

politeness which indeed is very commendable, and the effects of their instructions are very manifest in the polite manners of their offspring.

When the females arrive at the age of fourteen the neighbors are collected on the evening of their birthday, and frequently the whole night is spent in joviality and merriment. At these frolics (as they are called) many foolishly hurt themselves in procuring accommodations beyond their station. The most respectable among them, when their daughters arrive at fifteen or sixteen, invite the girls in the neighborhood to a quilting frolic. Their brothers collect in the evening without invitation and the young people spend the night in music and dancing. Excess of drink, quarrelling and fighting frequently result from these foolish practices.

Women have meetings of the same nature occasionally when spinning the wool; and men in the time of mowing, reaping, cutting wood, etc.

At the time of marriage nothing is asked with the bride but what her parents give of their own pleasure. It is customary with the common farmers to give a cow and some sheep, according to their ability, besides bedding and some house furniture. The "wedding" is commonly appointed on the marriage day. It is generally held at the house of the bride's father who furnishes all the victuals. The bridegroom furnishes the liquor only. Supper is ready at 10 o'clock, and after the couple is bedded the rest of the company continue dancing until daylight. A few days after the wedding the bride is brought home and a number of her relations invited to a second entertainment. The next Sabbath is commonly spent in visiting the bride's relations who provide a splendid dinner for the visitors."