Mr. Fowell Buxton, of Ware, is first in Ewes; Mr. William Woods, of Bishops Waltham, first in Lambs, with a pen weighing 6 cwt. at ten months and one week old. The champion (3) sheep, weighing 7½ cwt. at twenty-two months old, show true Hampshire character, with less than usual of what we shall dare to call the ugly head of the breed—with body standing four-square, breast, and twist, and back equally wide throughout, giving the impression of perfect ripeness, *with no excessive fatness anywhere.* (1)

High Farming in England.

Chadbury Farm is situated in Evesham, Worcestershire, England. It is the property of the Duc d'Aumale, and has been held at an annual rental of 34 shillings per acre by Mr. Charles Randell for the last forty-five years. I visited the place toward the end of May. It lies about two miles from the town, in a charming country. As you look from the terrace you see the Malvern Hills stretching away to the west, while to the southeast loom the Cotswolds with their beautiful slopes. In the other corner, near the farm, stands the town of Evesham, commemorative of the death of Simon de Montfort, (2) while within a stone's throw runs Shakespeare's "Sweet Avon."

The farm consists of 571 acres, 3 roods, and 30 perches, of which 384 acres are arable, 175 acres pasture and orchard, and the remaining 12 acres, homestead. The soil is on the liassic formation, and consists for the most part of a stiff, tenacious clay. The whole of the farm, arable and pasture, has been drained at a depth of three to four feet, about 30 feet apart. The fields are large and well arranged, all hedges and trees having been removed when possible.

Cultivation is done by steam and horses, there being 14 of the latter on the place, "Shires," and some of them are bred annually. Steam is chiefly used for plowing. There is no especial rotation, the tenant having full liberty to grow what he pleases, and sell as he pleases, provided only that when he sells hay or straw he returns an equivalent in value to the land. Mr. Randell's great principle is never to let his land remain idle, but to keep it constantly in crops of some kind. The fallow is cropped with vetches, oats, rape, early and late cabbage and clovers. Large quantities of cow clover (3) are grown, drilled, as are all the clovers. His wheat crop averages from 40 to 50 bushels per acre, and in many years much more. He grows annually a large quantity of mangolds, the variety being the Golden Tankard, seed being grown on the farm. They are planted on the flat, 8 lbs. of seed per acre, in rows 14 inches apart, his object being to get a moderate crop of medium sized roots, rich in sugar. The average annual yield is 45 tons per acre.

The principal attraction is the Shropshire flock, bred by him for many years, and containing a remarkably fine lot of strong, heavily-wooled sheep. There were on the farm at the time of my visit about 1,000, including lambs. The produce from 350 ewes was 525 lambs. In addition to the Shropshires, 50 Dorset ewes are bought annually in April, put to the ram June 1st, and sold with their lambs the following February.

The average clip from the ewes was 7 lbs.; shearling ewes, 9 lbs.; ram tegs, 11 lbs., all washed. The ram tegs would average about 20 lbs per quarter, dead weight. No lambs are castrated, the ram lambs being culled several times and sold to the butcher. (1) The sheep are folded the year round, except from January to April, when the breeding ewes go into the yards. While the lambs are suckling, the ewes receive ½ lb. meal a day, together with a little cut clover and pulped mangolds, besides the folded crops. From weaning to tupping time, they look out for themselves; and from tupping time on, get ½ lb. meal per day. The ram and ewe lambs receive the same. Water is always provided. The lambs are dipped every year, and after weaning are kept as much as possible on old seeds and on cabbages, of which a large breadth is grown.

In addition to the sheep, a herd of 50 cows is kept. They are of the Short-Horn breed, unpedigreed, but of a good, strong, useful stamp. A pedigreed bull is bought when necessary, so that the character of the stock improves annually. The cows are let by the year to a dairyman at $45 each—Mr. Randell finding grass, but nothing else, and having the calves. The heifers are raised; the bull calves sold fat as bullocks, at the age of 24 months.

To work a farm like this successfully, requires an active capital of $100 per acre, exclusive of the money invested in land and buildings. For instance, the average sum expended in purchased grain and fertilizers annually, is $7,000—the labor bill being about $9,000. As an illustration of the high farming pursued, the following account of the cropping, &c, for four years, as taken from the farm books, is instructive:

Size of field, 16 acres. *First year*—Barley, 52 bushels per acre; no manure used; previous crop turnips, fed off with sheep, receiving cake. *Second year*—Mangolds, manured per acre with 40 loads farmyard dung, (2) 6 cwt. artificial fertilizer and 2 cwt. nitrate of soda; yield, 47 tons per acre, one-half being drawn off, remainder consumed on land by sheep. *Third year*—Barley; no manure; yield 64 bushels per acre; straw 5 ft. 6 in. high. After barley was taken off, the land was manured at the rate of 25 loads farm dung per acre, plowed in, and one ton soot per acre spread broadcast. Sixteen thousand cabbage plants per acre were set out Oct. 1st, the seeds having been planted Aug. 28th; rows 22½ inches apart, 12 inches apart in the rows (3) After planting, 4 cwt. per acre of Peruvian guano was scattered along the rows by hand. In spring, 4 cwt of fish guano and 1½ cwt. of nitrate of soda were distributed along the rows. The crop was sold standing, by auction, for $162 per acre.

To conclude, this farm is an admirable specimen of what industry and intelligence, united to business capacity, can produce in agriculture as in all else.

JAMES LAWRENCE.

Groton, Mass.

(1) 280 lbs. for a 22 months old sheep is not bad. These would probably dress in the neighbourhood of 170 lbs. A. R. J. F.

(2) One of our greatest English heroes, in spite of his name A. R. J. F.

(3) *Trifolium medium*, a most valuable clover, but no seedsmen here keeps it. A. R. J. F.

An Improvement in Siloes.

In the most common construction of siloes, they are made of moderate width, not usually exceeding 16 feet, and of any required length, often 60 or 80. If more space is required, separate siloes are built. The greater the depth given to them the more is their capacity for an equal amount of covering, and the heavier the pressure of the ensilage above. The only difficulty in the way of much depth, is the labor required for withdrawing their contents when the bottom is lower than the stable floors.

The common practice, in feeding out the ensilage, is to cut down a vertical stratum with a hayknife, and when this is

(1) I don't like this plan. Uncastrated lambs are always what the London butchers call "foxy," i. e. red colour in the meat. A. R. J. F.

(2) Equal probably, to about 30 tons. A. R. J. F.

(3) I have always had great difficulty in getting my pupils to set their cabbages near enough together. A. R. J. F.