

SOUTHWEST OF BUFFALO

The long lakes, flanked
by the conservative
farms, which are asleep
but thinking, collect
water from the quiet
hills, which as they slope
and touch, make towns
to hide from the wind.
Near Ellington, in the Randolph
graveyard, Albert Gallatin Dow,
who died a hundred years old
in nineteen-eight,
remains in the massy tomb
which he ordered built
towards the day when the short beard
of even a centenarian
would blow in the wind
of flowers, on
the hills of New York.

Donald Hall