

trees were beginning to yield fair and beautiful apples. He had a large garden stocked with plenty of currants, peach trees, plums and cherries, and the year before he had set out a St. Michael, and a pound pear, both which were thriving, and promised in due time to furnish them with a supply of their luscious fruits.

Who was happier and more independant than James? He had his troubles like other men, it is true. He had to work hard, and early and late, and eat the bread of carefulness. The borers and caterpillars would prey upon his apple trees. The mice would find their way into his corn-bin. The early cucumbers and corn would sometimes be nipped by the frost and have to be planted over again; and every few years, the corn and potatoes would be injured by the early frost. Showers would come in hay time, and sometimes a long rain just when his rye was ready to reap, and a cow would occasionally have the garget in her bag, but, notwithstanding all these troubles and trials, he was happy and cheerful, and enjoyed the fruits of his labor.

Neighbor Wiseman's farm had now so much increased in productiveness, that he found it necessary to have more barn room. The old barn was not very good, hardly worth repairing, he therefore erected a new one, and repaired his stables. The next thing he thought of was the formation of a garden having in his former days found out the great profits derived from that source. From the garden he passed to the orchard and procured the best selection of fruit trees, and hired his brother to work with him. During that period, he and his brother set to work, cutting what timber they thought best for board and plank, and cut the smaller timber into suitable dimensions for a barn sixty feet by forty, and hauled it home and hewed it. This, with the care of the cattle and hogs, kept him busy through the winter. In the early spring, they dug the cellar and laid the walls, and hauled the boards from the mill, and by the commencement of hay time, the new barn was ready for the hay. The barn was not clapboarded nor painted, nor furnished with ventilators, or blinds, or the many appliances which fancy barns of the present time so often exhibit. In short, it was not built in the style in which he has since built a hundred foot barn. But it was as good as he could afford, and indeed he had to hire three hundred dollars of Squire Jones, to enable him to pay the carpenters, and for the shingles and nails. But it was a great improvement on the old barn, which, the next winter, was pulled down and converted into a shed and hog sty. The next year he shingled his house, and in the course of two years he had paid his borrowed money, and was again free from debt. He had for sometime had his eye upon a lot of land containing about twenty acres, half pasture land and half covered with a growth of young hard wood, which lay at a convenient distance from his house. The following winter he purchased this lot for three hundred dollars, and agreed to pay one hundred dollars a year until it was paid for. The first year he cut off thirty cords of wood, and ran a fence across the lot, so that he might use the pasturage, and sowed three acres of rye. His wood when cut, was worth three dollars a cord, and he raised forty-five bushels of rye, worth a dollar a bushel. By the sale of the wood and the rye, he was able to pay the first instalment and the interest, and had rye enough left for the use of his family. He had been in the habit, from the commencement of his farming, of raising all his own grain. Sometimes he raised wheat and sometimes rye.

He was now able to keep eight cows, and he had raised them all himself, except the first two. He took good care of his calves, and fed them well, from the time they were taken from the cows, and kept them always in a thriving condition. He never allowed them to get lousy, or become stunted, but supplied them well the first winter with rowen hay, and turnips and other roots.—His cows too, were well cared for, and he found that by keeping them warm in the winter, and feeding them with a mess of turnips daily, through the cold weather, they gave more and better milk, and came out strong and healthy in