

tors, and against the method, &c.; and, lastly, the patrons were led to believe that all their milk would be wasted!—In a word, within a few hours of his arrival at St. Denis, our *American Demon* had done his work, and turned our little world topsy-turvy.

But M. Barré wanted to get too quickly on Mr. Jocelyn's shoulders! The *American Demon* in vain put all his devilment to work for four years: he has not succeeded yet in preventing Mr. Jocelyn from inspiring confidence in his method in all those who have studied it. Mr. Jocelyn has instructed many young people, who are, to-day, recognised as the best authorities on all matters connected with the dairy. The factories arranged after the plans of Mr. Jocelyn have invariably given the best results, and have, on that account, irritated the numerous makers who, from want of knowledge, are now making full-milk cheese that does not sell for more than the partially skimmed-milk cheese made by Mr. Jocelyn's pupils. The factories carried on after the Jocelyn method invariably pay their patrons 12% to 20% more than the majority of those factories of the province where whole-milk cheese alone is made.

If our ordinary factories do not pay better, that is due to the want of knowledge in the making; for it is beyond a doubt that whole-milk cheese, well made, is richer than the best skim-cheese. No one has proved this more clearly than Mr. Jocelyn's pupils: Mr. Skaife, at Baie du Febvre, who made the best whole-milk cheese that was ever seen at the excellent factory of M. Blondin; and M. Painchaud, who astonished the people of Louiseville, alike in the production of whole-milk cheese, as in making butter and cheese from milk skimmed, more or less closely.

Enough has been said about M. Barré, I think. I am not aware that he has ever brought out any adepts. Besides, I know that he dare not show his face at any of the meetings of the dairymen's associations, and not without cause. I warn him, that if he do not divest himself pretty soon of his young *American Demon*, it will play him so many tricks and such bad ones that no one will any longer place any confidence in him.

I regret this exposure—an excessively disagreeable one for me to make. It was necessary. In a future article I will treat of the very interesting question of butter-making combined with skim-milk cheese, compared with the production of full-milk cheese.

E. A. BARNARD.

## OUR LIVE STOCK.

### OXFORDSHIRE DOWNS.

This established breed of sheep has now a long history: and with every stage of that history, the leading flocks of the breed have increased in reputation, and therefore in favour among practical breeders who have an eye to direct profit more than to anything else. This increase in repute and favour has occurred more particularly during the last thirty years, as I shall clearly show as I proceed.

On referring back to the *Farmers' Magazine* of 1838 I find a long discussion on one origin of this breed. The subject was opened by Mr. J. T. Twynam, of Whitechurch, Hampshire. (1) Mr. Twynam was enthusiastic, and the language of his enthusiasm was quaint as well as pertinent, as will be seen by the following extract from the publication mentioned:—

(1) The loveliest spot on the river Test, swarming with trout, and bordered with the finest irrigated meadows in the world. The chalk hills on the uplands are covered with a short, sweet herbage, which produces the best flavoured Hampshire-down mutton.

A. R. J. F.

"It is now six or seven years since I first introduced an improved Cotswold ram among a few Hampshire Down ewes, the produce of which, living among the Downs, soon convinced me of their vast superiority. From that time I have continued the breed—with what success is pretty generally known by most breeders and dealers attending our Hampshire fairs. But I believe my plan in pursuing it has totally differed from that of any other person. Indeed, it has been in direct opposition to the generally received opinion in respect to crossing, for instead of going back after one cross to the original breed on either side I have used half-bred rams with half-bred ewes—a practice condemned by three fourths of the old school of breeders, none of whom by-the-by could I find who had tested it themselves, but believed it to be erroneous because their great grandfather had so noted it down. It may be interesting, therefore, to state the why and the wherefore of my thus proceeding."

"There is much in the above extract that is suggestive, particularly at the present time when the price of the mutton of Downs and the "best crosses" is making 1d. per lb. more than that of pure Long-wooled and white-faced sheep, and long wool is, at the same time, worth less than 1s. per lb. Breeders of Devon long-wooled sheep may take a lesson from it. Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Northamptonshire flockmasters, have already seen the importance of improving their mutton in preference to increasing their quantity of wool. The result is that the improved Lincolnshire rams have largely declined in value, while the demand for Hampshire Down ram lambs has so increased that in all probability the sale of them this year will be as many at Peterborough, Lincoln, and other fairs and markets as the number of the native stock will amount to. (1) Whether the flockmasters of the above counties will establish a breed that will vie with, or equal the Oxfordshire Down, is a question that as yet remains an open one. The growth of wool in South America, Australia, and New Zealand, has so greatly increased—and the scope for producing it on land of nominal value in those countries is so large—that there does not seem to be any prospect of the wool of Great Britain again rising above, or much above, 1s. per lb. Mutton of fine quality, at the same time, in the face of larger foreign supplies, promises to maintain its past and present high price."

Mr. Twynam's letter, from which the above extract is taken, was an exposition of the reasons why he had offered a challenge to other flockmasters in Hampshire and elsewhere. The letter was first addressed to the *Murk Lane Express* (the *Farmers' Magazine* having been mainly a monthly reprint of the articles that had appeared in the aforesaid weekly journal). The opening sentences of Mr. Twynam's letter were as follows:—

"I have this day [November 27, 1837] forwarded for your columns an advertisement, holding forth an offer to the whole kingdom to meet me in the field of competition with any breed of sheep, kept as folding and stock sheep, in which shall be found the union of so many points, profitable to the farmer and desirable for the grazier. It is now" Mr. Twynam continues, "seven years since I first introduced an improved Cotswold ram among a few Hampshire Down ewes, the produce of which, living with the Downs, soon convinced me of their vast superiority. (2)

Mr. Twynam then points out that his success was then well-known by breeders and dealers attending Hampshire fairs, and that his practice of matching cross-bred sheep was

(1) Precisely what I have been trying to show for the last six years.

A. R. J. F.

(2) The Hampshire-down ewes are the best nurses in existence; hence, the propriety of putting the Cotswold ram to the Hampshire-down ewes, and not the reverse.

A. R. J. F.