MARCH 28, 1906

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## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

cool window. These plants can be transferred to the garden in early summer. The soil best suited to their needs is, two parts loam, two parts leaf-mould, one part each of sand and old well-rotted manure. Water thoroughly once a day and do not expose to too hot a sun. D. D.)

#### THE SPARE ROOM.

Every farmer's wife likes to make her guests or chance visitors comfortable and a great deal depends upon the spare bed room; more than most people imagine. How pleasing it is to us to hear a visitor say, "I do not know when I had such a delightful night's rest;" or upon taking his departure to hear him say, "I don't know when ] have enjoyed a visit so much." On the contrary, nothing so annoys us as to have our visitor feeling tired or cross in the morning. People can hardly help but show it in some way if they have not had a good comfortable place to sleep.

I remember a visit I made to a kind old lady and I have often wished to pay her another. She had such a nice comfortable spare bed room, not a bit like the average spare room, which is often the most dreary, uncomfortable room of an otherwise pretty country home. If the mistress of the house doubts my word, let her pretend she is a guest in her own house and just sleep one night in her spare bed room. She will then learn all about it by lying awake most of the night, and rising in the morning feeling rather tired and stiff, but she will be a wiser woman. Perhaps she will find the water jug half full of water a week old, on the top of which floats a heavy scum of dust, and she may have to dry her face on a damp towel.

As soon as a visitor leaves do not have the bed all "fixed up" for the next visitor, who may not come along for a whole month. The sheets will get chill and rather damp if left long on a made up bed. When your visitor leaves have all the jugs emptied and do not have them filled again until an hour before the newcomer is expected to arrive. Fresh sheets should have an airing and in cold weather should be well warmed before putting on the bed, or your guest will feel as though he had got into a snow bank. Don't forget to keep, even in the summer, an extra pair of blankets or a quilt handy; always have a hard stuffed pillow as well as a very soft one, for so many people cannot sleep unless the pillow suits them. See to it that there is plenty of good soap, and several clean fresh towels.

Don't fill up the room with flowers, a few are alright but many are unable to sleep if the air is heavy with the perfume of flowers. I cannot sleep a wink if there are roses in the room. Keep your spare room windows a little open and let in the sunlight and air, for nothing is so destructive to sleep, than a dead atmosphere behind closed blinds, closed and shut windows. Do not have the bed in a place where the morning sun will shine on the visitor's eyes; and as you are a considerate human being, place a small table near the head of the bed to hold a lamp, some matches, a small pitcher of drinking water and a glass. Do not have the dressing table covered with toilet articles, they are of no real service to any guest, since women take along with them their own precious instruments, and men greatly detest those feminine knick-knacks. Leave a good comb and brush, put some pins in the pincushion, and leave a few hair pins in a pin tray, if your guest be a woman. Try to provide a wastebasket where a woman can throw her combings and a man his shaving paper, and for mercy's sake don't have the drawers reeking with the smell of moth balls. Also leave at least one easy chair in the room. The hostess ought never to ask two women who are not related, or two men even if they are brothers, to occupy one bed. Health and comfort now demand separate beds.

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ENGLAND.

When you have a friend to stop over a few days try to remember her likes and dislikes. If Miss Smith likes to have a snooze in the morning, manage some how or other to keep the children from running and jumping in the room

