

## Agricultural.

*From the Rural Register.*

### FARM WORK FOR APRIL.

In April, the month of sunshine and rain, of smiles and tears; tickle, coquette, dear, delightful April, with its soft balmy airs breathing of tender spring flowers, and vocal with the songs of birds, and the music of brooks and rivulets released from their icy fetters, the labors of the farmer and the planter press heavily, for the operations of tillage now require constant and unceasing attention. The soil during this month is usually in the best possible condition for the plough, and he who would be beforehand with his work will now keep his teams going incessantly until every inch of land which is required for early spring crops is broken up, thoroughly prepared for the reception of the seed, and carefully set down to grain and grass. There is no busier month in all the year than April. Cattle are still to be fed in this latitude until towards the close of the month. Mowing fields are to be cleaned of stones, old harrows and top-dressed if the grass is getting thin, or the fields side-bound. Ditching and draining still continues, and the decorations of the homestead in the way of shrubs and deciduous and evergreen trees, still invite the hand of the tasteful improver. The good housewife, also, has her peculiar cares for poultry breeds now hatching, and whilst the setting fowls require constant attention, the charge of the tender broods of turkeys, chickens, ducks, and geese, is one which demands the exercise of skill and patience, activity and unwearied watchfulness. On the farm proper, the first work to be done is Seeding of Oats.

This work ought to have been performed last month, and as this season has been a remarkably forward and favorable one, it is to be presumed that advantage has very generally been taken of the opportunity to get this crop into the ground; where, however, such has not been the case, the seedling should be pushed forward with the utmost possible expedition.

Sowing CLOVER SEED.—Clover seed should have been sown several weeks ago, but as it does not always follow that what ought to have been done has been done, we must admonish such as are behindhand to take time by the forelock, and seed clover as early as possible, at the rate of 1 bushel to the acre. When barley is to be sowed the opportunity will still be quite favorable for seeding down to clover.

BALLET.—It is surprising, considering how much the demand for this grain has increased of late years for making purposes, that barley has not been more extensively cultivated in this latitude. It can be sowed to advantage at a later period than the oat. If you let the heavier crops on deep, dry, rich lands, it is subject to no disease, and will stand a prolonged drought with impunity. If the field be rich barley will yield a generous return, and the price which the grain now commands in the market renders its culture quite profitable.

HORN CULTURE.—The field culture of roots will always form an important feature on every farm where much stock is kept. For keeping cattle in good condition throughout the winter season a regular and liberal supply of roots can be sowed to advantage by the forelock. It is indispensable. They save hay and grain; their acreable product, under favorable circumstances, is very large, whilst their culture is as simple as that of potatoe or corn.

BELIEVING it to be not merely the duty, but the interest of every farmer to cultivate an acre or two in sugar-beets, man-gold, wurtzel, parsnip or carrots, we recommend every farmer to direct his attention to this important item.

COURT for Cows in the Hill.—We give, under circumstances which admit of doing no better, and recompend the following mixture:

10 bushels of rotten dung; 1 bushel of plaster; 5 bushels dissolved, or finely pulverized bones; mix thoroughly together and apply a double handful of the mixture to each hill at the time of planting.

GOOD MANURE for CORN.—A mixture as follows is good for corn, and may be applied as soon as the corn is planted, a handful being scattered over every hill. Salt, half bushel; plaster, one bushel; ashes, two bushels. Mix carefully and apply as above.

POTATOES.—Early potatoes should not only have been planted, but should by this time be making their appearance above ground. It is not, however, yet too late to plant for a comparatively early supply, but the sooner it is done, the better the chance will be for a fair crop.

HAULING OUT MANURE.—Manure intended for the corn ground should be hauled out as speedily as possible.

HIGH-BOUND MEADOWS AND PASTURES.—Rap a sharp, heavy harrow over such meadows and pastures as are high-bound, previously top-dressing each with the following mixture:

"10 bushels wood ashes; 5 bushels bones (finely pulverized), or reduced to a powder by being dissolved in dilute sulphuric acid; 1 bushel of salt; 1 bushel of plaster."

HORSES to ride WITH DRIVING OXEN.—The Ohio Farmer says this is more in the movements of the driver of an ox-team, and in carrying of the whip, than most farmers think. Oxen, however, quick in their movements, and upright in their walk in full yoke, soon become dull, and get the practice of "shoving" or "hauling," in consequence of the driver lagging along, or, as is often the practice, going ahead of the team, and from time to time stepping back and whipping them.

A driver of an ox-team should walk directly opposite to the yoke, walk straight, and carry his whip as upright as a soldier would fire gun. Use a whip stock with a short lash, and touch the cattle only with the lash, and never strike them on the nose or over the eyes.

## THE SENTINEL.

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