

We have before us the sales of Cheviot Rams by four noted breeders, namely Mr. Aitchison, Mr. Borthwick, Mr. Bryden and Mr. Carruthers, the aggregate number of rams above one year old, sold by them was 557, the amount of sales was £4,761 6s., or at the rate of £8 11s. per head, about 100 of the best sheep gave from £15 to £25 and there are four gave from £50 to £99 sterling they show how highly the breed is appreciated in that country, and if equaled in Britain, it is only by the Leicesters and South downs, the two celebrated breeds which occupy the richer and more level lands of England.

If a good fair size, an excellent form, a good degree of early maturity though inferior in this respect to the Leicester, a constitutional hardiness equal to the necessities of our rigorous winters, a medium of fine wool, suitable for all family purposes, a disposition to fatten easily, a productiveness equal to any other breed, and a lightness of offal, be any recommendation, this breed possesses them in a high degree, and we think that they will be a great acquisition to this country both for a pure breed, and for the purpose of crossing.

I will only add that Cheviots have been imported into this neighborhood by Mr. William Roddick and likewise by Mr. James Dixon Clark.

Mr. P. R. Wright said, The question is simply this:—"Is such a breed of sheep as Mr. R. has described, suitable for this country? My opinion is, they possess no advantage over the improved Leicester and Gotswold, which in many respect they are much inferior to these justly celebrated breeds; in weight of fleece and carcase in early maturity and a disposition to fatten few will have the temerity to venture even a comparison, and their superiority in point of constitutional hardiness (even considering this questionable point) would not amount to much here, where housing and hand feeding half the year round is forced upon us;—For their *native* hill pastures, the Cheviots are no doubt unrivalled, so it is with the black-faced breed, in their Grampian Mountains; the Kylos in the western Highlands; the lordly short horn (born with a silver spoon in his mouth) luxuriating in the rich pastures of his native England, dozing a few mild winter months in a warm and well ventilated stable, each and all of these are extremely suitable for their respective localities—but neither would be profitable if—their position were reversed;—Canada can never be a great sheep growing country, we want the genial climate of Australia for the production of fine wool, and the Grampian Hills for rearing cheap and *good* mutton; our object ought to be, to obtain a stock of sheep suited to our circumstances, and these of a kind which will produce the largest returns to the possessors;—Farmers like other men, are prone to be over sanguine, and are sometimes led away, by exaggerated statements of the benefits of newly introduced improvements, instead of narrowly watching the results, or considering whether they are at all adapted to their particular localities;—I think it will be evident to most farmers, at any rate to those who have any experience in the matter, that the wintering of sheep entails most part the expense, both as regards labour and feed, and as we are compelled to bestow this extra care, it is wise to do so on animals which return the most wool and mutton, and they are unquestionably the improved Leicester and Cotswold; fashionable epicures may prate about the superior mutton of the south-downs, cheviots, or black-faces, but it will be some time yet before such sensibility of taste be general in cold Canada!—In regard to crossing one pure breed with another, the practice cannot be too strongly condemned; this was not the way "Bakewell" went to work, nor is it the cause of the improvement in the modern cheviot "selection," has been the renovator in both cases, and in skilful hands is amply sufficient; true, the Cheviot breeds cross with the Leicester ram, with the sole view of *selling* the cross at an *early* age, thus furnishing conclusive proof of the superiority of Leicesters in that important quality; crossing Leicester Ewes with a Cheviot Ram has never been done by sheep farmers whose example or advice it would be safe or prudent to follow.

Mr. Underwood observed—I agree to what Mr. Riddell has said concerning the Cheviots. I am glad to see them imported into this country, as I am confident they will answer very well, they are easily kept and hardy to stand the winter, I have lived among some of the best breeders of that class in Scotland; as for the Leicesters I cannot say much about them, as I never saw a flock of them together at home.

Mr. McDonald agreed to what Mr. Riddell had said concerning the Cheviots. He thought their mutton was before the Leicester, but he did not think they were as heavy, and would prefer the Leicesters, although a cross might answer very well.

Mr. Ball said he could say very little about the Cheviots, as his experience had been