

in attending to their wants and comfort, and the punctuality and thoroughness with which this is done will have its effect upon the profits they will yield in addition to the satisfaction of feeling that duty has been very well performed and responsibility satisfied. It is a common error with some that when they feel that there is not so much to be done, they do nothing at all, and instead of rising early, as they do in summer, spend their mornings in bed or before the nice, warm kitchen stove, forgetting that their animals are early risers if they are not, and require attention with the first blush of dawn, at any rate, if not a little before.

But there is an old saying, that it is not only the early rising but the well spending of the day which is important, and even a winter's day may be spent profitably; while the storm rages without, work can be done in doors. The harness can be looked over and repaired so far as can be done without the saddler's aid. Tools can be sharpened and all implements put into good working order, so that there will be no hinderance when the busy spring time arrives. It is said, "In time of peace prepare for war," and in time of leisure we should be prepared for double activity when the opportunity to be active comes. A farmer should see that he is provided, not only with just the one part which is in use of an implement, but with a number of duplicate screws, nuts, bolts and small parts of every machine. It is not unusual for a very important day's work to be delayed, by the breaking of some minor part of, say, the plough or mower, which the prudent farmer would have provided himself with, and learned how to adjust without having to go, perhaps several miles, to the smithy. If forethought and study of these matters had been practically carried out during the winter these losses of time and disappointments might have been avoided, and it is not easy to calculate how far a few hours delay in the seeding or harvest time may affect the result. If the land had been prepared for the seed one day earlier it would have been in before the rain which prevented its being sown for a fortnight. If the mower had broke and could have been quickly repaired, the most important day would not have been lost which preceded the thunder storm which broke up the fine weather and commenced a showery season which spoiled the hay.

The fruit room will also claim our attention and should be looked after as occasion offers. The apples which are of the long keeping varieties, the choicer specimens especially, should be examined, and any decaying ones removed to prevent the contamination of the others; proper ventilation and temperature maintained by watchfulness and care. Then when the weather is fine the orchard will claim some attention; after a fall of snow it should be tramped firmly round the base of the stems of the trees to prevent the depredations of mice. The bark may be scraped, not too deeply, to destroy lichens which are growing upon it. Young trees which have been staked should be carefully gone over to see that the stakes are not rubbing off the bark by the action of the wind and measures taken to prevent a continuance of the mischief. Other matters will present themselves to the mind of the man who takes a thorough interest in his business, hence the season of winter will not be one of inertness to him but each day will find him something to do.

And what a glorious time the winter is for the young farmer to study; not fatigued by the labors of a long summer's day his mind will be clear and capable to receive instruction and he may lay in a stock of knowledge against the time when he can put it to practical use. There never was a time when such opportunities were given for home study. The agricultural and horticultural press is full of every subject pertaining to the profession and the young farmer is to be pitied who does not take advantage of the means at his disposal. He should make it a rule to devote a certain time daily to study, and by this I do not mean mere reading, but *study* "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest." The farmer's club should not be neglected, if there is one in his locality, and is carried on as it should be, not only as a *club* for the purpose of improving the stock by means of the subsidies so generously granted by the government, but as an institute of learning where papers should be prepared, read and discussed at the meetings which in the winter time should be frequently held. Thus, social life would be improved, a general interest kept up, and what might be considered drudgery made a most pleasant and profitable way of spending a long winter's evening. If at the beginning of the winter sessions of the club were to be inaugurated and closed by a social entertainment to which the