

POETRY.

LAYS OF COURAGE.

Under the caption some one is writing for the Southern Literary Messenger, with the date of Baltimore, and the signature of "The Stranger," a series of decidedly thoughtful and hopeful poems, in the style of Lowell. Here is his No. IV, whose theme is "Stars of Glory." We copy from the August number.—[The Editor.]

THE FARMER.

Spring Work.

There is no season of the year in which energy, activity, and good calculation is more requisite than the present. Animals of all kinds, young and old, and particularly those intended for labour, demand increased care and attention. March is one of the most trying months for animals, as they are, as the saying is, "between hay and grass," and too often the supply of either they can obtain, is barely sufficient to support life. If farmers would consider the much greater quantity of milk a cow will yield in a season that is in good condition in the spring, than one that has "been on feed" through March or April, we are not confident there would not be some skeptical cows on our farms as there now is. If too, they would for one moment reflect that a large part of an animal's power of draught lies in his weight, and that where this is wanting, and the whole is thrown on muscular exertion, the animal must soon give way, they would feel the necessity of having their working stock, horses or cattle, at this season, in good heart, their flesh sound and durable; and we should be spared the mortification of seeing so many poor and miserable teams in the field, at a time when all should be life and activity. To work well, an animal must be kept well; and the work in nine cases out of ten will be found best done, where the teams are in the best condition. You might as well expect that an Aesopian team, of a jackass and a woman yoked together, would break up the ground to the proper depth, as that a pair of scraggy horses or oxen can do it. Never undertake to see on how little food your teams can subsist. No better criterion is revealed of the nature of a man's cultivation of grounds, than is afforded by his animals; and he who starves them, will soon find that his land will starve him. At this season of the year sheep require much attention, and will well repay it. Sheep are among our most profitable animals, and on the whole require less care than most others, if the little they demand is given at the proper time. Look out for the lambs and the weak ones of the flock, and do not suffer a drove of hardy weathers to pick over and trample upon the fodder, before the ewes and lambs can get a taste.

It is an important point in commencing work in the spring, that every implement necessary should be at hand, and in first rate condition, when wanted. The good farmer has his house for his farm implements, as well as for himself or his stock, and is careful that all shall be put in their place, as fast as the season throws them out of use. In the winter, all are carefully examined, and the necessary repairs are made. The farmer who permits this work to pass until the implements are wanted in the field, will find he must lose many valuable hours, if not days, at a time when one, if lost, is with difficulty overtaken.

There is a very great fault among farmers, and we feel justified in reproaching it in strong terms, because we have been guilty of it ourselves; and that is, laying out more work than can be done by the force on the farm, timely and properly; and experience has convinced us that if work cannot be done as it should be, it is better not to meddle with it at all. Never is this fault more observable, or more injurious, than in putting in the crops of the season. There are some cultivated plants, which we may be certain will not mature unless the seeds are in the ground at about such a time—a time, it is true, varying in different latitudes, but generally well understood at any given place; yet we find some farmers so negligent, and what is worse, making an assumed trust in Providence an excuse for their laziness, as to be weeks behind the proper time of getting in the seed. Indian corn may serve as an example of such plants. As a general rule too, spring wheat, barley, or oats, if the sowing of them from any cause, is delayed beyond the proper time, although by chance, a pretty fair crop, so far as regards bushels, may be produced, yet the quality will be found inferior, the grain light, and the danger from blight, or rust, greatly increased.

Do not entertain the idea that your farm work can go on successfully, unless you give it your personal supervision. The merchant, the lawyer, the doctor, must attend to their business personally, or every thing will go wrong, and it is not less so with the farmer. Poor Richard never drew from his stores of wisdom a better maxim than that "he who by the plough would thrive, himself must either hold or drive." Laborers may be faithful and careful, but they cannot enter fully into all the intentions and plans of the farmer; and he must be the guiding and directing head of the whole, or much ill directed effort will take place. The good farmer will be in the field with his labourers. He never says to them go, but come; and he knows that in the management of a farm, example is far better than precept.

It would be well if every farmer would, in arranging his business for the year, determine every season to make one or more experiments in some branch of husbandry, that would lead to some important result; either in determining the best method of procedure in regard to some crop, or bring new evidence toward settling some controverted point in agriculture. When we recollect how many points there are in husbandry about which good farmers are not agreed, such as relate to the growing of crops, times and methods of seeding, preparation of soil, rearing and fattening of animals, &c. &c. it is not a little surprising that more carefully conducted experiments are not made to throw new light upon them. There is not a farmer, who might not in this way, by well conducted experiment, and the communication of the results to some agricultural journal, do much toward introducing more correct notions, and better methods of farming than now exist.

The introduction and the propagation of good fruit, is one of the many things that must not be overlooked in any estimate of spring labors. The man who neglects to plant fruit trees, when he has a rod of ground to plant them on, avows his intention of becoming a nuisance to his neighbors; for depend upon it, the man who is too lazy to plant, will not be too proud to beg, or above allowing his children to steal the fruit of his more industrious and careful neighbor. Every man who has cultivated a fruit garden is well aware of this state of things; and has found that the coming into bearing of a new and delicate fruit, instead of adding to his enjoyment, as it should, has only served as a signal of gathering, to these ill-omened plunderers. The only remedy is for every farmer to endeavor to make the best fruits abundant; to plant enough for himself, and some to spare.

But whatever may be the nature of the labor to be done, there should be no hazardous work; nothing that has not entered into the plan of the farmer, either as principal or contingent, and been provided for accordingly. Every movement in managing a farm should be the result of reflection, of pre-concerted arrangement, and directed to a certain and definite end. Were such always the case, we should see fewer badly cultivated farms; fewer pieces of work unfinished for want of time, and fewer farmers coming out at the little end of the horn, the result of bad calculations and un-thriftiness.

SMOKING SEED CORN.

I wish to remind your readers that if they would save their corn next spring from the depredations of the squirrels, mice, birds, &c. to prepare for smoking their seed, according to the following recipe:—Leave a few husks on the seed ears, so that they can be hung up in the smoke-house and smoked with the hams; or hang them up in any dry place, and before planting, dip the end of a stick in tar, set fire to it, and holding it under the corn, give it a good smoking. I have tried this for three years, and have saved many times my subscription to the paper by it.

WHAT IS GOOD FARMING?

The best and most pithy definition we ever heard of good farming, was given by Mr. Kane at a late agricultural meeting in Dorsetshire, England. He said, he fed his land before hungry, rested it before weary, and weeded it before foul.

CHARCOAL.—The preservative qualities of charcoal are not so generally known as they should be, and I hope you will tell

your readers that if they will embed their smoked beef and pork in some pulverized charcoal, they may keep it as long as they please without regard to weather. Tell them also, that if they will take about a pint of charcoal, also pulverized, and put it into a barrel of new cider, it can never ferment, will never contain any intoxicating quality, and is more and more palatable the longer it is kept. Further, take a piece of charcoal of a surface equal to a cubic inch, wrap it in a clean cotton cloth two thicknesses, and make it moist, and work about one pound of butter that has become rancid, and it will restore it perfectly.—Michigan Farmer.

TREASURER'S SALE OF UNSEATED LANDS FOR TAXES, IN CLEARFIELD COUNTY.

IN pursuance of the first section of the act of Assembly of 13th March, 1815, entitled "An Act to amend an Act providing the manner of selling Unseated Lands for taxes, and for other purposes," there will be exposed to sale on the 2nd Monday in June next, at the court house in the borough of Clearfield, and adjourned from day to day until the whole are sold, the following tracts of Unseated land and Town lots, in said county, for the amount of tax set opposite each tract.

Table with columns for No., A's, P's, and Tax. Lists various land tracts and owners across multiple townships including Clearfield, Fergusson, Jordan, Lawrence, Morris, Beccaria, Girard, and Karthaus.

Table with columns for No., A's, P's, and Tax. Lists various land tracts and owners across multiple townships including Wm. Bigler, Penn Township, Pike Township, and others.

Table with columns for No., A's, P's, and Tax. Lists various land tracts and owners across multiple townships including Heiman Whitmer, Wm. Brown, and others.

Clearfield, March 7, 1846. JOHN W. WRIGHT, Treasr.

Galer's Vegetable Vermifuge. In offering this valuable medicine to the public, I am well aware of the fact, that it is hard to convince at least a part of the community, that a medicine could be equal to that of Fahnsteeck for expelling worms. Now, all I ask for the good of humanity is a fair trial according to the directions given, of one or two vials, feeling confident that it will speak for itself wherever it goes. Warranted to be good. Price 25 cents. Prepared and for sale at the Drug Store of C. D. WATSON.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that letters of administration have been granted to the subscriber on the estate of Nicholas Poulton Gentillet, late of Covington township, Clearfield county, dec'd. Therefore all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment, and those having demands will present them duly authenticated for settlement. AUGUSTUS M. LACONTE. Jan. 14, 1846. Adm'r.