Frost Observations

The repeating of “Good fences make good neighbors.” Is incredibly interesting to me because I got two different meanings instantly. The first was at face value, where the wall would be a good neighbor. The second meaning I interpreted was that the wall causes neighbors to behave themselves. I got this second meaning from two details that Frost included. The first is the line that describes his neighbor’s rebuilding of the wall as almost savage and protective of his land. The wall shows definition and security of his land, so having it and having it complete would be a source of serenity that the neighbor could take from. The second was the use of the words “I’d rather he said it for himself.” after the dialogue. The meaning revolves around the fact that the reason for the wall, although it does not seem necessary because of the lack of cows for partitioning, it is necessary to keep each or one of the neighbors at bay.

They are working together to stay apart, though they are working together.

*Find and discuss why the neighbor is insistent on the wall. Old fashioned views from his fathers?*