

made to us, and have sent such papers as we could afford to have printed, and many who have been in communication with us must have gone to Buenos Ayres unknown to us, as, after finding that we had no real proposal to offer to make to them, they did not think it worth their while (after obtaining all information we had to give them) to correspond further with us. But so long as they go the chief object of our agency is accomplished.

I remain, dear Sir,
Yours most faithfully,
J. DENHOLM.
For Denholm & Dunlop.

SHEEP BREEDING.

In sheep breeding, as in everything else, experience is the best teacher, though often paid for very dearly. Therefore, he that consults the experience of other people will fare better than he who obstinately maintains that he, and only he, has found the right way. Apparently of the same opinion is Mr. Plater, who some time ago published an article on sheep breeding in your columns, very well meditated, and written for the benefit of sheep farmers.

Mr. Plater, in the first instance, invites us to draw a parallel between the two races of Rambouillet and Negretti, in order to come to a conclusion which of the two races is the better for the circumstances of the River Plate. Subsequently Mr. Plater raises the question whether, for the refinement of flocks it is absolutely necessary to use only undoubted good rams, or is it sufficient to employ rams which have no recommendation save their cheapness.

Relying on many years' experience in this branch, I take the liberty to answer that question; and I beg to notice that I do so only at the repeated request of many estancieros, who by their experiences have confirmed the correctness of my views.

The gain in sheep breeding lies in the produce of wool and meat. The larger and finer the wool, the better in quality and quantity the meat, the nearer will the sheep farmer find himself to the end which he is striving for, and which is—to derive the greatest possible advantage from each single sheep. But unfortunately experience teaches that it is impossible to rear sheep excelling both in quantity of meat and of wool, consequently the sheep breeder's task must be the full attainment of one of these advantages, with the least possible detriment of the other.

grease-lacking fleece of the Rambouillet cannot compete with the close and strong fleece of the Negretti.

In drawing this parallel between Rambouillet and Negretti, it stands to reason that we speak only of pure and normally bred animals. And here I would take the liberty of referring a remark in one of Mr. Latham's articles, where he maintained that nine-tenths of our imported animals are neither thorough-bred nor possessed of any good quality. Now, although I may hope and expect that the illustrious names of the European breeders from whom I import are sufficiently familiar to Mr. Latham not to include the animals I have for sale in the 9-10ths which are denied purity of blood and good qualities generally, I would yet, in the interest of a very useful import trade going on, take this opportunity to express my opinion that buyers here might, with quite as much justice, doubt the purity and excellence of rams bred and sold in this country.

I will now endeavor to answer the question whether, in raising flocks, superior rams only should be used, or is it enough to breed with animals having no other recommendation than their cheapness?

Let him who wishes to refine his flocks first obtain rams capable of effecting such refinement; after that let him ask what they cost? for the price, with proper use of the animals, is quite a secondary matter. The chief consideration is, and always will be, to obtain such rams as will insure continued purity of blood. To this end, it is above all things requisite that rams coming from a thorough-bred flock should alone be permitted to cover. No mestizo ram, how well ever he may look, will improve a flock as fast as one of pure blood, though this latter be externally much inferior to the other. My views on this subject have been submitted to the public in a little pamphlet, entitled "Instrucciones para la cria científica de ovejas en los rebaños de la America del Sud. B. Ayres, 1866, Imprenta Alemana, calle San Martin 111," and to it I would now refer. Breeders possessing only criollo sheep would, of course, be guilty of great folly were they to use expensive rams for covering such inferior ewes. Nature is averse to sudden changes, and in such flocks rams should be used that are only a degree or two better than the ewes. The purer the ewe, the purer, and consequently the dearer, must be the ram. Every other system will lead to degeneration, and thus average itself by pecuniary loss.

I therefore maintain, that every breeder who wishes to improve his flocks, and render them profitable, should either himself acquire such information on sheep breeding as will enable him to avoid mistakes in matching, or should engage men who possess such knowledge, and capable therefore of refining his flocks in half the time he would require himself lacking that experience. Our sheep breeders in Germany do so, and succeed well by so doing, as they go a-head rapidly, and gain a high interest on their capital.

These are the results of experiences, gained by myself and others, since the year 1839. It is not my wish to force these opinions on any one, but I think the future will show their correctness. Even the present furnishes proofs: let estancieros view the results of rational sheep breeding at Poronguitas, Tala, Santa Maria, Negrete, Aroza, Cañuelas—in the Province of Buenos Ayres, or at Nueva Alemán and San Juan at Banda Oriental.

PUBLIC LANDS.

The following "Suertes" of Public Lands are to be disposed of by Government, the contracts of *enfitentis* having expired, and by virtue of the new law just passed the preference is given to sub-tenants provided they apply to purchase same within the prescribed term of 9 days—

Table with multiple columns containing names of individuals and their associated details, including professions and addresses.

Edicto Judicial. Por disposicion del Sr. Juez de 1ª Instancia en lo Comercial Dr. D. Tomas Llo, se cita a las 11 de la mañana a las 12 de la tarde...

REMATE. En el mercado de Constitucion frente a la Estacion del lado de la casa Leina, de 4 carretas Tucumanas y 24 buecos.

Banco Mañá y Ca. Participamos al publico que habiendo obtenido el Sr. D. Guillermo Leshe, en 21 de diciembre de 1866...

For Sale. At the Jepperson Station, on the Great Southern Railway, in one or three lots, to suit purchasers, the well-known establishment "Travellers' Home Hotel"...

