

Homeward then I quickly hurried, till I reach'd her dwelling-place,  
 There, O joy! O fear! I was standing with so calm, compos'd a face,  
 On the lowest step of all, the Queen of all my flowers and me,  
 Holding in her hand the roses, and the note I well could see.  
 "Little boy," so sweetly said she, "was it you who sent me these?"  
 I with a murmur nervously answer'd, "Yes, do take them if you please.  
 We have many such sweet roses, and I thought I'd bring you those,  
 And I tried to choose the finest that our little garden grows."  
 "Oh, how can I fully thank you"—my name's Gwensfon, what is yours?"  
 "Hywel." "Hywel, longer, Oh! far longer than their sweet perfume endures,  
 I'll remember that you gave them, and this note please read to me,  
 Mother read it—I would read it, but you know I cannot see."

Cannot see! oh, what is this? her eyes are open and they gaze,  
 Far away on unseen glories, golden city, flow'ry ways;  
 Sorrow-stricken, stunn'd, distracted, I could get no lit words find,  
 Save to weep with grief and pity, and she heard me say it,—  
 "Blind!"

Taking then my trembling hand in her soft grasp so tenderly,  
 "Don't," she said, "oh Hywel! please don't weep for me so bitterly,  
 Blind I may be to these roses, and to all the fair things here,  
 But there is another country which to me seems very near."

Jesus said, and oft I've read it, 'Blessed are the pure in heart,  
 God's fair kingdom they shall see it,' God to them doth light impart.  
 And, methinks I view it dimly, beauties rare it doth contain,  
 Nearer, too, I'm sure tis coming, for the distance seems to wane."

Thus she tried to soothe a sorrow, all too sudden, all too great,  
 Why did she, so sweet, so beautiful, bear so grim, so cruel fate?  
 I could answer nothing, not a word would flame itself, and then  
 Smiling, said she, though with tremor, "Hywel, we shall meet again."

Tints of autumn scarce had touched the trees that grew on hill and dale,  
 Summer glories left a train of splendour still in our Dee vale.  
 But the deathly frost of winter held the havoc in my breast,—  
 Her pure soul, all Heav'n beholding, had gone Home for ever blest.

\* A Welsh name signifying White Breast, pronounced Gwensfon.  
 H. J. EVANS  
 - In November No. Sunday Magazine, 1837.

Jottings.

**Farmer's Picnic**—Thursday, June 21st, of this year, is claimed for holding the Farmer's Picnic of the County of Haldimand, on the Clairville Stock Farm of Mr John R. Martin, Cayuga, Ont

**Exportation of a Cheese Maker.**—The dairy associations of Wigton and Dumfriesshire, have decided to secure the services of an instructor in cheese-making from our own Ontario. Another tribute to the high state of perfection to which our dairymen have brought this industry in Canada.

**The Growth of Wheat in India.**—Mr. Bonham, the United States Consul General in Calcutta, is of opinion that to day India is only second to the United States in the quantity of the wheat produced, and that this production is likely to extend. Statements like these afford no encouragement to those who are looking for the return of high prices for wheat. Where live stock and live stock products can be successfully grown, let these receive the principal share of the attention of our farmers.

**Personal.**—It is with regret that we learn of the death of Mr. Davis, the senior member of the stock firm of J. R. Davis & Son. Mr. Davis was an old and very highly respected resident of the County of Oxford, and a useful neighbor and citizen of the section in which he lived.

**Caution.**—We are told that a certain young man is making himself busy in live-stock circles, ever and anon taking pencil sketches of animals at a high figure. He represents himself occasionally as doing work for the JOURNAL. We have only to say in this connection that the artist who does our work does not travel at all taking pencil sketches.

**Live Stock Exports from the Argentine Republic.**—This Republic has voted \$500,000 a year to encourage the shipment of live stock to Great Britain. The development of this trade cannot but affect the prices there, as the Argentine Republic has about ten times as many cattle as the Province of Ontario, and about fifty times as many sheep. The quality of these is all the time becoming improved by the use of sires from Britain, of a high order. It is seldom indeed that any government thinks it worth while to offer any bounties calculated to improve the condition of the farmer.

**Journals Wanted.**—We have had many enquiries for back numbers of the JOURNAL and are especially desirous for one dozen copies of April, 1884. Any readers not filing their JOURNALS will confer a favor by forwarding to us. We will also be pleased to receive numbers for Jan., Feb., March and Dec. of same year.

**The Agricultural Hall.**—Alderman Frankland is pushing this work by every means in his power. A committee of Toronto aldermen are at work and we hope for satisfactory results. The good alderman was lately presented with an engrossed resolution by the Agricultural and Arts Association for his efforts in this matter, and also one by the city council for the able and satisfactory way in which he discharged the duties of mayor during the absence of Mayor Howland.

**Our Artist.**—It gives us great pleasure to call the attention of our readers to the beautiful group of horses on first page of this issue. Messrs. Graham Bros. had an engraving of one of their horses appear elsewhere recently, but not feeling satisfied, commissioned us with the present cut, of which we are not only much pleased, but think our artist is deserving of the highest praise. We invite the attention of persons desiring illustrations of animals in the JOURNAL, to look over the issues of 1837.

**Binscarth Stock Farm.**—A pretty sketch of this Manitoba farm managed by Mr. Smellie, appeared in the January number of the *Nor West Farmer*. This farm is owned by the Ontario Land Co. The Binscarth herd of Shorthorns have twice taken the championship of the province, and sheep are now to be introduced upon the farm. The prairie province is to be congratulated on the many good herds which it now possesses for so young a country, and its farmers on the existence of so bright and newsy a farm journal in their midst to help them on, as the *Nor West Farmer* is proving itself to be. May unlimited success attend the efforts of stock men and farmers and their journalists.

**Friends.**—February is really one of the best months for getting subscribers. Our friends have done nobly so far, for which permit us here to thank them. Clubs have been formed in a great many unexpected localities this season, showing what can be done with a little effort. Those wishing a premium will please see our offers in Nov. and Dec. 1837. Almost any reader can form a club with a very little effort. Send for free sample copies at once to show your neighbor, and send in a good club list. By so doing you will benefit yourself, benefit your neighbor and benefit the publishers of the JOURNAL.

**Mr. Tole's Horses Declared Sound.**—A certificate has been forwarded to us, signed by S. E. Murphy, veterinary surgeon, Blenheim, Ont., declaring the horses of Mr. E. H. Tole, referred to in Mr. Gifford's letter in the Dec. issue of the JOURNAL, as sound. We take this opportunity of reminding our correspondents that due caution should be exercised in sending communications, lest private matters in this way get undue publicity. Our columns are for the uplifting of the farming community, not a battle ground for neighbors.

**Enlarged Journal.**—The JOURNAL for Oct. and Nov. was enlarged four pages in order that we might give our readers in full the prize lists of the leading fall exhibitions. Pressure of interesting and valuable reading matter compelled the publishers to enlarge it in January and we are again obliged to add four pages for February—undisputed evidence to our readers that we are determined to give them not only the *best quality* but the *greatest quantity* of practical and valuable reading matter, even though it be at a considerable additional cash outlay. All the leading intelligent and practical farmers throughout Canada tell us the JOURNAL stands at the top amongst the agricultural papers of the Dominion, and at the top it must stay.

**Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association.**—This association as stated in the advertisements, meets in the St. Lawrence Hall, Toronto, on the 22nd Feb. It is hoped there will be a full attendance. The business of an association representing so large a portion of the live stock investors can never be unimportant. We hope that the following questions will be taken up: (1) presenting Mr. John Hope, of Bow Park, Brantford, with a suitable reward for what he has done for honor of the Shorthorn interest in Canada in American show-rings. (2) The securing of a suitable building in Toronto for holding winter exhibitions and sales of live stock. (3) The arrangement for the discussion of subjects pertaining to the welfare of the breed, at the annual meeting of 1839.

**Personal.**—A deserved tribute was paid to Lieut. Col. John Ballachee, of Brantford, Ont, on the eve of his departure to Madison, Dakota, where he goes to take charge of a large stock ranch there. Mr. Ballachee was presented with an address by Mayor Henry, of Brantford, and a purse by Judge

Jones, in behalf of the donors, containing \$100. Mr. Ballachee had been commander of the Dufferin Rifles for twenty-five years, and was favorably known to many of the stock men of Canada as an extensive breeder of good stock. But like so many thousands who have gone before him, he is lost to us. He is gone to that land of attractions so wonderful that even Dakota blizzards cannot keep the people of other climes from trying to secure them.

**Stockmen Will Please Read.**—We are informed by Mr. J. M. Kennedy, the able editor of the *Essex Liberal*, that an American gentleman, seeking pure-bred stock, was brought into his office not very long since by a prominent resident of the place, asking for access to the file copy of the JOURNAL kept in that office, the Canadian visitor remarking at the same time that the JOURNAL was the best medium in Canada whence such information might be obtained. Breeders who have no advertisement in such a case, not even a *breeder's card*, will be left out and passed by. The same thing, has been asked of us repeatedly by American buyers who have been directed to our office. We have known instances wherein they have written to every breeder advertising in a certain line, taking the address from the JOURNAL, and they have done so with the intent to purchase if the stock kept was suitable. By an outlay of from \$3 to \$6 a year, any stockman may let every reader of the JOURNAL know where he is and what he is keeping. How would the merchant get on without his sign, even in the city where he can keep his wares at the door? How then can the stockman expect to be found out where there are no sidewalks, and where he cannot keep his goods placed at the door?

**Religious Instruction in the Schools of Ontario.**—A pamphlet of 20 pages, price 20 cents, with the above title has just reached us. It may be obtained from "R. I. S. O.," care of Toronto News Co., Toronto. It criticises the book of "scripture selections," claiming that they were chosen arbitrarily, and that the omissions of important portions greatly impair the value of the work, in a word that it would be much preferable to read daily the sacred text itself. It speaks of the selections chosen as being so negative in character as to "give offence to no one," whatever his religious opinions; so colorless as regards religion and morals as to commend itself equally to the Pagan, Christian, Sceptic, Protestant and Roman Catholic. There are six chapters: 1. Points of interest and importance regarding the school law. 2. The history of religious instruction in the schools. 3. The story of the scripture lessons. 4. The duty of the state. 5. The separate school law; and 6, a plea for the re-consideration of the school acts. The historical value of the pamphlet, on the subject of which it treats, is considerable. In many of the arguments used, there is no little force and reason, but the value of the work is impaired by its appearance as an anonymous production. Men who attack the powers that be can do it most effectively when they come down the ace of the hill saying, give me a man to fight me.

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