect originally derived from the top soil before it was exhausted. Our constant advice will be to use lime, plow deep, subsoil and drain stiff lands, which increase your crops, and grow rich, which you will do if you read and heed *The Plow.*

SEED POTATOES.

There is no crop the farmer raises, that requires so much seed, or seed of which costs so much to the acre, as potatoes—ranging from eighteen to twenty bushels—the difference being one quarter in large or small seed, or if it takes sixteen bushels which is about the average of fair sized potatoes, to plant an acre, the same might be done with four very small ones, making a difference of twelve bushels—no small item at the present prices of 50 cents per bushel, which would be six dollars in favor of small seed in planting one acre.

For six years I have planted both large and small seed; sometimes from necessity, but have always carefully noted the difference, which has been uniformly and decidedly in favor of large seed.

I will specify two cases. In the Spring of 1849, I planted two acres of potatoes, a portion of which was planted with small seed. Where I planted large seed, I had good potatoes, but where the small seed was planted I had very small poor potatoes; the whole of them being in new ground.

The past season I planted the same number of acres, but reserved a quarter of an acre, which I planted with small seed from the size of a walnut up to that of an hen's egg. The result was as all former crops had been with me, they were all small and worthless, besides being more affected by the rot than where large seed was used.

The difference in the vines was perceptible as far as my potato patch could be seen—those vines where I planted small seed, being not half the length of the others besides having a slender and sickly appearance from the time they were out of the ground till they were harvested.

The ground had laid in pasture and meadow for forty years, never having been plowed before. I think the principle holds good, of selecting the best of seed for raising potatoes, as much so as for corn, wheat or any other crop raised on the farm.—*Albany Cultivator.*

Thorough Tillage.—J. Redmond, of York county, argues in favor of thorough tillage, which next to, and indeed equal to manure, should be impressed upon the mind of every farmer. He justly says:

"One of the great elements of fertilization in soils is the perfect loosening of them so that the different ingredients comprising them, be thoroughly incorporated, and brought to the surface, and thus receive the advatages of exposure to the sun and atmosphere. None but a simpleton would pretend to doubt the value of manure or assert the possibility of growing good crops for any length of time without it, but he is scarcely wiser who believes (and manifests his belief in his daily practice) that his crops will be abundant where his tillage is meagre. Show me the husbandman whose plowing is shallow—whose breaking of the clods preparatory to seeding is imperfectly done—whose fields are strangers to the roller, and look very much as though the harrow and cultivator had never been used upon them, and I will show you poor fields—fields that will scercely pay for the labor and expense, much less leave any profit behind."

Raising Calves—a new method.—While on a short visit to the farm of Mr. D. Crowell, of this town, a few days ago, our attention was drawn to a plan of raising calves for early sale, which, to us in this section of country, has the appearance of novelty, and seems worthy of the attention of stock growers.

Mr. Crowell took ten calves (all heifers) last spring, and commenced feeding them on sour milk at a few days old, keeping them on the same kind of food during the summer, taking good care to feed them uniformly, but not very abundantly, so as to keep them growing thriftly, without forcing too rapidly. In the fall they were put in the stables, and fed on hay and a little meal increasing the quantity of the latter gradually, with a view of fitting them for *Beef* in the spring, at one year old or a little under.

These ten calves now look like young oxen, and are estimated to weigh about 500 lbs. each alive. They will probably be sent to market soon say next mouth, when we shall see how such beef will sell and how it will be relished by the lovers of good eating. For ourselves, we should hardly find it in our hearts to decline a dinner from one of the best of them. We understood from Mr. C., who is one of our best farmers, and who is making this trial by way of experiment, that he is not quite satisfied thus far with the present attempt to raise Beef in one year, and that he intends to renew the experiment another year, when he thinks some improvement can be made.—*New York Farmer.*

Planting Fruit Trees for Others.

The Spaniards have a maxim, that a man is ungrateful to the past generation that planted the trees from which he eats fruit, and deals unjustly towards the next generation, unless he plants the seed, that it may furnish food for those who come after him. Thus when a son of Spain eats a peach or pear by the road side, wherever he is, he digs a hole in the ground with his foot, and covers the seed. Consequently, all over Spain, by the road sides and else where, fruit in great abundance tempts the taste and is ever free.

Let this practice be imitated in our country, and the weary wanderer will be blest, and will bless the hand that ministered to his comfort and joy. We are bound to leave the world as good or better than we found it, and he is a selfish churl who basks under the shadow, and eats the fruit of trees which other hands have planted, if he will not also plant trees which shall yield fruit to coming generations.—*Home Circle.*

Transplanting Trees.

On a review of the essential requisites for successful transplanting, they may be summed up briefly as follows:

1. A previous preparation of a rich deep bed of mellow earth to receive the roots, and land which cannot be water-soaked.
2. Removing the tree with as little mutilation of the roots as practicable.
3. Paring off the bruised parts.
4. Shortening in the head, in a greater or less degree, to correspond with the necessary loss of roots.
5. Immersing the roots in the mud.
6. Settling the earth with water.
7. Planting no deeper than before.
8. Staking or embanking to prevent injury by the wind.
7. Waterning the stems and barnches only, before the appearance of the leaf.
10. Mulching, where danger of midsummer drouth is feared.

☞The young man who once saw the day when he wouldn't associate with mechanics, is now acting as a book keeper to a manure wagon. Queer reverse of fortune that.

List of Letters,

Remaining in the Post Office at Clearfield on the first day of April 1852.

Barger Jacob E.	Morrill John
Barger Joseph	Murray James,
Barr John	McKee Thomas,
Bendle Wm. S.	McCulley S. J.
Britton Isaac	McKean S. M.
Bennett C. P. 2.	Oakes Daniel, 2.
Cavenaugh James,	Ostrom John,
Dressler Jane Miss.	Peters George R,
Dundey E. S.	Rowe Hollis J. 2
Dudley James H.	Ream Abraham,
Farer John,	Smith Stephen D. 2,
Fulier C. 4,	Shannon John
Gallagher Thirzah Miss,	Sackett George W.
Hall Horatio L.	Smith Barton,
Haines R. L.	Smith Wm. S.
Hersch John,	Solt Peter,
Hustead Thos E.	Sheafer Samuel,
Hummel Abraham,	Spangler Solomon,
Jackson John,	Seyler Wm. B.
Jordan Joseph,	Trude Nathan,
Lytle Robert, 2.	Wylie Rev. 2,
Lytle Margaret Miss,	Wilson John,
Lloyd Daniel,	Wetzel Samuel,
Lender James,	Woolridge Wm.
Mapes Sarah	Wiler E. and F.
Merritt Howard, 3.	WM. RADEBAUGH, P. M.

Clearfield April 1, 1852.