

- 165 Merino rams of fine wool.  
 103 Pens of 3 ewes do.  
 824 { 193 Rams of coarser wool.  
       37 Do. do. in another class.  
       94 Do. do. do.  
 323 Pens of 3 ewes do. do.  
 50 Southdown rams bred in England and Scotland.  
 120 Pens of 3 Southdown ewes bred in England and Scotland.  
 32 Southdown rams bred on the continent.  
 21 Pens of Southdown ewes do do.  
 14 Shropshire or other short-woolled rams.  
 12 Pens of ewes do. do.  
 20 Leicester rams bred in Great Britain or Ireland.  
 46 Pens of 3 Leicester ewes bred in Great Britain or Ireland.  
 6 Leicester rams bred on the continent.  
 21 Pens of 3 Leicester ewes do.  
 100 Cotswold or Lincoln rams bred in Great Britain or Ireland.  
 177 Pens of 3 Cotswold or Lincoln ewes bred in Great Britain or Ireland.  
 10 Long-woolled rams bred on the continent.  
 35 Pens of 3 do. ewes do. do.

The exhibition of Merino sheep is undoubtedly the largest ever held, and of this breed there are many excellent specimens. We can almost think we observe an increase of size and an increasing weight of wool: whether this is done by a more careful selection of the animals bred from, or by a distant dash of some other breed, we are unable to say; but we certainly do observe not only this increase in size, in many of the animals, but that unerring test, the hand, tells us of more mutton and of better quality than we generally used to find. We hold that it is a matter for serious consideration with our foreign friends whether they will confine themselves to the production of wool alone, or endeavour to produce a more profitable carcase at the same time. If this be done, we think that the Englishman's laugh at a foreign chop or leg of mutton will pass into oblivion. That the international exhibitions are calculated to remove much prejudice admits of no doubt; as for instance Lord Walsingham's best Southdown ram was sold for 100 guineas to Baron Maginas, of Saxony, and the second prize sheep was immediately afterwards sold at a high price to Baron O. Hedengren for the Swedish Government. Other sales followed in quick succession, and when we left the yard only three of Lord Walsingham's sheep remained unsold. We gathered the following figures:

First prize yearling Southdown ram	100	gs.
Second do. do.	50	gs.
Second do. (at Yarmouth)	60	gs.
No. 18 - - -	40	gs.
Shearling - - -	46½	gs.
Little sheep - - -	35	gs.
Nine shearling ewes - - -	180	gs.

The unsold sheep were above an average for one of which 80 guineas was refused. The Merton flock received all the prizes. The Yarmouth first prize shearling again stood A1 but the second at Yarmouth had to succumb to the third. The ewes fairly staggered the German flock-masters, showing that good and fine wool could be produced on large carcasses. Good specimens of the Babraham flock were exhibited.

Many of the sheep were exhibited in their wool, which at once created an unfair test as to qualities against the shorn ones, and in one instance the judges had considerable difficulty as to naming their reserve number. Several of the sheep exhibited, especially those in the wool, suffered immensely from the heat and fatigue of their journey. Lord Walsingham lost a capital ram worth 70 guineas, Mr. Crisp another ram, and Mr. Taylor his best yearling ram, before being judged—a pure Webb, and brother to the ewes. The Duke of Richmond's ewes, as also others of Messrs. Crisp and Sexton, sold well. Of the Southdowns bred on the Continent, we may mention those exhibited by G. Zoeppritz, Wurtemberg, Baron Nathusius, Baron Magnus, of Drehsa. These were the most successful flocks, and carried away the prizes. They are descended from the Babraham sheep, and were real fair specimens of what may be done; but there was a falling off in others—in fact, some exhibitors had no previous opportunity of knowing what an English Southdown ought to be. This type, however, has been strongly impressed upon them at last by means of the International Meeting, where they have had the true Southdown placed before them, and from which a future trade must spring.

#### Award of Prizes.

*Southdown Rams.*—First and second, Lord Walsingham, Merton Hall, Norfolk.

*Southdown Ewes.*—First and second, Lord Walsingham; third or reserved, Mr. Taylor, Harptree Court, Somerset.

*Southdown Rams bred on the Continent.*—First G. Zoeppritz, Wurtemberg, bred from Messrs. Webb and Foljam's flocks; second, Baron von Nathusius, Prussia, bred from the Babraham flock; third or reserved, G. Zoeppritz, Wurtemberg.

*Southdown Ewes bred on the Continent.*—First G. Zoeppritz, Wurtemberg; second, Baron von Nathusius.

*The Classes open to all other Shortwoolled Breeds from Great Britain* were pretty well contested. First, for rams, was awarded to Mr. Guerrier, London, for his Oxford Down, of capital form and quality; the second went to a very fair specimen of West Country Down, bred by Mr. Humphrey, Oak Ash, Berks. Mr. Druce of Eynsham also exhibited some good specimens in this class; but as they possessed heavy fleeces, upon large frames, the