

low, crimson and russet brown, and make our fair Canada one gleam of glory. I saw some swallows setting off the other day, beginning that long, long flight over empty fields and laden orchards to the land of perpetual Summer and abundant flies. We shall miss their gentle twitter and graceful flights and look to see them again when Spring comes back to make us glad and gay.

The harvest days of toil are over, and in many cases the threshing is done and the grain marketed. To be sure, there are still busy times for the farmer; but the rush and hurry is over and we can begin to think and plan how we will utilize the leisure Winter is sure to bring. It is well to have all thought out and planned before the snow is here, that we may be able to use every hour of our leisure for the accomplishment of the end we have in view.

I would say to all of both sexes: Make the acquaintance of a good book this Winter. Do you want to know something of this Canada of ours? Its history, its resources, its productions, its natural scenery, are each one of them worthy of your attention.

We live in days when history is being made, when Canada is rising from comparative obscurity into full recognition and shall henceforth, by a general assent of opinion, bear her part in the council of nations. Then, this is the time for us to make a full acquaintance with all her early struggles, and understand the difficulties which have been overcome, and the thousand-and-one hindrances that have yet to be encountered.

Many of our own number have gone out with the Canadian regiments to fight for the Queen and the land we love. We ought to know something about the war which has called for this display of loyalty, and the cause that led up to it.

Here are two themes it would be desirable we should read up. I am

sorry I cannot suggest the books which would be desirable, but use what comes to hand: the ordinary school history found in every home, newspaper and journal articles, and the lectures sure to be delivered in every schoolhouse during the Winter.

Then as to our resources. Europe is just discovering that it is possible to draw its bread, and fruit, and meat from our broad acres and fruitful orchards. We want to know for our own selves where these productions can best be grown, and which of them it will pay us to cultivate. So we should enquire into the climate and the soil that will lead to the best results, and grow deeply interested in ranching among the mountains and growing wheat on the broad prairies, and stand in fancy, as so many do in reality, beneath the orchard trees of Niagara.

Should these practical matters fail to interest us, there are yet, on every hand, hundreds of tempting and lovely objects which invite the attention of the interested observer. The chattering squirrel on the fence and pine tree has wonderful instincts and habits which are worthy of our study. We may learn from his thrift to lay up for a rainy day or for the snows of Winter, and we may, wisely too, do as he does. Try to find out how he cracks the butternuts and where he stores the acorns and chestnuts for his Winter food. Search among the Autumn leaves, which will soon strew every roadway, for the best and clearest and put them carefully away in some old copy book, and when you are writing to England, send a specimen to your friends, and tell them the "Land of the Maple" is as a land of promise, full of gladness and beauty and you are going to help to make it great and good.

If you are fond of animals and love to make them happy, get someone to lend you a book called "Black Beauty," or, best of all, buy a copy of it for yourself, and I am sure you will never want to be cruel