



THE LITTLE
SKETCH BOOK.

No. 2.

THE YOUNG FARMER.

Boston:

PUBLISHED BY S. G. SIMPKINS.

B. V. Thompson

A decorative border with a repeating floral and scrollwork pattern surrounds the central text.

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LANCASTER:
PUBLISHED BY CARTER, ANDREWS, AND CO.,
1830.



THE YOUNG FARMER.

Humble in dress, and low in state,
Behold our peasant boy ;
Yet think not his the hardest fate,
Who wears the smile of joy.

HERE we have a picture of a cheerful and healthy looking boy, with a pitchfork on his shoulder, and a small keg of beer in his hand. He is a *Young Farmer*, and is going to help make hay. Though his parents are poor, and he is obliged to work and assist

them in supporting their little family, and though his hat is torn, and his clothes are made of coarse and homely cloth, he is happy, and goes cheerfully to his daily task.

This little boy is happy because he is industrious. An idle boy cannot be happy. When you see a man, as you sometimes do, going about the streets begging, with his clothes ragged, you may know that he is an idle man, and that

he was most likely an idle boy ; that when he was young he idled away his time instead of working and learning, and that now he is grown up a man he cannot break himself of his lazy habits, and is obliged to beg his bread from door to door. Such men are always despised. Sometimes they cannot find any one to pity them enough to give them any thing to eat, or any clothing to wear, and they

wander about, hungry, and cold, and miserable. But our *Young Farmer* promises to be a better man ; he is industrious in school and out. In school he learns those lessons which will fit him to be a useful member of the community, and out of school he learns to work with his father on the farm, so that when he grows up he can have a farm of his own, and be able to take care of himself and

earn his own living, and not have to beg or ask others for assistance.

O better far to eat the bread
Of Industry, though hard,
Than with the daintiest bits be fed,
By other's bounty spared.

From poverty and real distress
We should not turn our eyes ;
But those who beg from idleness
We cannot but despise.

Farming is a delightful employment; it is the labour of the

farmer which furnishes us with corn to make our bread, and with potatoes, and fruit, and all the good things which we eat, and which children love so well.

Farming is called Agriculture, and tilling the earth. To till the earth is to dig and plough up the ground and prepare it to be planted and sowed ; and to learn to be a farmer is to learn how to do this —to find out what sort of land,

or soil, as it is called, it is best to have for particular things—how much seed to plant and sow, and how to take care of it when it is growing—how to mow the grass and make hay—and how to gather the corn and grain when they are ripe.

The Great Ceator has given us the earth so full of good things, and it is our duty to cultivate it so that it may produce its fruits,

for if we do not it will be of no use to us, and we shall be like the wild beasts and savages.

We hope áll our little readers, whatever they do, will try to be as industrious, and then they will be as happy, as the *Young Farmer*.





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