

The Scone merinos

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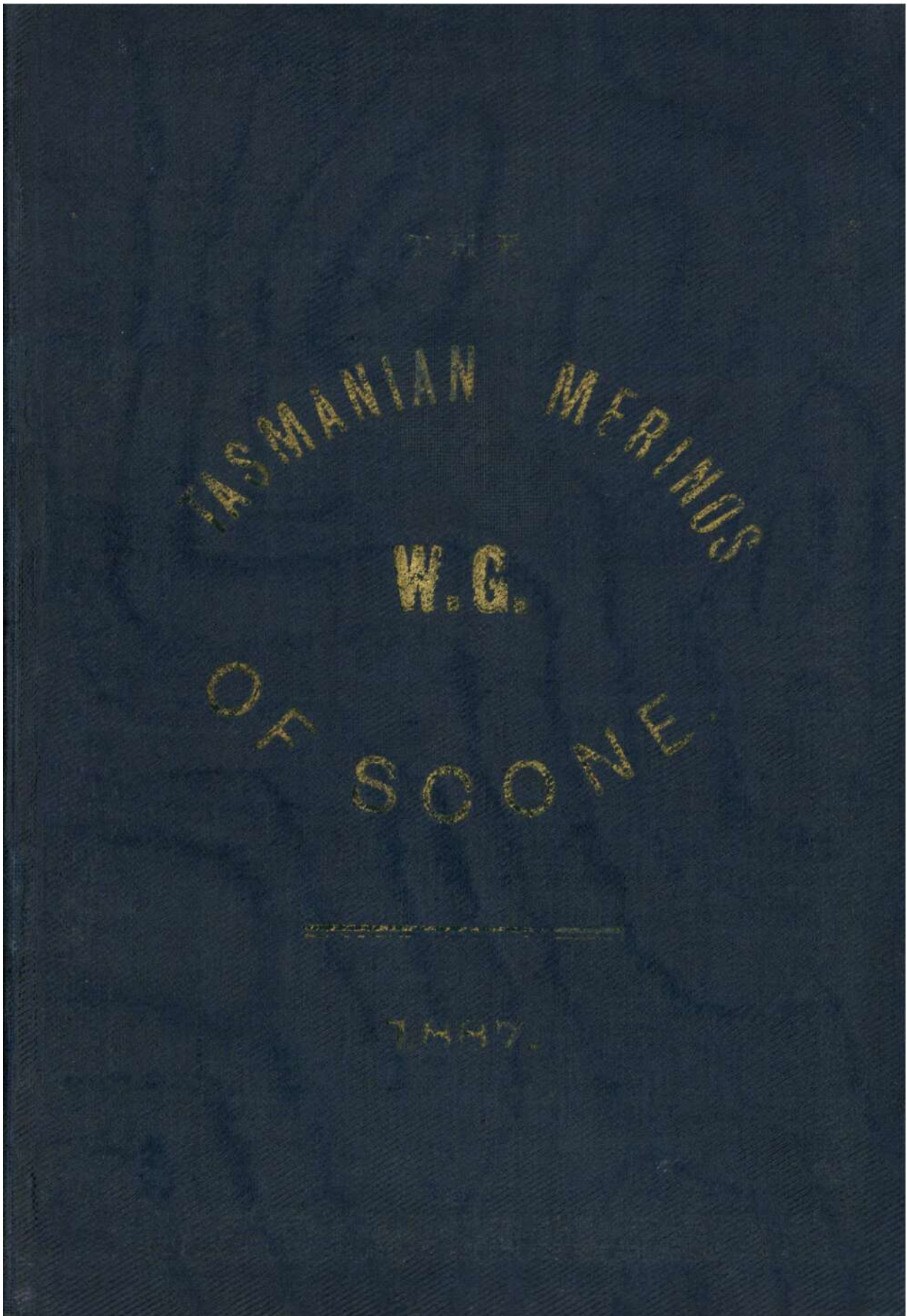
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Ans.
5/3/53

Dear Mr Ferguson

I am very glad to be able to send you this 'Merinos of Scone' - which you could do the same for me with Syon.

I am sorry I haven't any other than your copy of Laroche and St Andrew church. The history of

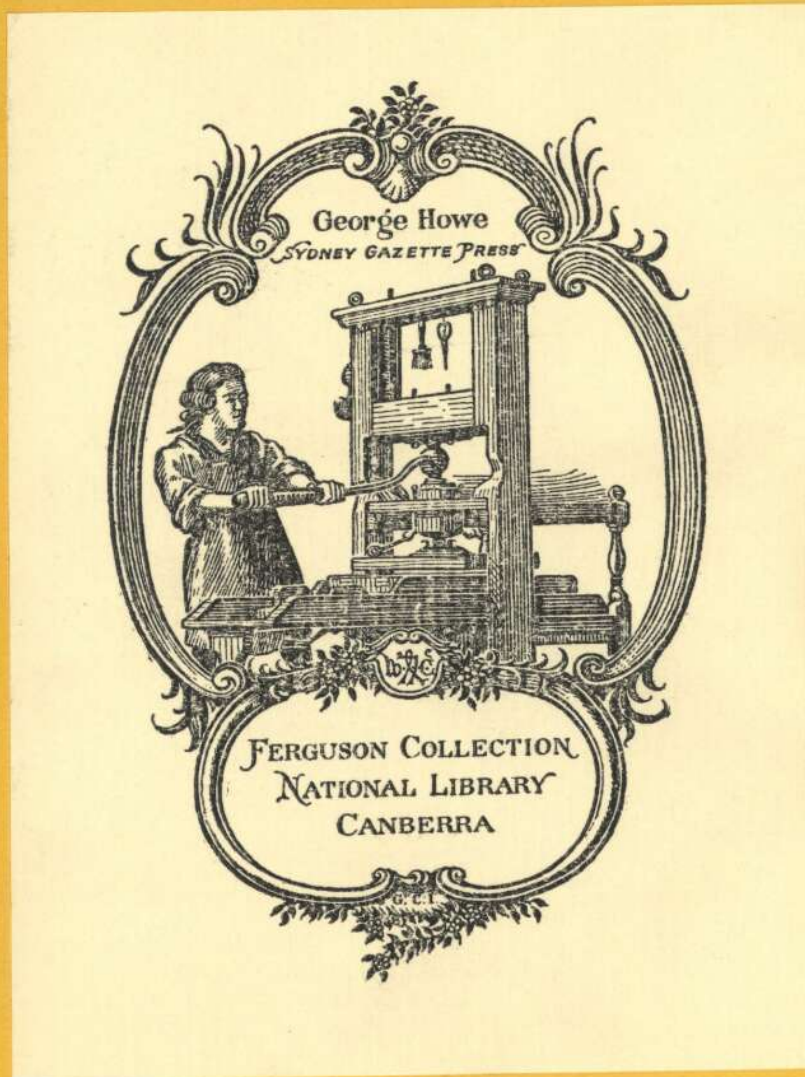
Steiglitz should be easy enough to get, Philip Brown allanvale/Leopold/via Geelong/bought several copies I think all mine are gone but one. You ever Karl J.

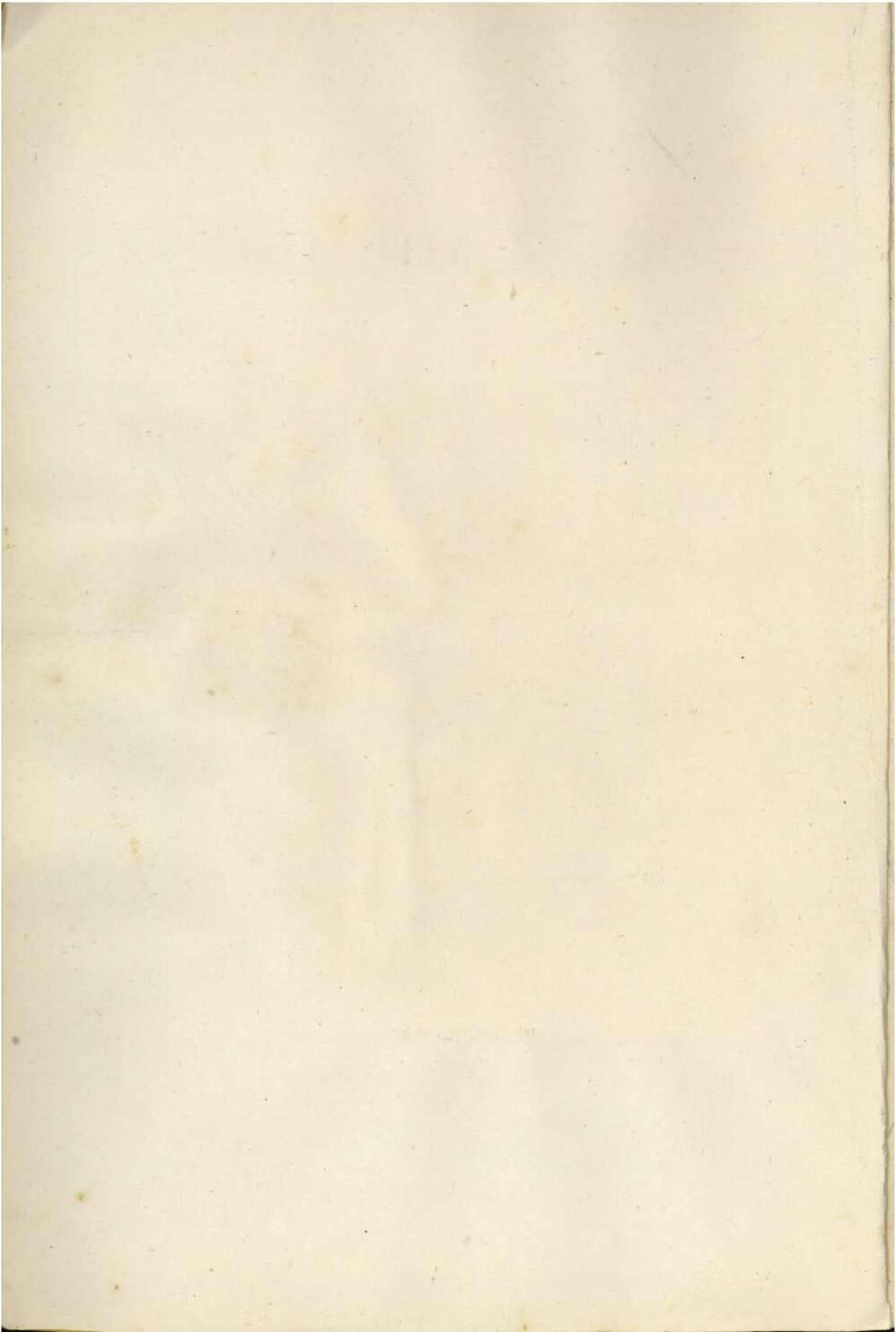
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To Hon. Justice Ferguson
from
K. R. von Stieglitz
with best wishes.
27th February 1953

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THE
SCONE MERINOS

OWNED AND BRED BY

MESSRS. W. GIBSON & SON

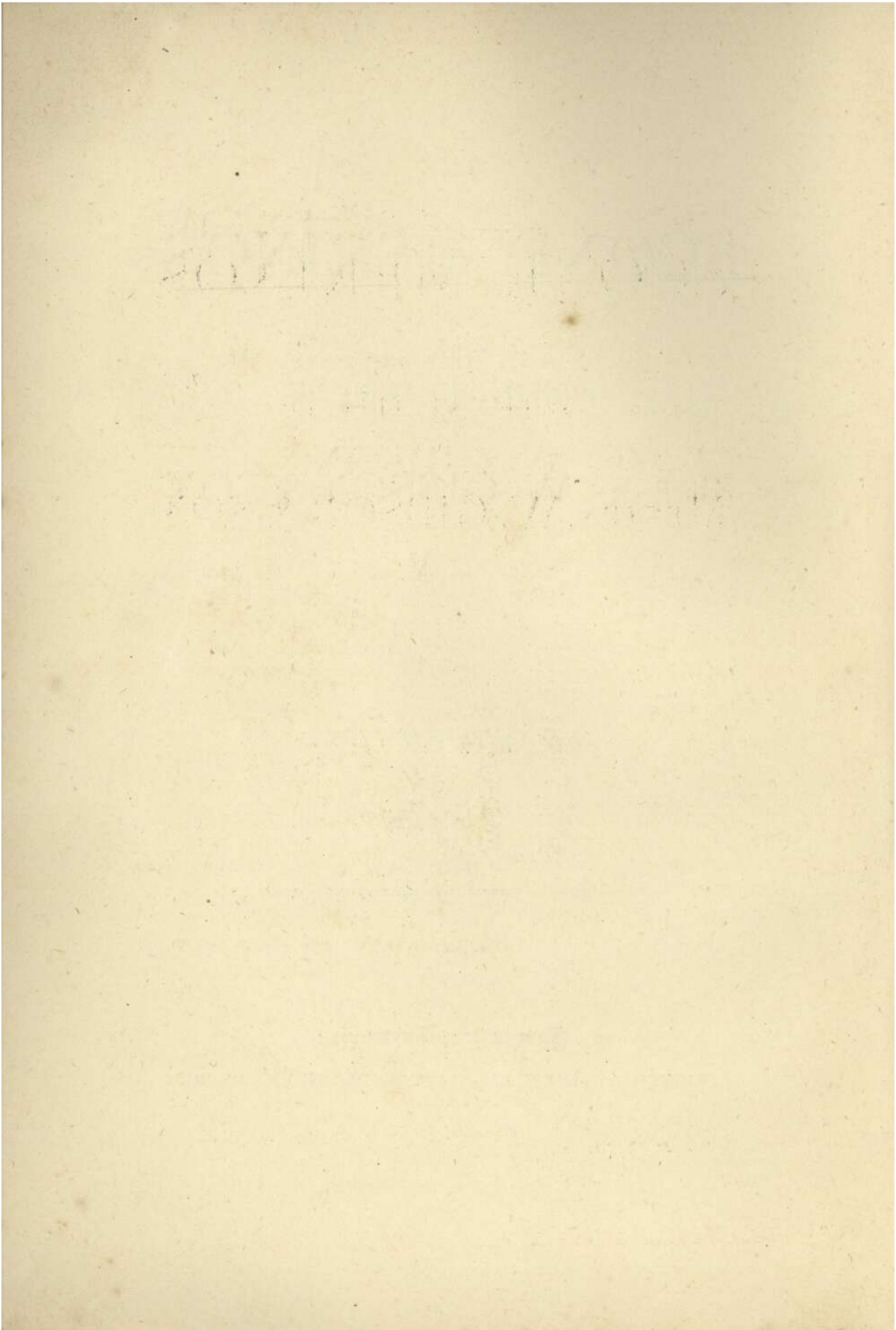
SECOND EDITION.

1887.

Launceston, Tasmania :

PRINTED AT THE "LAUNCESTON EXAMINER" OFFICE.

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MDCCLXXXVII.



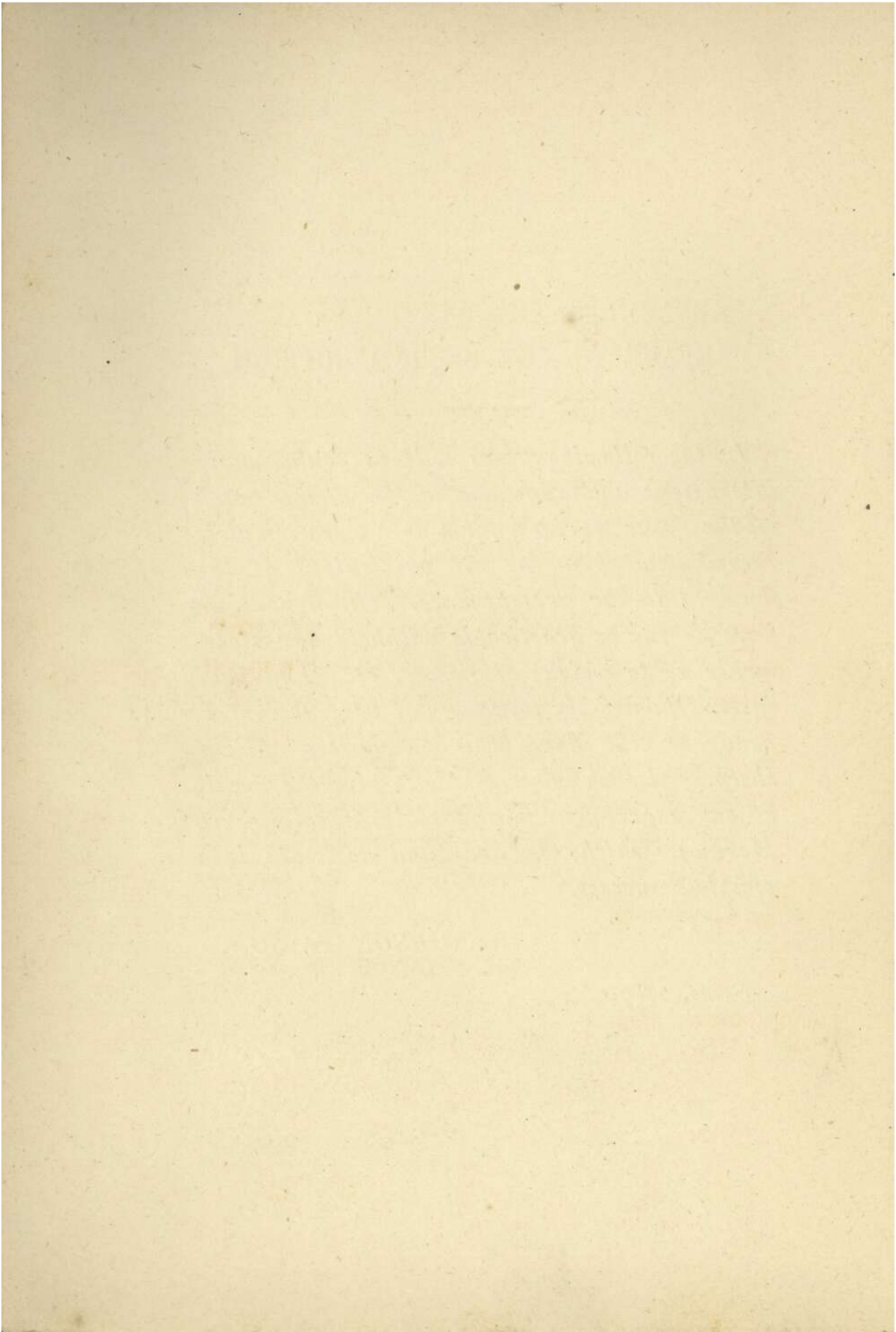
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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

In the following pages will be found many alterations and additions to the former work on the Scone Merinos, forming a more complete record, and bringing all particulars of the flock up to the present date. Throughout we have as far as practicable withheld our statements as to weight of fleeces, etc., and have instead quoted the testimony of various correspondents who have been purchasers of our sheep. Also we are now able to give the result of our experiment with the American French Merinos, which we are glad to state is a complete success.

W. GIBSON & SON.

Scone, 1887.

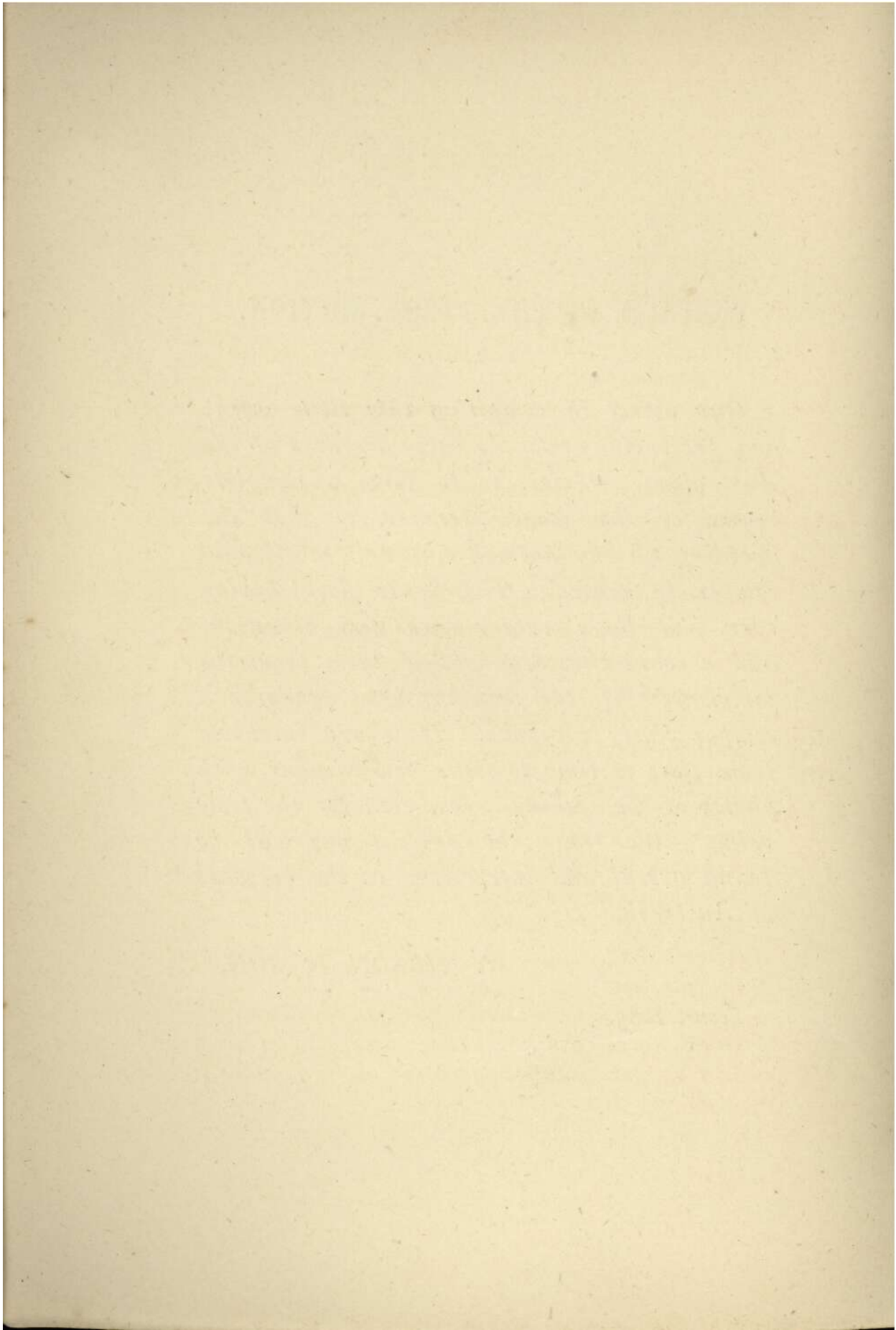


PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

Our object in compiling this little work, and presenting it to the sheep breeders of the Australian colonies, is to form a complete record of the Scone Merinos, so that the breeding of any animal may be readily and completely traced. The Scone flock having ever had the greatest care and attention, and a correct record kept of them from the commencement, the task has been rendered a comparatively easy one. It is our intention from time to time to issue new editions, with photos of the leading sires, etc., for the time being. We trust the present one will be found useful and interesting to the breeders of Australia.

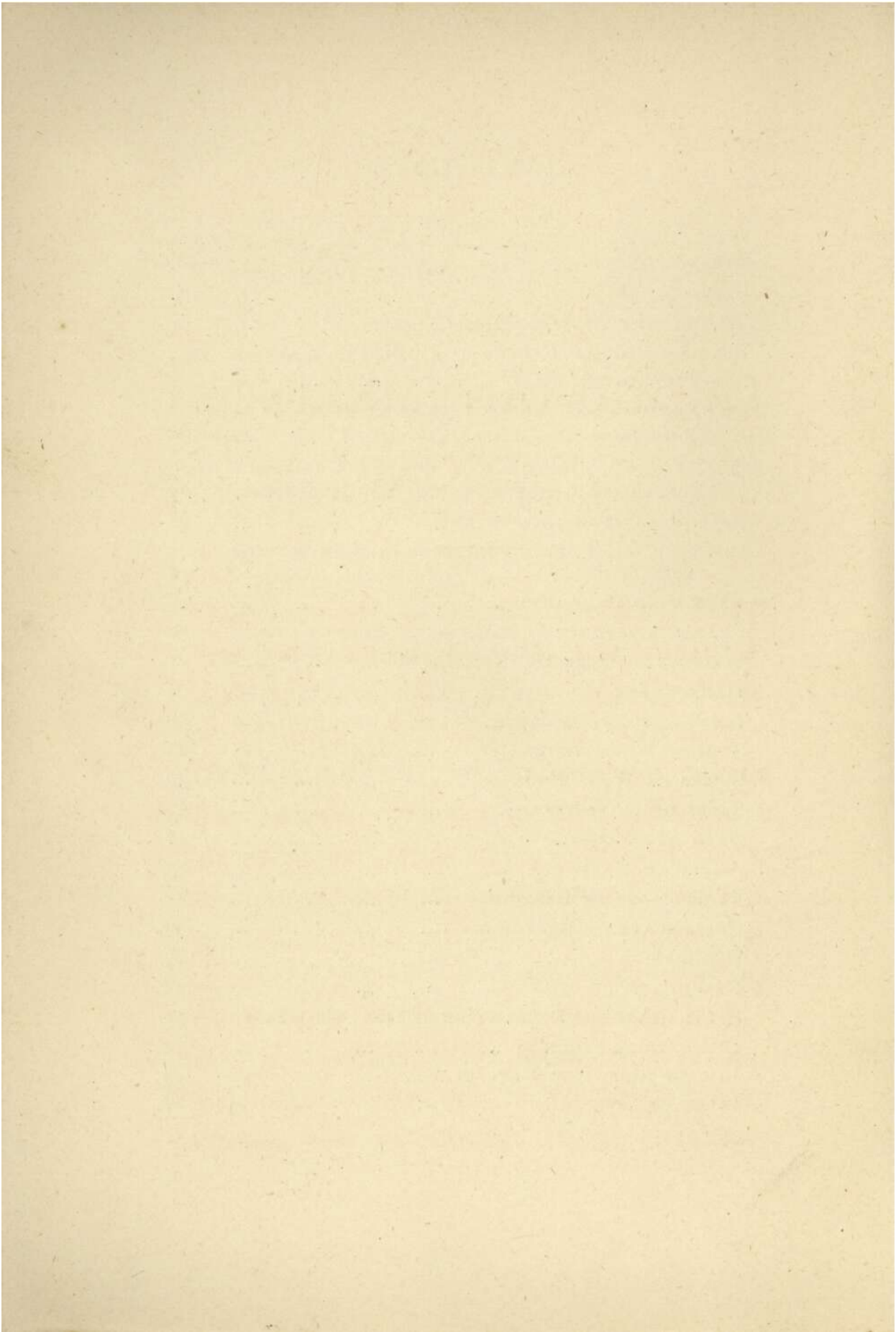
W. GIBSON & SON.

Scone, 1883.



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THE
TASMANIAN MERINOS
OF SCONE.

THE estate of Scone is thirteen miles from the town of Launceston, and about a mile and a half from the railway station at Perth. The property is almost surrounded by the South Esk, a beautiful river of running streams and broad sheets of deep water, which forms a secure boundary to the estate, as well as provides for the stock an unfailing and abundant supply of the purest water.

The mansion is splendidly situated on the western bank of the river, and is surrounded by extensive ornamental grounds. It is lighted by the electric

incandescent light, the dynamo being driven by a large iron water-wheel. From the terrace and tower a magnificent view is obtained. Towards the north, a reach of the river about a mile long, spanned by the famous stone bridge of Perth with its eight immense arches, forms a most picturesque scene; while eastwardly, a broad winding sheet of the Esk, and the distant Ben Lomond range, complete a magnificent landscape. From the tower almost a panoramic view presents itself—north and south the bridge and river; east and west the surrounding country; and in the distance the grand Eastern and Western Tiers, rising in some parts to over 5,000 feet.

The estate of Native Point is on the opposite side of the river, where the residence of Mr. W. Gibson, sen., is situated, about two miles from Scone. The greater portion of the stud sheep are depastured at Scone and Native Point. The country generally is undu-

THE SCONE MERINOS.

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lating, and the soil of a light healthy character, not rich, but still good sound land, well grassed with natural pasture. Some of the runs are partly covered with ferns and brushwood, rendering the wool grown thereon somewhat "motey," and so affecting its price to a considerable extent. The rams for sale and the best sheep are principally kept in English grass paddocks, some of which are surrounded by well-trimmed hedges of gorse, hawthorn, and insignis pines, &c., which form a secure fence, as well as a shelter from the cold winds of winter. The climate is unsurpassed in summer and autumn, but in winter and spring there are sharp frosts, and the rainfall is heavier than in many parts of Tasmania.

The Scone Merinos contain a large infusion of Spanish blood, which has been introduced from time to time, also the origin of the flock is pure Spanish. Towards the end of last century His Majesty George III. of England made direct appli-

cation to the King of Spain for permission to obtain some Spanish Merinos from one of the best flocks. "This was granted, and a small lot of very choice Negrettes, consisting of four rams and thirty-six ewes, were presented to the King of England by the Marchioness del Campo di Alange, in return for which His Majesty presented the Marchioness with eight splendid coach horses." The Negrettes were the most valuable of the migratory flocks, and "the best of the best Spanish races, the exportation of which was expressly prohibited by law." They arrived in England in 1791, and were transferred to Kew. "Their wool was unaffected by the change of climate, for the product of the second and third shearings was compared with the best samples of the imported Spanish wool, and it yielded not to them in fineness." During the five years, 1798 to 1802, these sheep yielded an average of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of brook washed wool per head. Very

successful periodical sales were held for a time. The first of these, in 1804, realised from £6 7s. to £44 2s. per head, and among the purchasers was Captain Macarthur, who bought some of the pure Merino rams and ewes, and sent them to his estate in New South Wales. Prior to this, in 1797, Mr. Macarthur purchased at the Cape of Good Hope eight pure Spanish Merinos. The originals of these were a present from the King of Spain to the Dutch Government, but afterwards became the private property of a Colonel Gordon. "There were, among these, fleeces of singular beauty, combining great fineness, regularity, and elasticity, with remarkable length, toughness, and silky softness. The sheep from Kew were darker in colour, more throaty, and neither so fine nor so silky as those fine long-woolled sheep of the Cape lot." In 1818 the flock had increased to 6,000, and many pure Merino rams were sold at £14 to £28 per head. The wool also realised

high prices : in one instance, a bag weighing one cwt., and properly sorted, sold as high as ten shillings per pound in London.

In 1820, Lieut.-General Sorell, Governor of Tasmania, entered into an arrangement with Captain Macarthur for a number of pure Merino lambs, and three hundred were shipped at Sydney. Many of these died on the voyage to Hobart, and some after landing, so that only 181 remained. These, in September, 1820, were distributed to various settlers in the colony; the late James Cox, Esq., of Clarendon, receiving seven ewes and one ram. This gentleman proved a most enthusiastic breeder, and evinced the greatest interest in the improvement of his flock. From time to time he imported stud sheep from Europe, and Mr. Cox's Merinos became known as some of the best in the colony, and "the wool of Clarendon rivalled the flocks of Port Jackson."

The pure flock of James Youl, Esq., of Symmons Plains, originated from Mr.

Cox's Merinos of Clarendon. In the beginning of 1854 Mr. W. Gibson purchased from Mr. Youl privately, previous to that gentleman's sale and departure for England, the whole of his pure ewe lambs, 300 in all, and these ewes were the commencement of the now well-known "Scone Merinos." The following is a copy of Mr. Youl's letter to Messrs. W. Gibson and Son, giving the full pedigree of these young ewes, the original document being in their possession:—

I bought my original pure ewes from Mr. James Cox's pure flock, of Clarendon, the origin of whose flock is as follows, viz.:—Seven pure ewes and a ram bought from the Macarthur flock at Camden, New South Wales, the Camden flock being from George III.'s pure flock (the original a present from the King of Spain), therefore pure Spanish. Mr. Cox always prided himself on the origin of his flock being Spanish. These ewes, after careful breeding, were crossed by rams from Mr. Gilles, imported by him from Hamburg, and were pure Electoral. Mr. Cox afterwards

crossed them with a celebrated Spanish ram, for which he gave eighty guineas, imported by Mr. Newton, and was the only sheep landed alive. This ram was called "Newton," after the name of the importer, and I well remember having often seen and admired him. His fleece was remarkably fine, and of the brightest colour.

I crossed the few ewes I had first purchased for five years with a splendid ram purchased from old Mr. Henty, the origin of whose flock was from King George's pure flock, therefore pure Spanish. It was this ram which gave the peculiar character to my sheep which you must have noticed. I then gave them a cross of imported German rams, and again with a ram of Mr. Henty's. For the last two years or more I used very fine-woolled imported rams from Saxony, and the pure young ewes you bought were got by these Saxon rams. I never bought any other pure ewes, except five Saxon imported about three years before I left the colony. The origin of my flock was therefore pure Spanish Merinos, crossed as I have stated.

Messrs. Gilles and Horne's importations were from the Elector of Saxony's sheep, which were introduced into Germany from Spain in 1766. They were selected from the flocks of Count Negrette, and consisted of the finest specimens of the Spanish Merino.

Mr. Henty's flock was established about 1796, with pure Merinos from His Majesty George III.'s flock, and were brought by him to great perfection. He took most of the prizes in England, and at last was debarred from competing at exhibitions, on account of the immense superiority of his sheep over those of any other Merino flock in Great Britain. In 1829 Mr. Henty sent, in charge of his sons, a large number of Merinos (*via* Western Australia) to Tasmania, and a short time afterwards he arrived at Launceston with a further shipment. These sheep were depastured on the estate of Strathmore, near Symmons Plains, from whence Mr. Youl obtained Mr. Henty's rams.

The young ewes Mr. Gibson obtained from Mr. Youl were crossed for three years with pure stud rams purchased from the late Mr. David Taylor, and bred by him from imported sheep. For these rams what was then considered a very high price was paid, for they were the pick of Mr. Taylor's best sheep, and were fine and dense.

From 1858 to 1865 the following sires were used:—

1. A ram bred by the late W. Archer, Esq., of Brickendon, whose sheep at that time had great repute, and were highly prized by owners of the best Merino flocks in Tasmania and elsewhere; also for some years after 1854 they were awarded nearly all the principal prizes at the Northern Agricultural Show. The originals of the Brickendon Merinos were imported to Tasmania in 1834 from the flock of His Majesty George III., at Kew, by the late Mr. Archer, who brought with him from England, in the ship Aguilar, 30 pure

Merino sheep, and afterwards used to them and their progeny pure rams procured from the late Mr. Cox, of Clarendon, from Mr. Youl, and the late Mr. Joseph Archer, of Panshanger (whose sheep were imported from Kew); also, in 1854, a number of the finest ewes sold at Mr. Youl's sale were added to them. The ram obtained from Brickendon possessed splendid symmetry and frame, and he was well covered with a dense, long, bright, free wool. As a 2-tooth he cut 13lbs. of light greasy wool; and at 6-tooth (in 1861) his fleece, hot water washed, 365 days growth, weighed 9 pounds.

2. An imported ram from George III.'s flock, personally selected in England by Mr. J. A. Youl (the former owner and breeder of the Scone Merinos), an excellent judge of Merino sheep. Also, a ram bred by the late Mr. James Stewart, sired by another imported Hampton Court ram, also selected by Mr. Youl. Mr. Stewart's stud flock was bred from stock imported

by himself, and from pure ewes originally procured from Mona Vale. The above rams were used in conjunction with sires bred in the pure flock, and produced magnificent sheep, with heavy fleeces of long stapled wool, which gained numerous prizes.

Messrs. Gibson and Son next used for a short period two rams purchased from Mr. James Gibson, one of which was a Champion ram at Northern Agricultural Society, and a ram bred by the late Mr. Joseph Archer, named One Eye. Mr. Archer's sheep were originally imported from George III.'s flock, and were bred by him with great care and attention; also fresh importations were added from Europe, but all were sold and dispersed on the death of the proprietor. After these, until 1868, Messrs. Gibson and Son used three rams of their own breeding, which as 2-tooths gained second prize at Northern Agricultural Society in 1867, and the following year first prize as 4-tooths at the Midland

Show. These rams possessed splendid appearance, with a bright, dense, long staple, and at 4-tooth they cut of hot water washed wool, twelve months growth, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., 8lbs., and $8\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. respectively. In 1869 they were sold at Skipton, Victoria, and realised the highest prices of the sale. Also an imported Negrette ram named Louis, bred by Herman Von Nathusius, of Hundisberg, was coupled wrth a number of ewes. This sheep had an immense frame, with a massive fleece of good quality, and was the sire of Young Louis and other splendid sheep afterwards used in the stud flock.

In 1868 Mr. Wm. Gibson, jun., visited Europe, and after personally inspecting the most noted Merino flocks, selected and sent to Tasmania, at considerable expense, two rams and five ewes from the celebrated Gadegast flock at Thal, Oschatz, Saxony; and four rams from Sturgeon's (George III.'s) flock. These rams were used to a number of ewes for

one cross only, and great benefit was derived from the judicious use of this blood.

The following are the particulars of the imported sheep :—

“ The two Gadegast rams numbered 1 and 2 were named Little German and Big German; the former was principally used, as he was a very dense, fine, even sheep of good frame (‘ Little ’ was a misnomer), and stamped his stock with his excellent qualities in a remarkable manner. He and Big German were sired by a famous ram named The Owl, a grand sheep in every respect, and was so admired by Mr. Gibson that he offered Mr. Gadegast £500 to purchase, which was refused. His grandfather was the winner of more prizes than any sheep in Germany. The Owl had an immense frame and magnificent symmetry, his living weight being 196 lbs.; his legs and points were wonderfully covered, his wool very

dense, bright, and fully three inches long (unstretched).

“The imported ewes bred by Mr. Gadegast were all sired by rams which had won Gold Medals in Paris and London in 1862, and their grandsire gained the Gold Medal at Paris in 1856. With one of the ewes (named Beauty) Messrs. Wm. Gibson and Son obtained a Champion prize at the Midland Show in 1871, as well as Champion ewe prize at Northern Agricultural Society's Show the same year; also, her fleece was awarded a Gold Cup at Sydney in 1872, she each year having reared a lamb. Another of the ewes gained a Champion prize at the Midland Show in 1872.

“Mr. Gadegast gave Mr. Gibson the pick of five ewes out of forty of his best, for 40 guineas per head. Among those selected was the ewe Beauty. After Mr. Gibson had left and arrived in London, he received a very pressing letter from Mr. Gadegast, desiring very urgently to retain

this ewe, saying she was one of his very best, belonging to his son, and he had sold her by mistake. However, she was forwarded with the others, and proved the correctness of her breeder's statement by gaining the above-named Champion prizes in the best of company. Beauty died in 1881, sixteen and a half years old, and reared a lamb each year she was at Scone, viz., ten lambs. In 1877 she dropped Goldmine (sired by Topper), which ram was used for a short period in the stud, and afterwards sold by auction in New Zealand for 155 guineas."

Of the rams imported from George III.'s flock, the following were principally used:—

One named One Hundred was sired by Mountaineer, which ram cut 20 lbs. of wool three years consecutively. One Hundred had a grand appearance, his wool was of fair quality, very dense, well covered at all points, and his staple, without stretching, fully three inches long.

No. 90, named Ninety, was sired by a Silesian ram named Noble. His stock were remarkable for length of staple, with covering and density.

No. 53, sired by No. 30; his grandsire gained the Gold Medal and first prize of 600 francs at the Exhibition of All Nations held at Paris in 1856.

The Messrs. Gibson hold certificates of breeding and full pedigrees of all the imported sheep.

The imported rams proved excellent sires, and for some years their sons and grandsons were used in the Scone flock, many of which gained first honours in the show yards, and were afterwards sold at very high prices in the various markets. For instance, Nos. 1 and 2 (grandsons of Little German, and great grandsons of The Owl, also first prize 2-teeths at Midland Show, 1873) sold in 1874 for 270 guineas; Lustre (grandson of Ninety) sold in 1875 for 180 guineas; and Longwool (grandson of Little German) the same

year for 280 guineas; also very many others from 100 guineas upwards. There is now in all the Scone sheep an infusion of the imported blood of 1869.

In 1872 Messrs. W. Gibson and Son purchased from Mr. James Gibson a ram by the famous Sir Thomas, and used him with some ewes for two seasons; also, by the kind permission of Mr. Gibson, they sent two ewes to Sir Thomas, one of which, a first prize 2-tooth ewe by Little German, produced a lamb which afterwards became the well-known ram The Duke. Competing with all the best breeders, he gained first prize for 2-tooths in 1874, and first honours for 4-tooths the following year at the N. A. Society's Show.

In 1877, for an experiment, two rams were coupled with a few ewes for one season only, viz., one called Rob, bred by Mr. D. Taylor, and sired by Sir Robert, his dam by Sir Thomas; the other named the Duke of Richmond, bred by Mr.

Toosey, and sired by a ram bred by Mr. James Gibson, his grandsire being Golden Drop. The progeny of these two rams was unsatisfactory, especially those by the Duke of Richmond, so all his lambs were culled and sold; while only a few of the ewe lambs by the former were retained.

With the exception of these two, Messrs. W. Gibson and Son have, for the last fifteen years, used exclusively choice rams of their own breeding, such as the following well-known studs and their sons, viz.:—Longwool, The Duke, Royal Duke, Prince I., Prince II., Prince III., Prince of Wales, Prince Albert, &c., &c. This season the following grand rams have been used, viz.:—Prince of Wales, Prince of Wales II., Double Prince, Hero, Sambo, Prince Albert II., &c., &c., all bred at Scone. (For further particulars, see "Description of Sires.")

In the Scone sheep the characteristics of the pure Merino are brought to great perfection, and are intensified by a long

period of careful selection and attention. The maxim of breeding is great weight and size of the body, with abundance of the best quality of wool, which covers all parts of the body evenly. They have large frames, excellent constitutions, are hardy, and possess first-class fattening properties; also, they carry heavy fleeces of the highest priced wool (as the various wool shows have demonstrated), are remarkably well covered, dense, and open, with that soft, clear, silvery lustre so much admired by all Merino fanciers. A special feature of the Scone sheep is that they live to a great age; the old ewes continue to grow good fleeces and rear fine lambs long after they have been dismissed from the stud for longevity, and sold to other breeders.

The stud flock now numbers about 1400 young pure ewes and 3000 special breeding ewes, all fine sheep, very closely and carefully selected, bearing heavy, well covered fleeces of dense, beautiful wool.

From 1878 to 1881 these ewes, after rearing a lamb, cut over 4 lbs. of hot water washed wool, which realised at the London sales of 1878 over twelve shillings per head, and in 1880 about eleven shillings. Unremitting personal attention has been continued to these stud ewes, and although, on account of partly cold water washing, the weight of fleece has not been tested, Messrs. Gibson can confidently state they are now heavier fleeced and better than ever before.

The Scone rams cut heavy fleeces of very clean wool, which loses little in scouring. Messrs. W. Gibson and Son are continually receiving numerous letters from gentlemen in the various colonies, testifying to the excellence of the sheep sold. The following are a few extracts, received from different parts of the Australian colonies and New Zealand, *re* weights of fleeces, &c.:—

“It no doubt will give you pleasure to hear that your rams have given me great

satisfaction. I have exhibited some sheep bred by you at the best show in the colony for Merinos, and obtained several first prizes; also, the stud sheep purchased from you have shorn each year from 15 lbs. to 17 lbs. of clean greasy wool."

Other purchasers write:—

"We purchased a ram of yours, and he has proved himself a good sire; some of his ram hoggetts, not shorn as lambs, fifteen and sixteen months old, cut up to 18 lbs. of long, good wool."

"The ewe you so kindly made me a present of took first prize in her class as two years and four months old. I was offered sixty guineas, but refused to sell."

"I herewith send you weights cut by the rams purchased from you. The sheep had passed through a very severe season, and had been in low condition:—Four 4-tooths cut respectively $17\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., 17 lbs., $16\frac{1}{4}$ lbs., $15\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; and two 6-tooths $17\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. and $15\frac{1}{4}$ lbs."

“I am well satisfied with my purchase. The ram has grown to a very fine sheep; he cut 15 lbs. of wool last year, and I believe will cut more this. We have taken many prizes with his stock: one young ram by him was entered at three different shows, and was awarded one second and two first prizes; also, we took seven prizes with his stock, four first and three second, although our sheep were in bad condition for show purposes, being full of ticks, and never clothed or housed. The two ewes you so kindly gave me obtained seven first prizes and two champions, both ewes having received this honour.”

“One of these Scone rams was champion at the recent show, and cut a fleece of 18 lbs. of fine, dense, bright wool. Last year he cut $17\frac{1}{4}$ lbs., so that notwithstanding the severity of the season there was an actual increase in weight of fleece.”

“The ram this year clipped 21 lbs. of splendid wool.”

Speaking of one of the Scone rams, a correspondent states:—“There is no ram about here to be compared with him; and for density, evenness of wool, size, and constitution, he certainly is a remarkably fine animal. Last year his fleece weighed 16 lbs., and only reduced 4 lbs. in scouring (weight 12 lbs. scoured); this year it weighed 16½ lbs. in grease.”

“No. 13 has turned out an exceptionally good sheep. Last year his fleece was exactly 20 lbs.”

Another purchaser writes:—“Prince Albert cut 20 lbs. of wool when shorn in Melbourne after the sales.”

The above are a few examples of many similar extracts that might be given.

The greatest care and attention are bestowed upon the management of the pure sheep. Annually each ewe is carefully examined in every point, and any below a certain standard is culled. The

rams are treated in the same manner. About three months after shearing, the ram lambs are carefully gone through, and those not up to the required standard are castrated. Three months later the young rams are again closely culled, and the rejected ones are also castrated.

The pure lambs are differently ear marked to denote the sire, and many are numbered in the ear with Indian ink to indicate the sire and dam. A stud book has been kept for many years, and all the numbers and particulars of the flock entered therein, so that a clear pedigree can be given of every ram sold from the Scone flock. The rams for public sale are exposed in open paddocks to the severest weather nearly all the year. About two months before shipment they are shedded at night to accustom them to feeding, and quiet them for the voyage. None of the other sheep are housed or protected at any time, but depasture in the open runs and paddocks.

The breeding ewes are kept in lots of 100 to 600, and in all of them our very best reserved studs are used, a careful record of the same being kept from year to year, to avoid breeding in-and-in to any extent, also to enable us to give full information to purchasers.

In selecting stud rams for use, the following are some of the points sought after, and rams possessing these in the greatest degree are most prized in the stud :—

1. It is considered the ram should be essentially masculine in every particular, with a good carriage and constitution.

2. He should be dense, with a thick, good-size lock of free, soft, masculine wool, not too fine, even, and well covered everywhere ; the back of the fleece, shoulders, thighs, belly, and arms being especially considered important points.

3. He should be symmetrical, and have a good frame, well sprung ribs, broad loins, wide chest and shoulders, a deep neck, with a straight back and good head, &c.

4. His skin should be pink and mellow, his nose bright and silky, with thick, downy ears.

5. The horns should be regularly curved and serrated, not too closely set to the head and neck, nor yet standing out too widely from them, also of sufficient width apart on top of head to allow wool to appear between, &c., &c.

The Scone sheep have always been very successful in the show yards whenever exhibited (Messrs. Gibson have not exhibited for some time past), and have always secured a high position, very many first and champion prizes having been gained by them. A full record of these has not been preserved. In the colonies these sheep also have been awarded many champion and other prizes, very often occupying the champion positions when competing with other breeds.

At the wool shows Scone has fully maintained its reputation, both for price per lb. and value per fleece. At the Exhibition

of the Agricultural Society, New South Wales, held at Sydney, June, 1875, the champion position was gained, and the following prizes awarded:—

The Grand Challenge Prize, a Gold Medal, for champion exhibits.

First prize for the most valuable six ewes' fleeces in the grease (unskirted), which averaged $11\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. each. Nineteen other exhibitors. The judges remarked of the prize wool—"Very heavy skirted." These prize fleeces were from ewes that had lambs running with them at the time of shearing.

First prize for the most valuable six ewes' fleeces, unskirted, and hot water washed: total weight, $29\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

First prize for the best six fleeces of ewe hoggets' wool, unskirted, and hot water washed: total weight, 29 lbs.

First prize, a Silver Medal, for the most valuable bale of washed wool; and

Of six rams' fleeces that were sent for quality alone, *The Journal of Agriculture*

remarks :—“ A more beautiful specimen of the Australian wool of Spanish descent cannot be conceived.”

At the Wool Exhibition held by Messrs. Hastings, Cuningham, and Co., Melbourne, in February, 1879, Messrs. Gibson and Son took the premier position. At the Exhibition the prizes were awarded and the wool sold in Melbourne, but an enterprising firm there purchased the greater portion, forwarded it to London for sale and the brokers' report thereon. In the following pages both the account of the Show and “ The London Verdict ” are condensed from *The Australasian* :—“ Class

1. For the most valuable 50 Merino ewes' fleeces of washed wool, there are ten exhibits from nearly all the most celebrated sheep breeders in Victoria. The first prize (a Gold Cup) is gained by Messrs. Gibson and Son, of Scone. It is described by the judges as ‘ of excellent quality, silky, well grown, and very clear in staple ’ The average weight per fleece

is over 5 lbs., which the judges value at 2s. 7d. per lb., making an average per fleece of 13s., being 2s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. higher than any other exhibit. At auction this wool realised 2s. 9d. per lb. The ewes from which this wool was taken are principally 2-tooth, bred by exhibitors. The report of the London brokers, Messrs. Helmuth, Schwartze, and Co., is a most valuable document, and may be studied by all sheep breeders with advantage. The high position these gentlemen award to the Tasmanian wool of Messrs. W. Gibson and Son, of Scone, will not astonish any one acquainted with the best Tasmanian flocks."

In Class 1. The brokers agree with the Melbourne judges, and Messrs. Gibson's wool still maintains its pride of place. They describe it, "as beautiful a wool as we recollect to have seen."

In Class 3. At Melbourne Messrs. Gibson and Son are placed second with lot 9 (for bale of washed fleece at highest

price per lb.), their wool being estimated at 3s. 7d. It is described as "a wool of excellent quality and condition." In this class the London verdict places Messrs. W. Gibson and Son's exhibit first, and "the final test of London shows that the Melbourne judges were wrong, and that the lot placed second should have taken the Gold Cup." The London judges report as follows:—"The best samples of wool in point of breed are most decidedly the Tasmanian lots 9 and 21. They have indeed sold best, but the comparatively small difference in price does not, in our opinion, adequately represent their superiority, which for lot 9 we should put at 6d. or 1s. per lb. above the other lot. Lot 9 is, indeed, as beautiful a wool as we recollect to have seen."

In Class 4. For greasy wool of the highest value per lb., the prize, a Gold Cup, was taken by Messrs. Gibson and Son, Scone, the value per lb. being 1s. 7½d. The judges describe it as "a well

grown, stylish wool of excellent quality. This wool is especially selected by Messrs. Helmuth, Schwartz, and Co., for its superiority of breeding."

"In the special prize for the most valuable five Merino ewes' fleeces in the grease from 2-tooth sheep, Messrs. W. Gibson and Son took first prize," a Silver Cup. Mr. G. A. Brown, in his book on sheep breeding, states:—"These prizes show that the Scone sheep took the highest positions in the classes for quantity of wool as well as for quality, and in competition with the very finest flocks in Victoria."

At the International Exhibition of wool held in Sydney, 1879-80, Messrs. W. Gibson and Son again obtained foremost position. Only five exhibits were forwarded, and eight prizes were awarded, viz.:—Two Champion prizes, four first, and one second, and a Gold Medal, as follows:—

In sub-class 1. For six rams' fleeces, un-

skirted, in grease (27 entries), second prize. The report testifies of this lot as follows:—“In the second prize lot (Messrs. W. Gibson and Son's) there is that silkiness, and fineness, and depth with substance, that buyers so much admire.”

In sub-class 3. For six ewes' fleeces, unskirted, in grease (43 entries), first prize and champion. Extract from report states:—“The six ewes' fleeces which have first place in the fine combing ewe class (Messrs. W. Gibson and Son's) are indeed creditable to the 'tight little island.' They form a beautiful sample of combing wool.”

In sub-class 33. For best bale of washed combing wool (21 entries), first prize. Report as follows:—“Among the bales of washed combing ewes, the bale which has the first prize ticket (W. Gibson and Son's) is, perhaps, the best bale of wool ever placed in Sydney. It is soft, bright, and generally superior.”

Sub-class 35. For best bale of combing wool in grease, first prize and champion (18 entries). Extract from report thereon as follows:—"The prizes for the best bale of combing wool in grease, ewe fleeces, has attracted 18 entries, and these form a very fine collection. The first placed (W. Gibson and Son's) is a bale of superior fine, free, lustrous wool."

Sub-class 35a. For bale of combing wool in grease, number of fleeces and weight to be stated, first prize to Messrs. Gibson and Son.

Also the Gold Medal for general excellence of exhibits was awarded to Scone.

These prizes were both for price per lb. and value per fleece, and were gained against numerous exhibits of the best clips from all the colonies. In the official catalogue no particulars as to weight or value per lb. are given.

At the International Exhibition, Melbourne, five classes were exhibited in, but

only three second prizes were gained. This was an honourable position in high company, still Messrs. Gibson in each instance just missed first place.

The handsome bronze medal of the Centennial Exhibition, Philadelphia, and a splendid certificate of award, were also received for wool from this flock, although on the voyage to America the exhibits were greatly damaged by sea water through being shipped in a leaky vessel.

Prior to 1875 exhibits were sent to the Sydney Exhibition of wool, and many prizes gained, the record being lost, but in 1872 a Gold Cup was awarded to this flock.

The above list of prizes won by one firm in intercolonial and international exhibitions is almost unprecedented, and certainly is not second to any in the Australian colonies.

Mr. G. A. Brown, in his well known work on the Australian stud flocks, writes as follows of the Scone wool:—“The

wool from this stud flock is so well known throughout Australia as scarcely to need any description. It is remarkable for its great length of staple, weight of fleece, high quality, and beautiful silky character."

The prices of the W.G. wool have not been fully preserved, but it has always realised a very high figure. In 1862 the whole clip, hot water washed, including pieces, locks, and sweepings, averaged 2s. 9½d. In 1877, nearly 2s. 7d., the fleece wool bringing as high as 3s. 10d. In 1878, including pieces, sweepings, &c., it averaged 2s. 11¼d.; the fleece wool realising 3s. 2¼d to 4s. 1d. per lb. In 1881 the sheep were shorn in the grease, and the fleece wool averaged in London 1s. 7d. per lb. The clip was sold in Melbourne in 1882, when the fleece wool (100 bales) averaged 1s. 6d. per lb. in the grease.

Last year (1886), when wool was so low, Messrs. Gibson tried an experiment of cold water washing, in which the loss

was about 1 lb. per fleece, when the greater portion of the clip averaged over 1s. 8d. per lb., sold before the last rise in price.

The last four years the sheep were hot water washed; the weight of wool from six to seven thousand sheep, including some thousands of breeding ewes, but excluding lambs, was over 4 lbs., and the average returns from 10s. 6d. to 12s. 4d. per fleece.

Rams from the Scone stud for many years past have been sold, both at public and private sales, at very high prices, many hundreds of stud rams ranging up to 620 guineas, the great portion being sold at over 50 and 100 guineas each, and very many between 150 and 500 guineas.

In 1880, at Melbourne, eight stud rams averaged £155 10s., and twenty two 75 guineas per head. At Sydney, eighteen studs averaged £45. In New Zealand, seven rams averaged £120 each.

In 1881, in Melbourne, twenty-six studs

brought £108 per head, the highest price 330 guineas. At Sydney, twenty-two averaged 114½ guineas, highest price 510 guineas; one hundred and nine sheep averaging over £41 per head; and in New Zealand ten rams sold for £109 each.

In 1882, at Melbourne, three studs brought £304 10s. each, and thirty £113 10s. per head. At Sydney, three rams averaged £241 15s., and twenty £89 13s. per head; highest price, for a son of Prince II., 400 guineas. In New Zealand, ten rams averaged £109.

In 1883, at Melbourne, five studs averaged £257; thirty £98 per head; highest price 520 guineas. At Sydney, five rams averaged £201, and twenty £114 each; highest price 335 guineas.

At Melbourne, in 1884, the Scone sheep realized wonderful prices, four rams averaging £374, ten £296, and twenty £208 per head. Twenty stud ewes at the same sale brought over £40 each.

In 1885 and 1886—especially the latter

year—on account of the very severe drought, the low price of wool, and tightness of the money market, stud sales as a rule were very low; but in face of all the Scone sheep sold remarkably well, as follows:—

At Sydney, in 1885, ten studs averaged £106, and forty £42 per head; highest price £504. In Melbourne, three studs averaged £437, ten £177, and twenty £106 each; highest price being £651.

In 1886, at Sydney, studs brought up to £210, the Scone average being the best. In Melbourne, three rams realized £430 each, ten £145, twenty £92 each; highest price £525

Nearly all the above were the top average prices obtained by any pure flock in each year's sale in each colony, and in many of the sales the highest price obtained by any breeder for a single sheep. Previous to 1880, splendid sales were made. For instance, in 1874, at Mel-

bourne, fourteen studs averaged over 60 guineas each; and in 1876 fifteen sold at the same place realized about £75 per head, prices for single sheep reaching from 180 to 280 guineas.

Although Messrs. Gibson prefer selling the best rams at the public sales, yet many very first-class sheep have from time to time been sold privately at high figures. Also, as most breeders are aware, Messrs. Gibson and Son, when offering sheep by auction, have always sold them, no matter how valuable the animal, or what the price offered; and though sheep have sometimes been disposed of below their value, still they have had no cause to regret this, as all buyers have thereby the confidence and assurance that they will obtain the sheep if bid for.

THE BEND STUD EWES

Are similarly bred to those in the smaller lots, and equal to them in every respect. They are a grand lot of stud sheep (numbering about 600), stamped with high breeding, and have heavy, well-covered fleeces of beautiful bright wool. Such rams as No. 20, Grand Prince, Garfield, No. 5 Royal Duke, &c., &c., have been used with them from time to time.

Pedigree of Bend Stud Ewes as follows:—

Stud ewes now breeding are sired by Grand Prince, Garfield, and sons of Prince II., No. 1, Royal Duke, &c.

Dams by No. 20, sons of Prince II., Royal Duke, Squatter II., Goldmine II., &c.

g dams by No. 155, sons of Prince II., King, Squatter, &c.

gg dams by sons of Duke II., Shepherd, Topper, &c.

ggg dams by stud rams by Duke, Noble, Prince, &c.

gggg dams by stud rams by Long-wool, Nos. 2 and 3, Ger, &c.

ggggg dams by sons of One Hundred, Ninety, No. 3, &c.

gggggg dams by sons of Louis and prize rams, and so on, from original pure Spanish Merinos, bred as described herein.



THE AMERICAN MERINOS.

The following letter appeared in the *Sydney Mail* of April, 1883, from Messrs. W. Gibson and Son:—

AMERICAN MERINO SHEEP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MAIL.

SIR—As the late importation of Californian sheep has attracted considerable notice from sheep owners, and in your issue of the 7th instant you have drawn especial attention to some interesting facts concerning them, we wish to express a few ideas on the subject.

We have had considerable experience in importing sheep from Europe. The last importation was in 1869, when Mr. W. Gibson purchased rams and ewes and shipped them to this colony. When selected in Saxony they had a fine tip, and opened with a beautiful silvery lustre; but on arrival here, after a three months voyage, the wool was thick with yolk, the staple much injured, and the tips (especially on lower portions of the fleece) had increased to lumps of a considerable size, so much so that the sheep were scarcely recognisable as the same selected in Germany. After being shorn and depastured here for

twelve months, they fully recovered their former appearance, and some of them gained champion prizes in competition with the best Tasmanian sheep. Is it not probable that the long voyage has also affected the American sheep in the same way to a considerable extent? It would be interesting to see the scouring test repeated next year upon the Australian-grown fleeces of the same sheep as were operated on this year. We do not desire to plead for the American breed of Merinos, as we have as yet had no experience with them, and are well aware their fleeces lose considerably in scouring; still, we think the test of value has been applied to them under the most unfavourable circumstances. In conclusion, we would emphatically state that we have purchased the Californian sheep purely for an experiment, and shall cross the ram with a few suitable ewes, keeping their progeny quite distinct from the Scone Merinos. Not on any account would we introduce the American blood into our general pure stud flock, as we think they could not in any way be benefited thereby. This experiment, we think, will not only be interesting to ourselves, but also to our friends, the breeders of Australia, and at any future time we shall be very pleased to show the progeny, and give the public the full results of our experimenting.—We are, &c.,

W. GIBSON AND SON.

Scone, April 13, 1883.

The above letter was inserted in the 1883 edition of "Scone Merinos." Messrs. Gibson are now able to give the results of the experiment, and every particular of the Californian Merinos.

After purchasing the sheep they at once wrote to the breeder, Mr. M. J. Roberts, of Alameda, California, for further particulars concerning their breeding, &c., and received the following satisfactory reply from him:—

In answer to your letter,—our sheep are thoroughbred French Merinos, with a true pedigree, and were imported in 1859 from the French Imperial flock at Ramboulette, twelve ewes and one ram. They since have been bred with care and judgment, selecting, classing, and culling ewes, breeding only from the choicest, and thus were bred in-and-in up to 1873. In that year they had a dash of fresh blood from the original flock in France, and are at present altogether a better and different sheep in form and style of fleece from the original Ramboulette. In 1873, Domingo (No. 477) was introduced: he was the best ram out

of thirty-two head imported from Ramboulette. Domingo, Fr., the sire of your ram, was by him, and the pedigree you have of Squatter is correct, viz.—dam by Bulger, he by Gamester (in my opinion the best ram I ever saw), he by Shepherd's Pride, he by Glide, &c., a heavy shearer, was sold to go to the Sandwich Islands, and on arrival sheared 51½ lbs.; live weight, 265 lbs. after shearing. I have a half-brother to Squatter, which I intend to exhibit at our State Fair in Sept. next, &c.

Mr. Roberts's sheep have taken first premiums in their class at the State Fair for fourteen years in succession, and sweepstakes two years out of every three over all other Merino breeds.

The following is a copy of the certificate of breeding:—

State of California, }
County of Alameda. } S.S.

M. J. Roberts, being duly sworn, says: That he resides in Alameda County, State of California, U.S.A.; and that a certain pamphlet entitled "Catalogue of American Merinos, Stud Rams and Ewes, bred by M. J. Roberts (late Blacow), imported by L. R. Martin, San Francisco, California, &c.," is true

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and correct in each and every allegation therein contained; the said stock was bred from imported French Merinos, and are of pure blood.

(Signed) M. J. ROBERTS.

Sworn and subscribed to before
me this the second day of
May, A.D. 1883.

(Signed) W. A. YATES,
Notary Public.

The ram and ewes were purchased by Messrs. Gibson in Sydney at high figures, viz. :—Squatter, sired by Domingo, Jr., for 450 guineas, and three ewes for 152, 105, and 104 guineas each. One of these ewes was sired by Sultan II., the other two by Domingo, Jr. The ram was shorn there, and cut 38 lbs. (said to be twelve months growth) greasy wool, which fleece was forwarded to Scone, but was in such a dirty, knotted state—doubtless so through the long voyage—that it was impossible to say much concerning it. However, the Messrs. Gibson have since found the fleeces of both ram and ewes satisfactory. The wool is not fine, but of good staple,

extremely dense, very even and free, with an excellent tip, also not very greasy; in fact, some of the ewes have bright wool, altogether very different from the fleece sent from Sydney. The ewes have clipped to about 15 lbs.; the ram Squatter,* seven years old, cut 25 lbs., and his living weight was about 200 lbs. They all have splendid appearance and style, excellent symmetry, grand constitutions, and altogether show high lineage.

The first year—on account of their late arrival, through the long quarantine—there were very few lambs, but from these came some remarkably fine sheep, and among them three especially good rams. The best one unfortunately died as a 2-tooth after being a few days with the ewes; another, named President, was sold by auction in Melbourne last year for 280 guineas; and the other, named Sambo, was kept for further trial. This year some lambs (second cross) got by Sambo

* Squatter was full-mouthed when purchased.

turned out well, so much so, that he has been again used; also, lambs by a third cross are very satisfactory, and would be difficult to excel. This year Messrs. Gibson have already sold, privately, a splendid half American ram for 300 guineas.

In future—as the American cross will soon be lost in the Scone breeding—the pure Scone blood (which will be kept pure) will be called the “No. 1 flock;” and those with a large infusion of the imported blood of 1883, “No. 2 flock;” also, those with one-eighth to one-sixteenth, &c., of American blood will be sold as “1A flock.” In each case full particulars will always be given.

In conclusion, Messrs. Gibson would state that the success of the American Scone Merino is established beyond all doubt, as the splendid specimens of both rams and ewes now at Scone of first,

second, third, and further crosses emphatically prove; and they will have great pleasure in showing them, or any of the Scone sheep—between May and September inclusive—to any gentlemen taking an interest in Merinos.



PARTICULARS AND DESCRIPTION
OF SIRES.

(No. 1 FLOCK.)

All bred by Messrs. W. Gibson and Son.

PRINCE OF WALES II.

Born September, 1885. Sire, Prince of Wales (53*); dam, 1st class Scone stud ewe.

This magnificent ram has a large frame, with splendid symmetry. He is pure and good in all points; has a dense, even, long-stapled fleece, opening with the beautiful soft lustre for which the Scone sheep are celebrated. He has been used this year to a large number of ewes.

* Numbers refer to pages.

PRINCE ALBERT.

Born May, 1883. Sire, Prince of Wales (53); dam, a special ewe by Royal Duke (64).

A most perfect ram, with a grand constitution. He was dense, even, pure and good in all points, and opened with a clear staple of bright, soft wool. He was used heavily in 1885 and 1886, and proved himself a splendid sire. There are now at Scone some of his sons possessing all the good qualities of their sire, a few decidedly surpassing him. Prince Albert cut at 6-tooth (see page 24) 20 lbs. of bright wool, light in grease, having the same season sired over 220 lambs. He was sold at Melbourne in 1886 for 500 guineas.

PRINCE ALBERT II.

Born June, 1885. Sire, Prince Albert (52); dam by imported Squatter (77), g dam by No. 4 (67), &c.

This ram is one of the best at Scone, very perfect in every point, with a dense,

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massive fleece of beautiful wool. He resembles his sire, but is a decidedly superior sheep. Used 1886, 1887, &c., in the former year as a lamb to few ewes only.

HERO.

Born September, 1884. Sire, Prince of Wales (53); dam, a dense, well-covered 1st class ewe by Goldmine II. (70).

Hero is a very dense, even ram, good in all points, with a massive fleece of beautiful wool. Used in 1886 and 1887.

PRINCE OF WALES.

Born May, 1881. Sire, Prince II. (56); dam, "the old prize ewe," by No. 3 (75) of 1871, a 1st class dense, even ewe, first prize, 1873; g dam a Champion ewe, &c.

Prince of Wales is a large-framed ram, thoroughly well covered, and opens with a beautiful clear lustre; he has a most perfect head and horns of Prince's character. When a 2-tooth Messrs. Gibson refused 400 guineas for him. He has proved him-

self a splendid sire, having produced first-class stock, and, though an aged ram, is still retained for use. Used from 1883.

PRINCE IV.

Born September, 1884. Sire, Prince III. (55); dam, "the old prize ewe," by No. 3 (75) of 1871; g dam, a Champion ewe, &c.

Prince IV. is brother to Prince of Wales (53), and is a very dense, even ram, perfect in points. He was used in 1885 and 1886, in the former year as a lamb to few ewes.

PRINCE REGENT.

Born May, 1884. Sire, Prince III. (55); dam, 1st class Scone ewe by Prince II. (56).

This splendid ram is dense, even, well covered, &c., and possesses most beautiful high-priced wool; in appearance he is somewhat like Prince II. Used at Scone 1885 and 1886.

THIRD PRINCE.

Born 1883. Sire, Prince III. (55); dam, "the old prize ewe," by No. 3 (75) of 1871, a 1st class ewe, first prize 1873; g dam, a Champion ewe, &c.

A dense, well-covered ram, with bright, lustrous wool. Used at Scone 1884 and 1885.

PRINCE III.

Born May, 1881. Sire, Prince II. (56); dam by Third Duke, &c.

He was a model of symmetry, and possessed great constitution, with a dense fleece of excellent quality; also had a wonderful back, belly, &c., and most of the qualifications of a stud ram. When a 2-tooth, Messrs. Gibson and Son refused 750 guineas for him, and he was sold by auction in Sydney, when four years old, for £510. Used 1883 to 1885.

LION.

Born September, 1883. Sire, son of Prince II. (56); dam, 1st class Scone stud ewe.

A grand sheep, of very large frame, with a very dense, well covered fleece of good staple. Used 1884 and 1886.

PRINCE II.

Born 1876. Sire, Prince; dam by first prize ram, &c.

This ram was a model of symmetry and beauty, with great constitution. His fleece had a splendid top, very soft and even, and opened clearly and brilliantly, with a beautiful silvery lustre. Prince II. has proved himself an excellent sire in the Scone flock: he is the sire of Prince III. and very many grand sheep. His stock have taken numerous prizes in this and other colonies. He was exhibited twice in Tasmania, each time securing first and champion honours. He was sold when five years old to H. C. White, Esq., of Havelah, New South Wales, for 510 guineas. Used 1878 to 1881.

PRINCE.

Born 1873. Sire, Sir James, by the celebrated Sir Thomas;* dam, a ewe by imported rams, &c.

Prince was a first-class stud sheep, of good frame, splendid appearance, and most beautiful horns and face, showing great purity, breeding, and constitution. His fleece was very dense, even, and perfect. Mr. Brown, in his book, states:—"The sample from the stud ram Prince is beautifully fine, with closely marked serrations to the tips; his wool was only of moderate length, but very dense, and of unsurpassed quality." Prince was used two seasons, and proved himself an unquestionable sire; he was the father of Prince II. and many other prize sheep. He was exhibited twice by us: in 1874 he was first of the 2-tooths, and in 1875 a first prize ram. Unfortunately he was killed by an accident in 1875, and so his services were lost to the flock. Used 1884 and 1885.

* Bred by J. Gibson, Esq., and sold for 680 guineas.

DENSE PRINCE.

Born May, 1882. Sired by Prince III. (55); dam, choice Scone stud ewe.

A very even and dense ram, good on points, with splendid symmetry, a grand chest, and beautiful head and horns. Sold in Sydney for 105 guineas. Used at Scone in 1884 and 1885.

No. 1 PRINCE.

Born 1880. Sire, Prince II.; dam, 1st class stud ewe, &c.

A ram with a large body on short legs, remarkably well covered, with a dense and massive fleece. He was exhibited as a 2-tooth, and obtained three prizes, viz.:— First prize in his class, Champion of the yearlings, and a special prize. He was used at Scone in 1882, and also to a few ewes in 1883. At the 1884 Melbourne sale he was sold for 260 guineas, and after the sale he cut over 17 lbs. of wool.

No. 2 PRINCE.

Born May, 1881. Sire, Prince II. (56);

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dam, 1st class heavy-fleeced ewe by Topper (72); g dam by Little German (14).

A very even, well covered ram, with a beautiful fleece. Used 1882 and 1883.

THE EARL.

Born September, 1885. Sire, Prince IV. (54); dam by Royal Duke II. (63), &c.

A most perfect ram, good in every point, dense, well covered, &c. Used in 1885 and 1886.

GRAND PRINCE.

Born 1879. Sired by Prince II. (56); dam, first choice stud, &c.

A splendid sheep, of large frame, with excellent symmetry and constitution. His fleece was dense and even, with beautiful wool of long staple and excellent quality. He was used with other splendid rams in the Bend stud flock in 1880. In 1881 he was sold to L. Faithfull, Esq., of New South Wales, at a high figure, and after being used in his stud flock, re-sold by him at public auction for £514 10s. Mr.

Faithfull writes:—"I had Grand Prince shorn this week: he cut (having never been housed, and after serving 213 ewes, of which 177 lambs were docked) 16 lbs. 5 oz. without clippings, 364 days growth; the staple is a little longer than last year, and the wool brighter and cleaner. His stock took every prize competed for, and in one class 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes." Mr. Faithfull thought so much of this ram that after he was sold he gave the purchaser £100 for only one season's use to a certain number of ewes. He was never exhibited in Tasmania, but at Goulburn, unhoused, he secured champion of the yard against many noted sheep. The following is an extract from the *Town and Country Journal*, of New South Wales, of September 9th, 1882, noticing this ram:—

Grand Prince sold for 490 guineas, owned by A. Lucien Faithfull, bred by W. Gibson and Son, Scone, Tasmania; sold by Mr. Faithfull to Mr. C. Cooper, Willeroo. We this week give a portrait of Mr. A. Lucien Faithfull's stud ram Grand Prince, champion

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at the late sheep show of the Goulburn Agricultural and Pastoral Society. This ram was undoubtedly the greatest attraction of the show, and was admitted by all competent judges to be the grandest sheep they had ever seen, combining great length of staple with a fine, free, bright, lustrous character of fleece, very dense, and carrying the wool right round and underneath full length in a marvellous manner seldom seen. Grand Prince was bred by Messrs. W. Gibson and Son, Scone, Tasmania, and imported by Mr. Faithfull (the wool being grown at Springfield). The ram plainly shows to what perfection sheep can be brought by good breeding, skill, and careful attention; and too much praise cannot be given to Messrs. W. Gibson and Son in being able to breed such stock. Grand Prince, the day after the show, and at the sales of Messrs. Finlay and Co., was submitted to public auction, and having been started at 300 guineas by Mr. Gibb, was, after a quick succession of bids, sold to Mr. C. Cooper for 490 guineas, who has purchased him to mate with his late purchase of Bayly ewes at the Havilah sale.

BIG PRINCE.

Born 1879. Sired by Prince II. (56); dam, 1st class stud ewe, &c.

This ram had a very large frame, with a splendid constitution; he was of good quality, long staple, dense, well covered,

and was used one season in the Scone stud flock. His stock turned out well, and there were some first-class rams by him. He was sold for 160 guineas.

ROYAL DUKE VI.

Born September, 1886. Sire, Royal Duke V. (62); dam, 1st class stud ewe, &c.

A most perfect ram, very dense, with good staple and quality, first-class back, belly, thighs, arms, head, &c.

ROYAL DUKE V.

Born June, 1883. Sire, No. 1 Royal Duke (66); dam, a 1st class ewe by No. 20 (74).

A large-framed, heavy-fleeced sheep, very dense, and perfect in all points. Used in Scone stud 1884 and 1885. His stock have turned out well.

ROYAL DUKE IV.

Born 1882. Sire, No. 1 Royal Duke (66); dam, 1st class Scone stud ewe, &c.

Used in stud in 1884, and sold by auction for 260 guineas.

ROYAL DUKE III.

Born 1880. Sire, Royal Duke (64); dam, No, 14, by Scone (72).

A large-framed sheep, dense, well covered at points, of moderate staple, with excellent constitution and symmetry. He proved a good sire; was used at Scone in 1882 and 1883, and sold by auction at Sydney for 325 guineas. The buyer writes of him and another ram as follows:—"My last purchases from you have completely carried all honours before them. I secured ten prizes against Victorian and the best sheep bred on the Murrumbidgee, including a Champion ram, for which 1,000 guineas had been refused. Royal Duke III. secured Champion prize (the other ram second), he having this year served 234 ewes. I have already docked 423 lambs got by your two rams."

ROYAL DUKE II.

Born 1880. Sire, Royal Duke (64); dam, 1st class Scone stud, &c.

A well shaped and compact ram, pure and perfect at points, very dense, with good quality and style. His stock have sold up to 500 guineas. Used at Scone 1881 and 1882.

ROYAL DUKE.

Born 1877. Sire, The Duke (70); dam, first choice Scone stud, &c.

A large-framed ram, very dense, massive, even fleece, of good quality. He proved himself a good sire, and was used at Scone in 1879 and 1880. He was sold to New Zealand for 170 guineas, and the purchaser writes as follows:—"The introduction of your sheep to my flock has been a great success. I purchased Royal Duke and Goldmine. Before removing, the law required that they should be dipped, and about six days after passing through the hot dip Royal Duke clipped 16 lbs. 10 oz., and Goldmine 15 lbs. In 1882 Royal Duke (he having, a few weeks previous to shearing, swam through a very large creek) clipped 16 lbs. 8 oz. I may

add that the lambs by Royal Duke and Goldmine, dropped June, 1882, clipped in November, 1882, an average of 4 lbs. 2 oz. of very clean wool."

DUKE IV.

Born May, 1883. Sire, No. 1 Royal Duke (66); dam by King (71), &c.

A very first-class ram, dense and even, of good quality, long in staple, with splendid back, &c. Sold in Melbourne by auction for 420 guineas. Used at Scone, 1885 and 1886. His stock are very good.

ROYALTY.

Born May, 1882. Sire, No. 1 Royal Duke (66); dam, 1st class stud, &c.

A dense, even ram, of good quality. Sold by auction for 370 guineas. Used at Scone 1885.

NO. 2 ROYAL DUKE.

Born 1880. Sire, Royal Duke III. (63); dam, 1st class stud, &c.

A ram showing great breeding, with

beautiful silky wool Used at Scone 1884.
Sold for 500 guineas.

No. 1 ROYAL DUKE.

Born 1880. Sire, Royal Duke (64);
dam, a splendid ewe of large frame, &c.

A dense ram, well covered on all points,
his fleece opened with beautiful clear lus-
tre. He proved himself one of the best
sires ever used at Scone, and his stock
have always sold at high prices. Used
1881 and 1882.

COMET.

Born 1882. Sired by Grandson of Royal
Duke; dam, first choice stud, &c.

A dense, even ram, of moderate frame.
Sold at Sydney for 200 guineas. Used at
Scone 1886.

GARFIELD.

Born 1881. Sire, No. 4 (68); dam
by Duke III. (71), &c.

A splendid sheep, with beautiful silky
wool, perfect on points. Used in 1884.
Sold at Melbourne for 620 guineas.

No. 15.

Born 1876. Sire Prince; dam, first choice ewe, &c.

A first-class ram; exhibited once, and, with another ram, was awarded first prize for 4-tooths. He was used in 1878, then sold to New Zealand, and the owner writes as follows:—"I had a high opinion of the ram before I bought him; in fact, I saw none in Melbourne last sales I liked so well, and his stock does him credit. At our last show I took six prizes for ten entries, only entering in four classes, and all except one sheep were his get; they competed against many direct progeny of imported sheep both on side of sire and dam."

SIR GARNET.

Born 1880. Sire, No 20 or son of Duke II.; dam, first choice ewe, &c.

A ram with most lustrous, clear, flaky wool; length of staple, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches unstretched. He was sold in Melbourne for 400 guineas, and used at Scone in 1883

No. 4.

Born 1878. Sired by a son of Prince; dam, 1st class stud, &c.

A fine ram, with a dense, even, well covered fleece of good quality. He was used in the stud in 1879 and following year, afterwards sold by auction in New Zealand for 120 guineas. A correspondent writes of him:—"No. 4 appears to be a remarkably fine ram, and shows very nice quality of wool. The owner showed him, with two other rams which he bought at the same sale, for the best ram of any age, and your ram scored champion honours, beating all comers."

SQUATTER.

Born 1877. Sire, The Duke; dam, No. 13, by No. One Hundred (imported), &c.

A dense, even ram, of excellent quality, &c. Used in 1878, and then sold to New South Wales. The purchaser writes:—"The seasons '80 and '81 with us were exceptionally bad, and as none of our

rams were stabled the weights may seem to you low; '82, however, being good, gave us a fine average for your rams. The weights given are without skirtings, &c. Squatter's weight of fleece given for '80 is 12 lbs. 4 oz., without skirtings, &c. Seven other rams' fleeces weighed, without skirtings, &c., 11 lbs. 8 oz. to 13 lbs. Squatter unfortunately died from snake-bite in '81, after taking champion prize at Wagga show, beating rams from all parts of Riverina, and as he had been heavily worked and taken from grass, this was a glorious victory.

SQUATTER II.

Born 1879. Sire, Squatter; dam, first choice ewe, &c.

A splendid large-framed ram. Used 1881 and 1882.

WOOLLY LEGS.

Born 1879. Sire, Squatter; dam by Prince, &c.

A very even, well-covered ram, remarkable for quantity of wool on thighs, legs, &c. Used 1881.

GOLDMINE.

Born 1877. Sire, Topper; dam, Beauty, champion ewe (see page 15).

Used 1879.

GOLDMINE II.

Born 1879. Sire, Goldmine; dam, first stud, &c.

A splendid sheep, good at every point, dense, beautiful wool. A first-class sire. Used 1882.

THE DUKE.

Born 1873. Sire, Sir Thomas; dam, first prize ewe by Little German, &c.

His fleece was dense, even, and possessed the beautiful silky lustre. In 1874 he gained with another ram first prize for 2-tooths; and in 1875, with Prince, first prize for 4-tooths, competing with the most noted rams. Used 1874-1876.

THE SCONE MERINOS.

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DUKE II.

Born 1875. Sire, The Duke ; dam, first stud ewe, &c.

Used 1877-1879.

THIRD DUKE.

Born 1875. Sire, The Duke ; dam, an imported ewe, a champion prize winner at Midland Show, 1872, &c.

A very dense, heavy fleeced ram, of large frame, most uniformly covered. He was sire of Prince III.'s mother. Used 1876.

SHEPHERD.

Born 1875. Sire, The Duke ; dam, first choice ewe, &c.

A compact ram of medium size, with a dense, long, flaky fleece, well covered. Used 1876-1877.

KING.

Born 1876. Sire, Shepherd ; dam, first choice ewe, &c.

A large-framed ram, of splendid appearance, very dense, well covered at all

points, and even, with good staple. Exhibited once, and awarded first prize. Used 1877-1878.

SCONE.

Born 1875. Sire, Prince ; dam, a heavy fleeced ewe, by Young Louis, &c.

A large-framed ram, well covered, and of excellent quality. Used 1875-1876.

TOPPER.

Born 1875. Sire, a son of Longwool ; dam by Young Louis, &c.

A compact, well shaped ram, with excellent symmetry. His fleece was remarkably dense, with a long staple, his back and points wonderfully good. Topper proved an excellent sire, and many of the ewes whose fleeces obtained the Gold Cup for value at Messrs. H. C. and Co.'s wool show were his progeny ; also, he is the sire of many excellent and prize rams. Used 1876.

No. 155.

Born 1877. Sire, Topper ; dam, a first-class ewe, &c.

A remarkably fine ram, of splendid constitution. He was used in the Bend stud flock in 1878. This ram was sold to New Zealand, and has won many champion prizes there. The following is an extract from the *European Mail*, containing an account of one of the principal shows there:—"Mr. T. secured the championship with the winner of this prize last year, a grand sheep, bred by Gibson and Son, Tasmania, and Mr. R. won the second champion with another sheep from the same flock." Also, the progeny of No. 155 "carried off the lion's share of the first prizes (eight out of eleven), while they had to compete with rams imported from Tasmania."

NOBLE.

Born 1872. Sire, No. III. of 1871; dam, first choice ewe by imported rams, &c.

Used 1873.

No. XX.

Born 1876. Sire Noble; dam, first choice ewe, &c.

A dense, well covered ram, with first-rate constitution. He proved himself a first-class sire, and his stock realized high prices; [in 1881 one of his sons sold at auction for 330 guineas, another at 250 guineas, and others at high figures. He was sold for 175 guineas. Used 1878.

LONGWOOL.

Born 1872. Sire, No. III. of 1871; dam, first choice ewe by imported rams, &c.

This ram had excellent symmetry and constitution: he was very dense and long stapled, the belly and points perfect. He was sold by auction, at 6-tooth, for 280 guineas, and was awarded second champion in 1873. Used 1872 to 1874.

NOS. II. AND III.

Born 1872. Sire, No. III. of 1871; dams, first choice ewes by imported rams, &c.

THE SCONE MERINOS.

75

These two rams had large frames and good constitutions, were very dense and well covered, and altogether splendid sheep. They secured a first prize for 2-tooths in 1873, and were sold in 1874 for 280 guineas. Used 1873.

GER.

Born 1872. Sire, Little German (imported); dam, champion ewe Beauty (imported), &c.

This was a ram of pure German blood, bred from the imported stock; grandfather, The Owl. He was very dense, even, and was used sparingly in 1874.

No. III. OF 1871.

Born 1870. Sire, Little German; grand-sire, The Owl; dam, first choice stud ewe, by imported ram.

This ram had a good length of staple, very dense and even, the quality of wool excellent. He was the sire of very many splendid stud sheep. Used 1871.

No. V.

Born 1870. Sire, Little German; dam, first choice ewe, &c.

He was very dense and even, a splendid sheep, and obtained a first prize in 1872.

YOUNG LOUIS.

Born 1869. Sire, Louis (imported); dam, first choice ewe, &c.

A most beautiful even ram, of dense, lustrous, well covered fleece, and an excellent sire. In 1871 he was sold at Sydney, and afterwards obtained a champion prize. Used 1871.

Particulars of the imported sires and others are given in former pages.



PARTICULARS AND DESCRIPTION
OF SIRES.

(No. 2 FLOCK.)

*All bred by Messrs. W. Gibson and Son, except
Squatter (imported).*

SQUATTER.

Born 1880; bred by Mr. M. J. Roberts,
California. Imported 1883, and purchased
by Messrs. Gibson for 450 guineas.

sire, Domingo, Jun.; dam by Bulger,*
&c.; grandsire, Domingo, imported
from Rambouillet, 1873, and win-
ner of sweepstakes over all other
breeds at State Fair, Sacramento,
California, in 1875.

dam by Bulger,* he by Gamester (win-
ner of two First Premiums and

* Winner of two First Premiums, and sweepstakes over
all other breeds.

sweepstakes over all other breeds),
by Leon, by Chino, by Napoleon
IV., &c.

g dam by Shepherd's Pride, by Glide
(fleece $51\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., living weight after
shearing 265 lbs.), &c.

g g dam by Napoleon IV. (sheared $52\frac{1}{2}$
lbs.), by Napoleon III., by Napoleon
II., &c.

g g g dam traces back to importation
from Rambouillet in 1859.

For further particulars see photo., and
description at page 47.

SQUATTER, JUN.

Of pure American blood. Born Decem-
ber, 1883; bred by Messrs. W. Gibson
and Son.

sire, Squatter (imported, for pedigree
see page 77).

dam, No. 166A, imported and bred by
Mr. M. J. Roberts, California, and
purchased by Messrs. Gibson for
104 guineas; sired by Domingo,

THE SCONE MERINOS.

79

Jun.; grandsire, Domingo (imported from France), winner of sweepstakes over all other breeds at State Fair, Sacramento, in 1875.

g dam by Gamester (winner of two First Premiums and sweepstakes over all other breeds), he by Leon, by Chino, by Napoleon IV., &c.

g g dam traces back to importation of 1859.

Squatter, Jun., was born shortly after the arrival of the Californian sheep at Scone, Messrs. Gibson having instructed their agents to place Squatter with the ewes while in quarantine. He is very dense, perfect in points, with a staple fully three inches long. He was used with a few ewes this year.

SAMBO.

Born 1884. Sire, Squatter (77); dam, choice Scone stud ewe, &c.

This ram is very dense, even, and has a bright, lustrous fleece of beautiful free

wool. He was used at Scone both in 1886 and 1887, and his stock are very satisfactory. They are somewhat wrinkly, but very even, pure, extremely dense, and thoroughly covered, with a good staple of soft, beautiful wool.

PRESIDENT.

Born 1884. Sire, Squatter (77); dam, choice Scone stud ewe, &c.

This sheep was dense, even in all points, with a good staple and excellent symmetry. Sold in Melbourne in 1886 for 280 guineas.

SULTAN.

Born 1885. Sire, Squatter (77); dam, choice Scone stud ewe, &c.

This ram is very dense, has a splendid stud appearance, and is perfectly covered with massive, clear, soft wool. Used at Scone 1887, &c.

DOUBLE PRINCE.

Born 1885. Sire, Prince Albert (52); dam, No. 122, imported ewe, sired by

THE SCONE MERINOS.

81

Sultan II. (for this ewe Messrs. Gibson paid 152 guineas), fleece 67 lbs., 20 months growth, by Colchis, &c., &c. No. 122 is a grand ewe, very dense, even, good in points, and has an immense frame.

Double Prince is a most perfect ram, of splendid symmetry, remarkably dense, perfect in points, and of good staple and quality. He was used at Scone 1887, &c. His twin brother, Double Prince I., was sold this year for 300 guineas.

PRINCE ALBERT II.

Born June, 1885. Sire, Prince Albert (52); dam 1st class well covered ewe by Squatter (77); g dam, No. 3, by No. 4 (68), &c.

This ram is one of the most perfect at Scone, with a dense, massive fleece of beautiful wool. He resembles his sire in many respects, but is a decidedly superior sheep. Used at Scone 1886, 1887 (to few ewes only in former year), &c.

CHIEFTAIN I.

Born 1884. Sire, Squatter (77); dam, 1st class Scone ewe by King (71), &c.

This special ram unfortunately died when a 2-tooth, after being with some ewes a few days, consequently he left but fifteen lambs.

CHIEFTAIN II.

Born 1885. Sire, Chieftain I. (82); dam, choice Scone stud ewe.

In many respects this sheep resembles his sire; he has a large frame, with a massive, even fleece, very good at all points. Used at Scone 1886, to a few ewes.

CHIEFTAIN III.

Born 1886. Sire, Chieftain II. (82); dam, No. 22, 1st class ewe by Prince II. (56), &c.

A very dense even ram, perfect in points, &c.

LIST OF SIRES USED IN THE STUD FLOCKS.

YEAR	IN SEPARATE LOTS.	IN BEND STUD FLOCK.
1887	Prince of Wales, Prince of Wales II., Hero, Prince Albert II., Sambo, Double Prince, Sultan, etc.	Hero, and sons of Prince Albert
1886	Prince IV., Prince Albert, Prince Albert II., Dense Prince, Duke IV., Comet, Royal Duke V., Sambo, Lion, Chieftain II.	Hero, Prince Regent, sons of Prince of Wales, Prince III.
1885	Prince Albert, Dense Prince, Prince of Wales, Royal Duke IV., Prince III., Duke IV., Royalty and Third Prince, Lion, Prince Regent, Chieftain I.	Royal Duke V., and sons of Prince of Wales and No. 1 Royal Duke
1884	Prince III., Prince of Wales, No. 2 Prince, No. 2 Royal Duke, Third Prince, son of Prince III., etc.	Dense Prince, Garfield, and reserved rams by Prince of Wales and No. 1 Royal Duke

LIST OF SIRES USED IN THE STUD FLOCKS—CONTINUED.

YEAR	IN SEPARATE LOTS.	IN BEND STUD FLOCK.
1883	Prince III., Prince of Wales, Royal Duke III., Sir Garnet, No. 1 Royal Duke, etc.	Reserved rams by Prince II., Goldmine II., and Royal Duke II., etc.
1882	Royal Duke III., Royal Duke II., Squatter II., Goldmine II., and sons of Royal Duke and Prince II.	Woolly Legs, and stud rams by Prince II., Royal Duke, etc.
1881 AND 1880	} Prince II., Royal Duke II., Squatter II., Woolly Legs, No. 4, etc.	Grand Prince, and sons of King, Noble, Prince II.
1879	Prince II., Royal Duke, Goldmine, No. 3 by Duke II., No. 4	No. 20, and sons of Noble, King, Duke II.
1878	Prince II., Royal Duke, King, Squatter, No. 20, No. 15, Duke II.	No. 155, and sons of Duke, Duke II., Shepherd, Topper
1877	Duke, Shepherd, King, Rob, Duke of Richmond, No. 4, No. 7, Duke II.	Rams by Duke, Noble, Prince, Ger

LIST OF SIRES USED IN THE STUD FLOCKS—CONTINUED.

YEAR	IN SEPARATE LOTS.	IN BEND STUD FLOCK.
1876	Duke, Topper, Scone, Shepherd, Duke III.	Rams by Longwool, Noble, Lustre, Prince, Duke
1875	Duke, Prince, Scone, Noble, Shepherd, Victor	Rams by Longwool, Noble, Lustre, Nos. 2 and 3
1874	Longwool, Prince I., Lustre, Duke, Ger, No. 2, first prize ram	Rams by Longwool, No. 6, No. 4, son of One Hundred
1873	Longwool, Lustre, Sir James, No. 2 and No. 3, first prize rams, Noble	Rams by son of One Hundred, No. 3, No. 5, Sir James, sons of Ninety
1872	Longwool, Ninety, Sir James, No. 4 by Ninety, No. 6 by Young Louis	Rams by Ninety, One Hundred, Young Louis, Little German
1871	No. 3 by Little German, No. 5, first prize ram, rams by One Hundred, Ninety	Rams by Ninety, One Hundred, Little Ger, etc.
1870	One Hundred, Ninety, Young Louis, Little German	Rams by Louis, and prize rams
1869	One Hundred, Ninety, No. 53, Little and Big German, three first prize rams	Rams by Louis, One Eye, etc., and so on from original pure Merinos.

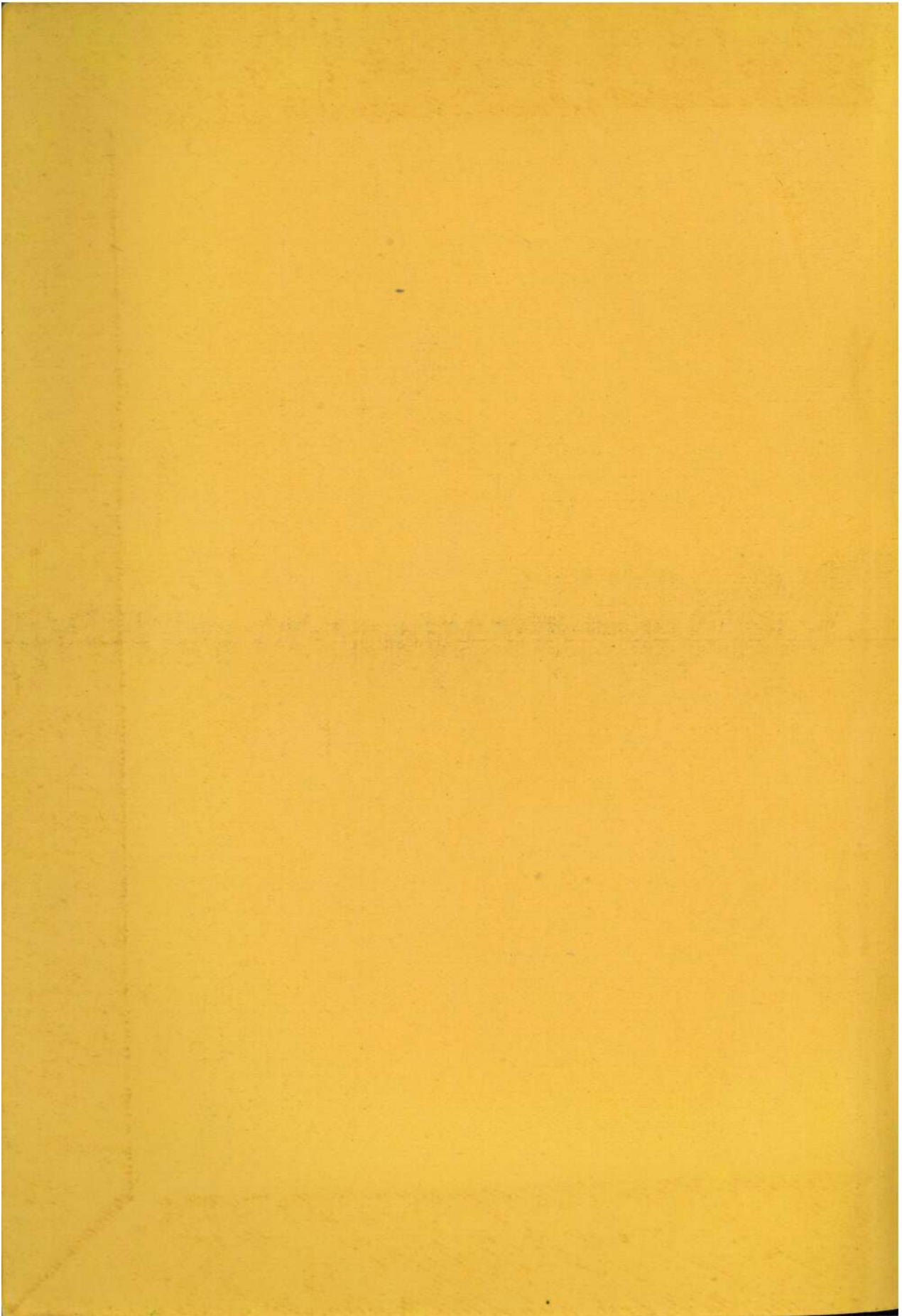
LIST OF SIRES USED IN THE STUD FLOCKS—CONTINUED.

YEAR	IN SEPARATE LOTS.
1868	Louis, three prize rams. Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Louis, One Eye, two rams bred by Mr. J. Gibson, and prize rams Louis, One Eye, two rams bred by Mr. J. Gibson, etc. Hampton Court ram, ram bred by late Mr. J. Stewart, One Eye, etc. Ram bred by late Mr. J. Stewart and 1st choice rams
1867	
1866	
1865	
1864	
1863	} First choice rams bred in pure flock
1862	
1861	
1860	
1859	} Ram bred by late Mr. W. Archer Sons of above rams
1858	
1857	} First choice rams bred in stud Three rams bred by the late D. Taylor, Esq. Pure ewes, purchased privately from Mr. Youl previous to his departure for Europe, and bred as stated.
1856	
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1854	

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