

need care and protection, and must all, therefore, be looked upon as degenerate races, formed by the hands of man, and multiplied for his use. At the same that he fed, cultivated, and increased these domestic races, he neglected, hunted, and destroyed the wild breed, which being stronger and less tractable, would, consequently, be more troublesome, and less useful ; they are, therefore, only to be met with in small numbers, and in thinly inhabited places, where they can support themselves. In the mountains of Greece, in the islands of Cyprus, Sardinia, and Corsica, and in the desarts of Tartary, the animal, which we call the *muflon* (*fig. 139*), is still to be found, and which in my opinion is the primitive stock of all the varieties of sheep ; he lives in a state of nature, and subsists and multiplies without the help of man ; he resembles the several kinds of domestic sheep more than any other wild animal ; he is more lively, stronger, and swifter, than any of them ; his head, forehead, eyes, and face, are like the ram's ; he resembles him also in the form of the horns, and in the whole habit of the body ; in short, he produces with the domestic sheep, which alone is sufficient to demonstrate that he is of the same species, and the primitive stock of the different breeds.