

comprised 36 rams and 245 ewes, almost all of them either prize winners, or animals which had been highly commended at the principal show in the United Kingdom. This superb flock is now being dispersed over the world. Some of the animals have gone to Australia, others to America. The Minister of Agriculture in Spain has secured several, and in other countries the esteem in which the Sandy breed of Leicesters is held has been testified to by the numerous purchases at high prices which have made at the several sales held at Holme Pierrepont. On Wednesday, large purchases were made for Austria and Prussia. Of the shearing rams, one went to Mr. Princep, of Newton Regis, for twenty-seven guineas; another to Mr. Henry Mann, of Lutterworth, for twenty guineas; and a third to Mr. Massey, of Hurlston, for ten guineas; and a fourth to Mr. John Spencer, of Dunnington Park, Melton, for the same price. For a three-shear, Colonel Inge gave thirty-eight guineas; and for another Mr. T. Harris, of Stony-lane, Bromsgrove, gave twenty-one guineas; while a five-shear fell to Mr. Spencer of Clay brook, Lutterworth, for twenty guineas. A lot of five ewes obtained fifty guineas from Mr. Cresswell, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch; another, thirty-five guineas from Mr. Dean Derbyshire; a third, the same figure from Mr. Dabbs, of Seckington; two others, forty-five guineas and thirty-five guineas respectively from Colonel Inge; one twenty guineas from Mr. Pester, of Tamworth; and a lot of four, forty guineas from Mr. Cresswell. A lot of five shearing ewes was knocked down to Mr. Horsfall at eighty-two and a-half guineas, their destination being Koingsberg; another at thirty-seven and a-half guineas to Mr. Hurlburt, for Prussia; and another for eighty-five guineas to Mr. Fortescue, Aberdeen. Summary of sale: 37 rams £688 16s.—average, £18 12s. 4d.; 174 aged ewes, £1,026 7s. 6d.—£5 18s.; 71 shearing ewes, £500 6s. 6d.—average £7 1s.; total sale, £2,215 10s. Average of 245 ewes, £6 4s. 8d.; total, £1,526 14s. 72 rams sold July 9, 1862, £1,905 15s.—average, £26 9s. 4½d.

LORD POLWARTH'S FLOCK.—This celebrated flock, which has long commanded high prices at the great Kelso sales, and whose strain is distinctly traceable in the flocks of almost all the best breeders of pure Scotch Leicesters in this country, originated in 1882, when 80 ewes were purchased, £2 15s. each, from a well known Northumberland breeder, Mr. Jobson, of Hidgley, near Chillingham, and 140 ewes from a Mr. Waddell (also, we believe, a Northumbrian breeder), at £2 14s. Where the rams were obtained from it is now somewhat difficult to ascertain. At that time, however, the most reputed breeders did not care to dispose of their rams, and it is probable that these were hired from the most famous Border flockmasters, of whom Mr. Robertson, of Ladykirk, was one.

Two years after Lord Polwarth had purchased the flock from Mr. Jobson, he commenced sales of rams at Mertoun; and from that time, continued them every year at that place. In 1852, when he sent his rams down to London, where they have ever since been sold. This it will be noticed that his Lordship realized the average £8 11s. 2d. per head more than Mr. Stark, of Mellendean, whose stock made the next highest average. We believe that the esteem in which Lord Polwarth's flock is held is due to the fact that the blood has been perfectly pure during the half century he has been a breeder; whereas many other of the best breeders, in a desire to improve their flocks, some ten or fifteen years ago introduced a Cotswold element, with an effect opposite to what was intended. We have been unable to obtain the average prices of Lord Polwarth's ewes during the fifty-eight years they have been disposed of by auction, but the following averages will show how they have been gradually growing in value: 1830 35 at an average of £3 15s.; 1840, an average of £5 11s.; 1853, 40 at an average of £6 18s. 10d.; 1859, 44 at an average of 1s. 1d.; 1860, 43 at an average of nearly £18, 1862, 38 at an average of £18.

SALES OF SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.—Almost last, but far from the least important of the ram sales was held on Wednesday in last week at Grendon, near Atherstone, when Mr. John Lythall, the Secretary of the Birmingham Cattle Show, sold and let thirty-five shearing and other rams, the property of Mrs. Baker, at an average of nearly £10 each; and also disposed of fifty ewes at 52s. per head, and like number of heaves at 63s.

The annual sale of Earl of Dartmouth's celebrated Shropshire rams and ewes took place at Patsball on Friday last, and was attended by several of the leading flockmasters of this and the adjoining counties, and went off in a spirited and satisfactory manner. At one of the company sat down in a splendid mansion erected for the occasion, to luncheon. At past two o'clock the business commenced under the hammer of Mr. Nock (of the firm of Nock and Wilson, Bridgenorth), when ninety store ewes were sold, averaging £2 10s.; ninety yearling ewes made an average of £2 3s. The rams also with good competition, reaching as high as £12 and thirteen guineas. Twenty-one were sold at an average of £8 5s.

AUTUMN SHOW AND GREAT SALE OF THE KELSO.—On Friday the Autumn Show of the Union Agricultural Society and the Great annual Twp Market took place in the Poor-House Field, and was a great success. The prize animals were, as usual, scrutinized with much interest by the farmers present, and it was universally admitted that the awards of the judges given with the strictest impartiality. On the day the show-grounds were visited by