

COTSWOLD SHEEP.

The Cotswold is one of the largest English breeds of sheep, though the improved race is smaller than the originals, on account of the influence of the Leicester element in its amelioration. As a breed it is of great antiquity. It has gained in fleece and form, and comes to maturity earlier; is more prolific than the Leicester, and has greater strength of constitution; is often fattened at 14 months, yielding 15 to 20 lbs. per quarter, and 20 to 30 if kept till two years old. The fleece is 6 to 8 inches in length, and sometimes much longer; is strong, somewhat coarse, of good color, and yields a heavy fleece. The mutton is superior to that of the Leicester, with a smaller proportion of fat, and the sheep are also superior to that popular breed in weight of wool, size, hardiness and vitality. They are possessed of good figure, have a large

ABOUT GIRLS.

The "girl of the period" is subjected to more violent criticism than ever at the hands of some of the English writers. A marked physical deterioration, it seems, is visible in the budding maiden of to-day, as compared with the youthful damsel of 50 years ago. Those who live to tell the story assert that the fashions of our age are, in the first place, more injurious to the health of women than the dress and customs of their grandmothers. High heels and tight lacing have been the standing homily of more preachers than can be thought of without a shudder. But the heels of the present generation are probably not so high as those of a century ago, and tight-lacing, as a rule, is very little practised. The hour-glass style of figure is not so much admired as it was 25 years ago. In the portraits which represent different epochs of the

experience of life than girls possess to distinguish notoriety from fame, and to know that physical advantages are only accessories to power, not its basis. Without any definite aim for her coquetties, the American girl sums up her stock in trade and arms for the fray with a clear sense of the amount of personal equipment to be discarded or retained in the manoeuvres of the campaign.—*The Hour.*

FEMALE FRIENDSHIP.—Women are the priestesses of predestination, and it is a wonderful advantage to a man in any pursuit or avocation to secure an adviser in a sensible woman. Disraeli says: "The society of charming women refines the taste, quickens the perception and gives a grace and flexibility to the intellect, although a woman who likes ambitious men must be no ordinary character." In women there is at once a subtle delicacy of tact, a plain soundness of judgment which are rarely com-



RAMS OF COTSWOLD BREED—THE FAMOUS ENGLISH MUTTON SHEEP.

head, well set on, a broad chest, a well-rounded barrel, and a straight back. They are often used for crossing upon other breeds, and for obtaining earlier market-lambs, both in this country and in Europe. They are more widely disseminated in this country than any other long-wool, and preserve well the popularity which they have attained here. Some imported sheep of this breed have borne fleeces in this country of 18 lbs. The engraving on this page shows the style of the Cotswold quite well.

ALWAYS remember no one can debase you but yourself. Slander, satire, falsehood, injustice—these can never rob you of your manhood. Men may lie about you, they may denounce you, they may cherish suspicious manifold, they may make your failings the target of their wit or cruelty—never be alarmed, never swerve an inch from the line your judgment and conscience have marked out for you. They cannot, by all their efforts, take away your knowledge of yourself, the purity of your motives, the integrity of your character and the generosity of your nature. While these are left, you are in a point of fact, unharmed.

world's history, there is often greater artificiality in female costumes than in those of our own time. Holbein's women are stiffly and tightly encased in something like armor. Vandyke's court ladies, from Henrietta Maria down, have every appearance of being severely compressed.

The cure for moral ailments is more difficult to find than the remedy for "ills that flesh is heir to." Vanity and frivolity are the chief maladies which distemper the rising female generation in England, according to present writers. The spread of these not uncommon diseases is vast beyond precedent, and threatens to disintegrate and demoralize modern society, if not checked by some happy device. To bask in the sunshine of royal favor and win notice from the first gentlemen in England, the Prince of Wales, is the prize for which many an English maiden struggles. That the road to such distinction should be trodden in tight shoes with heels of unwonted height, with the accompaniment of much tight lacing and other unnatural inventions, may be the maiden's misfortune more than her fault. She chooses the shortest path as a general thing and the one surest to lead to the goal of her ambition. But it requires more

bind to an equal degree in man. A woman, if she be really a friend, will have a sensitive regard for her admirer's character, honor and repute. Better and safer, of course, are such friendships where disparities of circumstances put the idea of love out of the question. Middle life has rarely this advantage; youth and old age have. We may have female friendships with those much older and those much younger than ourselves. Moliere's old housekeeper was a great help to his genius, and Montague's philosophy takes both a gentler and loftier character of wisdom from the date in which he finds in Marie de Gournay an adopted daughter, "certainly beloved by me," says the Horace of essayists, "with more than parental love, and involved in my solitude of retirement as one of the best parts of my being." Female friendship, indeed, is to man the bulwark, sweetener, ornament of his existence. To his mental culture it is invaluable; without it all his knowledge of books will never give him knowledge of the world.—*Exchange.*

THERE is a breach between the priesthood and the Irish Land League.