

4. Unsterilized lambs may get into the ewe flock. Sometimes mating takes place, which may be undesirable and productive of heavy financial losses.

5. Castration of males intended for the butcher is a very apparent sign of good shepherding and lambs from a well-managed flock find a ready market, even in times of a temporary market depression.

6. Winter feeding for mutton purposes can be undertaken more successfully with wethers than with rams.

METHODS OF CASTRATION.

Liability to injury or death is the same excuse which some men put forward when asked why they do not sterilize their male lambs. There is very little risk,



Severing the scrotum and testicles near the body with the emasculator.

however, if the operation is performed at the proper time and attention is paid to the maintenance of sanitary conditions. Castration can best be performed when the lamb is about ten days or two weeks old. At this time a minimum amount of pain is caused. Aged rams, even five or six years old, may be deprived of their testicles with safety, if the operation is performed in a careful manner. An effective disinfectant should be used in all cases. The hands and knife should be sterilized