

now & then lighted up with bright streaks  
of lightning and shaken by heavy peals of thunder.  
Then when the clouds have all passed away & the  
sky looks so calm & clear, how beautifully  
the sun shines upon every blade & bough & little  
blade of grass that are all so neatly edged with  
pearly drops of water that fell in the previous  
rain. And the evenings of dreary, gloomy ~~all rainy~~  
Autumn & the ones of <sup>chilly</sup> Winter seem very  
pleasant to us when some of our friends  
come to see us or we go to see them and spend  
the hours in talking on some ~~of~~ delightful  
<sup>subject</sup> and being refreshed with a basket of nice  
fruit or a waiter of cakes & a glass of  
cider, or perhaps some would prefer a stron-  
ger drink.