

on the Saturday by making every provision for it. The straw and provender for the cattle and horses in the fold-yards should be all got in, and be deposited conveniently for serving out in the morning. The turnips and chaff all cut and ready. The meat for the pigs all mixed, and their styes made all clean and comfortable. The sheep in the field should have a double fold, and their turnips should be all cut and placed beside the troughs in readiness for filing. The household work should all be finished up for the week, and everything be made tidy and clean. The shoe-boy's knives and forks, his boots and shoes, to be all shining and in their places; his yards swept and in order. The other servants should contrive their work in their departments to make all look clean and nice, so that all and everything may contribute to make a quiet and peaceful Sabbath. This is a day of rest; therefore the servants should have the indulgence of an extra hour's repose, which is generally much needed after the toils of the busy week; and when they rise, it is to see a smiling morn free from care and labour. The necessary business of attending to the stock, &c., should be done as quickly and noiselessly as possible; thus making a marked difference in this respect, so that all shall know it as a day set apart for better purposes. The family assemble for breakfast; the master reverently asking the Divine blessing upon the ample provision, let this meal be partaken with cheerfulness, and sober serious conversation. Immediately afterwards all the available servants ought to be summoned to hear a portion of scripture read, and to engage in family prayer. Then comes the preparation for attendance upon Divine service, to which all that can possibly be spared should have the privilege and be induced to go—the farmer's own family along with him: the servants to those places of worship to which they belong or shall prefer; for no farmer ought to influence or coerce in this respect; his duty is to ascertain that they do attend at some place where divine service is properly conducted, but no further.

I have oft pictured to myself the manner in which most plain practical farmers might spend their Sundays. I once visited one of this class, and stayed over the Sunday. We were all up betime in the morning, having some miles to travel to church. After an excellent and substantial breakfast, the servants were summoned into the breakfast-room, and, with Testaments in hand, each readily took his accustomed place. The Scriptures were read as in class, and the master concluded with reading an appropriate prayer. This was an excellent preparation for the religious observances of the day. We attended both the morning and afternoon services, which were conducted by the same clergyman, but in different churches. In the evening all the household were again summoned, and a continuous reading of the Scriptures again took place, extending

over several chapters, followed by family prayer in which we took the responses. This I have never forgot, and though it occurred more than thirty years ago, I always recur to the scene with lively interest. Here was occupation in which all took part, and that with pleasure. One portion of the evening's engagement I had almost forgotten. The two intelligent servants who gave us a very good digest of the sermons of the day, which they had written out, upon which we also made our own remarks. I don't name this as a pattern family, but as one specimen to show how the farmer's family may be profitably and agreeably occupied during the whole of the Sunday.

AN AMERICAN WEED IN ENGLAND.—It appears that an aquatic weed of most singular qualities, said to have been imported from America within the last ten years, is producing much trouble and annoyance in England by impeding the current of water, and the progress of boats in many of the larger as well as smaller streams in different parts of the country. The plant is supposed to have been introduced attached to imported timbers. Whether the plant is indigenous to the more northern parts of the American Continent is doubtful; but botanists will probably be able to settle the question.

Mrs. S. C. Hall, writing from Ersham, on the upper Thames, says:—"It is in this neighbourhood we begin to perceive the dangerous result of the recent and rapid growth of the weed, *Anacharis alsinistrum*, commonly called the American weed." It has not been known in England more than ten years; but during that brief period it has spread so extensively—almost universally—through every district of our island, very frequently to affect the traffic of rivers and canals, to impede the currents of minor streams and even to fill up isolated ponds. It has already rendered the Thames, in some parts, almost impassable without difficulty.

A small pamphlet, written by WILLIAM MASHALL, Esq., of Ely, gives its history as far as can be given. The intruder is so unlike any other water-plant, that it may be at once recognized by its leaves growing in threes, round a slender or stringy stem. The color of the plant is a deep green; the leaves are about half an inch long, an eighth wide, egg shaped at the point, and beset with minute teeth, which cause them to cling. The stems are very brittle, so that whenever the plant is disturbed, fragments are broken off. Although, at present, it cannot propagate itself by seed, (all the flowers being male,) its power of increase is prodigious, as every fragment is capable of becoming an independent plant, producing roots and stems, and extending itself indefinitely in every direction. Most of our water-plants require, in order to their increase, to be rooted.