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education which permitted the teacher to sit be fore his pupils, puffing away at a pipe, with his feet on the desk. We have heard from the older generations that this and other acts of undignified example were not uncommon occurrences in the old log schoolhouse of forty years ago.

Conditions have changed since then, and teachers are more impressed with the dignity of their calling; at least most are, but not all, for some of our male teachers who question woman's competency to teach an advanced class of boys, at the same time deem it quite proper to be seen with a pipe or cigar in their mouth by the same class of boys. We do not see our female teachers indulging in so self-condemning a habit. I do not claim that all female teachers are good teachers. Neither are all men teachers good While it is true that it would be no teachers. loss to our teaching list to cross out some names of our female teachers, it is also true that many of our male teachers could be replaced by women of larger intellect, better education, and of deeper convictions.

I believe in discipline, and good discipline, in a school; but, while we are considering faults in present conditions, let us be fair, and view the matter from all sides. Our male teachers possess qualities which our female teachers lack. But. on the other hand, our female teachers have a charm and influence peculiar to themselves which men can never acquire. MRS. JAS. REID. Renfrew Co., Ont.

RESOLUTION ON RURAL-SCHOOL REFORM

At the amalgamation meeting of the Grange and Farmers' Association, at Toronto, reported in the Christmas number of "The Farmer's Advocate," the subject of rural-school reform deservedly received a considerable share of attention. The views of the organization, in extenso, were em-

bodied in the following resolution We regret that in the past the tendency of our educational system has been to make rural life distasteful, or misunderstood, and city life unduly attractive, and consequently to withdraw from rural life the most capable of our young people. In view of these facts, and of the further fact that the elevation of the farmer and his family will contribute immmensely to a healthy and permanent national progress, we would urge upon our educational authorities the vital necessity of improving and extending the work of the common rural school, so that the vast majority of our country boys and girls who get no further formal education than is provided by these schools, may in them become imbued with a better understanding of, interest in, and respect and love for agriculture and country life."

LIKE PAPER, LIKE KNIFE.

I am pleased to acknowledge the receipt of the knife which you give as a premium for one new subscriber. Like "The Farmer's Advocate," it subscriber. is a genuine article.

W. BEATON McGILLIVRAY. Perth Co., Ont.

In a renewal letter, also ordering the paper Department is unsurpassed, in my opinion, in farm in view. W. G. MEDD. "The Winchelsea Creamery, Huron Co., Ont."

HORSES.

A RAMBLE AMONG THOROUGHBREDS IN IRELAND

Written and illustrated specially for "The Farmer's Advocate," by Gilbert H. Parsons, 1907.

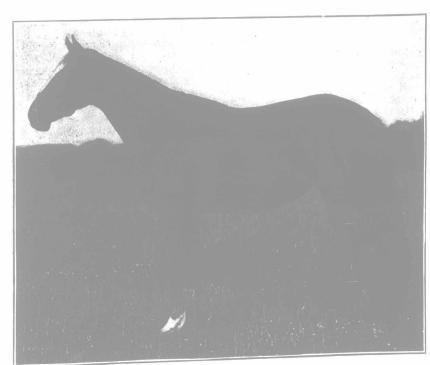
Amongst all the countries of the world engaged in breeding light horses, there is none with such a reputation in this respect as Ireland. For generations its pastures have turned out hunters and harness horses second to none, and now the breeding of race-horses is being carried on there on such extensive lines that the success of Irishbred horses on the English turf during the last ten or fifteen years has been phenomenal. Time after time, the Grand National, which, as everyone knows, is the "blue riband" of steeplechasing, has fallen to animals bred in the "Emerald Isle," and this year a crowning triumph has been achieved by the Derby victory of Orby, who, though by an English sire, from an American mare, was bred and trained in Dublin. Fully two-thirds of the great horses which have made turf history in England recently have been by Irish sires, or bred in that country, and, amongst the notable ones whose names crop up haphazard, we may mention Pretty Polly, Slieve Gallion, The White Knight, Velocity, Wildfowler, Hackler's Pride, Polar Star, Rock Dove, Adula, Galtee More, Aid Patrich, Barcaldine, and many more (these on the flat), whilst the names of Shannon Lass, Father O'Flynn, Eremon, Acetic's Silver, Red Prince II., Wild Man From Borneo, Empress, and others, are household words in the steeplechasing world.

The chief points to which the pre-eminence of Ireland as a horse-breeding country are attributed are its climate and the excellence of its extensive pasture lands. In walking through the paddocks of the various studs, one is at once struck by the quantity and excellence of the herbage; then, again, the size and number of the paddocks at most of these farms is greater than in England; and this, as regards blood stock, is a matter of vital importance, for, running horses on the same land year after year-a practice from which it is impossible to diverge at many breeding establishments in England, is detrimental to both land and horses Many large English stud-owners are acquiring land in Ireland to enable them to give their animals a change and their paddocks a rest; and, foremost amongst those who have adopted this plan may be mentioned the Duke of Westminster and the Duke of Portland, while others are sure to follow.

A railway journey from Dublin, more noticeable for its slowness than anything, brings us to the station of Newbridge, not very far from Kildare. An Irish jaunting car is now exchanged for the train, and we rapidly approach the famous Curragh Camp, the Aldershot of Ireland. Here all is bustle and activity, "Tommy" being very much in evidence, and there are many sights to interest one. The bald, ugly barracks, broken only by a huge watchtower, stand out in frowning relief against the southern horizon. Now we pass a company of engineers and a mule battery; a little further and the skirl of the bagpipes is heard, and a magnificent sight presents itself as Brownstown Stud, owned by Capt. Greer. It is an service; but the peerless Pretty Polly is the

historic spot, full of stirring reminiscences of races. mighty Here once stood the famous Jockey Hall, where Irish Birdcatcher and Sir Hercules held court-animals that first brought Ireland to the fore in turf history. Brownstownis now made famous by reason of its being the home of one of the greatest stallions of all times. This is Gallinule, a chestnut son of Isonomy and Moorben, and he has contributed a vast amount towards the Irish victories on the race-course during the past decade. Not a very conspicuous winner himself, Gallinule was acquired by his present owner for a comparatively small sum, which he has since repaid an hundredfold. his early days at the stud he sired winners, Rock Dove being one of the first to bring his name into prominence, but there was a general impression that his stock, though they showed great early promise, either did not stay, or failed to train on; but, as years advanced, his stock improved, and he gave us Wildfowler, who won the St. Ledger in hollow fashion. Then came Game Chick, Hammerkop, and a number of high-class handicap horses; but his crowning triumph was Pretty Polly, who we shall refer to anon. This year we have seen two brilliant sons of the old horse worthily upholding his name—Slieve Gallion, who won the Two Thousand and only just lost the Derby; and White Eagle, possibly the best two-year-old colt of the season. The greatness of Gallinule's record as a sire is very forcibly shown by the fact that his stock have won 247 races, value £219,341, in fifteen years.

This wonderful horse is a picture to look at. He is a rich, dark chestnut, with a quaint white blaze on his face, and some white on the legs. His size does not strike one at first, so balanced is his conformation, but, on careful examination, he is found to be a very perfect type of stallionshort-backed, deep-ribbed, with powerful quarters, a grand neck and shoulders, and hard, clean limbs. It is hard to fault him, for he is a horse that grows in favor on prolonged acquaintance, and he carries his 23 years well. The next box contains another equine celebrity, Wildflower, by Gallinule, out of Tragedy, who won the St. Leger and sired Llangibby and other winners. He bears a distinct resemblance to Gallinule, but is much heavier built, being a particularly massive horse. Many famous mares roam the beautiful paddocks at Brownstown. Loadamia, and a foal by St. Simon, is one of the gems of the King's stud. She is on a visit to Gallinule. Then there is The Message, Sibola, Concertina, Soaraway, May Race, and many others. A drive in the enter-taining company of the able stud-groom, Mr. Gilbert, and the barren mares are reached. Here Gilbert, and the barren mares are reached. is a beautiful mare, which, unfortunately, lost her foal, Reclusion, the dam of Slieve Gallinule; and along with her are "303," dam of Twelvebore, and some other choice matrons. In another paddock is Flair, a young, classic winner, just put to the stud, Gallinule being her first mate. afternoon is drawing to a close, and we retrace our steps across the Curragh, where the wild west wind has more the feel of December than mid-June. Eyrefield Lodge is our destination. This is the stud farm of one of the luckiest men on the turf during recent years, Major Fustace Loder. The establishment is an extensive and wellequipped one, spacious yards, roomy boxes, wellfor a friend for 1908, comes the following word of comment: "I appreciate The Farmer's Advomanches across the plain like one man, to the solution of comment the following word the Black Watch. The great Scottish regiment, fenced and sheltered paddocks being the order of things found here, and the Major has collected together a very choice lot of animals to tenant tural topics are excellent, and the Home Magazine on, for Thoroughbreds, not soldiers, is the object them. Major Loder's blue-and-yellow jacket has Nestling amongst a clump of trees-a experienced a wonderful run of success, Star pleasing break from the barren plain-is the Shoot, Game Chick and Hammerkop doing good



Pretty Polly



Admiration, Dam of Pretty Polly, and Foal by Gallinule.