

have been treated in the combing-machine, the noils or short fibres having been separated therefrom. Higher the quality number of the tops, like Merino 80's, finer is the wool; lower the number, like Lincoln 36's, coarser is the wool composing it. The term "80's" means that the particular wool in the top should spin to such a length of yarn that it will take 80 hanks, each of 560 yards, to weigh 1 lb. of the spun material—*i.e.*, of clean, scoured tops, not of greasy wool; and so on for 60's, 50's, &c., in corresponding numbers of hanks.

	Breed.			Quality.	Length of Wool Staple. Inches.
Merino 60's to 80's	2 to 3
Southdown 50's to 56's	4 to 5
Half-bred 50's to 56's	..
Threequarter-bred, longwool side				.. 46's to 48's	..
Shropshire 46's	6
Romney 44's to 46's	8
Leicester 40's	9
Crossbred 40's (about)	..
Lincoln 36's	12 to 15

The uses to which these wools are put may be approximately stated as follows:—

Merino	..	..	Light fabrics, soft serges, flannels, &c.
Southdown	..	..	Variety of cloths for everyday wear and for blankets.
Half-bred	..	..	Serges, worsteds, &c.
Threequarter-bred	..	..	" "
Shropshire	..	..	" "
Romney	..	..	Woollens.
Leicester	..	..	Hosiery, &c.
Crossbred	..	..	Serges, &c.
Lincoln	..	..	Lustrous serges, &c.

There are two extreme uses to which wool may be put—the finer sort, such as the Merino, for light and soft fabrics for women's wear, &c.; and the coarser kinds, approximating to hairiness, like the Highland breed, for coarse things like carpets, for which much of this breed's fleece is only suited, but a small part being employed in making special rough suiting-material for sporting wear. The wool of the Highland breed is much coarser than that of the Lincoln.

The fleeces of the longwools are heavily sorted by the manufacturer, fine crossbred to a lesser extent, and the Merino, growing