

MAXIMS for the HUSBANDMAN.

AS you begin with your crops so you must continue. Give them much room at first, and they will want much when you come to gather them: Give them but little at first, and they will want but little at last.

Bad tillage makes a bad harvest.

Let your land be well till'd
And your cribs will be well fill'd.

By much tillage keep your land light, and your crops will be heavy.

You have been a sloven, and let weeds grow. Send out every child that can go alone, and let all the weeds be carried to the compost heap; 'tis the only amends you can make for your error, for your crop is irretrievably damaged.

Feed your compost heap, and that will feed your crops, and your crops will feed you.

Never buy a poor pig because he is cheap, for such a one is dear at any price. Give a pig plenty of that which is good when he is young, and he will thrive upon that which is poor when he is old. Keep a pig poor when he is young, and he will not thrive upon that which is good when he is old.

Would you keep your wife in good humour, and out of all mischief, keep her in the dairy. Would you keep her in the dairy and yourself out of danger, look well to your cows. Would you have your cows in good order, and your bowls full of milk, look well to your pastures and meadows. Would you have your pastures good, and your meadows full of hay, look well to your fences. Would you have your fences good, and so all your crops secure, look well to your time. Would you have time at command, that you may use it for every purpose, take it by the forelock. Would you have your work done to your mind, don't tell your servants how to do it, but shew them: Example is commonly better than precept. Teach your servants to be faithful to you by being punctual with them. Remember, 'tis money makes the mare go. Cheat them out of their wages, and they'll cheat you out of their labour; thus you will have an even bargain, 'tis true, but a very bad one for both sides. Servants have sometimes bad memories, be careful that you don't make them worse, and teach them to forget your business by forgetting their wants. Have you a good servant? he deserves well at your hands; if you would consult your own interest, consult his; be kind to him, and he may serve you for life.

Don't grudge a little expence to ewes that have lambs; you have good security for your money; the lambs will well pay the debts which their dams contract on their account. Keep your sheep dry, and they will keep you warm. Dirty pens make black veal.

The husbandman's farm, the housewife's dairy, and the sucking calves' pen, should always be clean. The compost heap is the only proper place for all kinds of filth.

"He that by the plough would thrive,
Himself must either hold or drive."