Jesus said, "If a man loveth me, he will keep my words, and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not, keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me."

Let us be truly obedient in the things we do know and then, if we have a desire for the things we do not know, the Lord will perhaps give them to us. A father feels more like giving to a child that has complied with his requests than to one that has not. Another thing: we frequently ask for things that we have no business with. Let us be careful about this and faithfully practice upon that we have already received.

I feel a peculiar joy, and an unspeakable satisfaction myself in the things of God. I have desired a greater degree of intelligence, that I might be more useful and of greater benefit in the kingdom of God. I do not know that I have coveted anything in this world, only to be more useful in building up the kingdom of Christ in my day and generation.

May the Lord help us to overcome evil with good, to sustain the principles of righteousness and the authorities of the priesthood of God now on the earth.

We would like to build a temple. Suppose we had one now; are we prepared to enter into it? My earnest desire is that we may be faithful and be found worthy to go into it when it is built and receive the blessings of eternity; but we will not be, unless we progress in all the principles of eternal life. As soon as we are worthy to go into the house of the Lord and receive those blessings, we shall have a house.

The Lord delights to pour out the riches of eternity upon his faithful children; why does he not do it more abundantly? Because we are not worthy to receive them. Then let us, by our Godly lives, prove ourselves worthy of those blessings.

May the Lord help us to accomplish all he requires of us, in the name of Jesus Christ: Amen.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The following instructive and valuable article, by Cuthbert W. Johnson, Esq., F. R. S., in regard to wool, as a product for manufacturing, and woolen rags as fertilizers, will be read with interest and profit, both by farmers and manufacturers:

The wool of his sheep is not only interesting to the farmer from its commercial value, but after being wrought into woolen fabrics he gladly re-purchases it as a powerful manure.

It is only in modern times that his wool slowly escaped from the care of the legislature, or almost as tardily became known to him for its fertilizing powers.

It was as early as the year 1337 that we find the exportation of English wool prohibited.—The same measure of injustice to the farmer was conferred in 1521. And in 1796 the wisdom of Parliament was evinced by the prohibition of the export of wool from England, or even from Ireland to England. It was not till the year 1824 that the acts of Parliament restraining the exportation of wool were finally repealed. It was not, however, without reason that the Parliaments of other days interfered with the production of wool.

Even as late as the sixteenth century the flock-masters of Ireland and Scotland had a summary way of gathering wool from the sheep, which the rulers of those times were enlightened enough to restrain. Thus, by act of the Irish Parliament (11 and 12 Charles II, c. 15) entitled "An act against plowing by the tail and pulling the wool off living sheep," it is declared that "in many places of this kingdom there hath been a long time used a barbarous custom of plowing, harrowing, drawing and working with horses by the tail, whereby (besides the cruelty used to the beasts) the breed of horses is much impaired in this kingdom. And also drivers have, and yet do use the like barbarous custom of pulling off the wool yearly from living sheep, instead of shearing them." These miserable practices were then declared to be illegal, and to be punishable with fine and imprisonment.

It is evident, however, that there had been a previous Irish ordinance on this subject, since such a reformation is referred to in a letter written to his Scotch council by King James, in 1617.

Chambers' Annals of Scotland (vol. 1. p. 171) gives an extract from a curious entry in the Scotch Privy Council Record. The document states that, "In some remote and uncivil places of this kingdom an old and barbarous custom was still kept up *of plucking the wool from the sheep instead of clipping it.*" The king, hearing of the practice, wrote a letter to his council, denouncing it as one not to be suffered; telling them that it had already been reformed in Ireland, under a penalty of a groat on every sheep so used, and was "far less to be endured in you." The council immediately (March 17, 1617) passed an act in the same tenor, and after stating that many sheep died in consequence of this cruel treatment, concluded with a threat of severe fines on such as should hereafter continue the practice. "It is remarkable," adds Mr. Chambers, "that in the Faroe Islands there is to this day no other way of taking the wool from sheep than that which was then only kept up in remote parts of Scotland."

It is curious to notice by what slow degrees just notions were adopted with regard to the sheep and its wool, not only by the parliament but by the farmer. We can only get hints of these things from the early English agricultural writers. Old Worlidge, in 1680, in his considerable folio work on agriculture, barely bestows a dozen lines upon the sheep. He tells us that in his time "The Herefordshire sheep about Leominster bore the fairest fleeces of any in England." But Worlidge ever seemed to prefer the live stock that had the most young ones at a birth; thus he concludes of sheep, "But the Dutch sheep are the largest of all, being much bigger than any I have seen in England, and yearly bear two or three lambs at a time. It is also reported that they sometimes bear lambs twice in the year."

Whatever may have been Worlidge's notions with regard to sheep, he was evidently aware of the value of woolen substances as fertilizers, for he tells us in his chapter on the manuring of land, "In rags of all sorts there is good virtue; they are carried far and laid upon land, and have in them a warming, improving temper; one good load will go as far as a dozen or more of the best cow dung."

It was nearly two centuries after the time of this early English author on rural affairs, that the use of woolen rags as a manure began to be better understood, and especially as to the portion of them in which their fertilizing virtue consists.

To this question Professor Way addressed himself with his usual caution and amount of success. He very justly felt that it would hardly be satisfactory to content himself with the analysis of wool, since, as he observes (Jour. Rov. Ag. Soc., vol. x, p. 617) to reason from the composition of a raw material of any kind upon that of the manufactured article, which has passed through perhaps half a dozen processes, is often to lay one's self open to much error; and nothing short of the direct analysis of the rags themselves would enable any person to form a correct notion of their manuring value. Wool, in a state of purity, contains upwards of 17 per cent. of nitrogen. Were woolen rags, therefore, of the same strength as the wool itself, they should produce *ultimately* a larger amount of ammonia than even pure Peruvian guano. It will be valuable, then, to examine the chemical compositions of some of the commonly sold refuse woolen rags. These rags are well known, and extensively employed as manure in some parts of our island. Owing, as the Professor remarks, to their slow decomposition in the soil, they are not well fitted for root culture — turnips and other plants of this kind requiring active and ready soluble manures to produce a rapid growth. Still, this must not be taken as an undoubted fact since, in the experiments of the late Mr. Pusey on the growth of beet root (ibid. vol. vi, p. 530), when thirteen tons of farmyard manure per acre produced 27½ tons clean roots, the addition to the dung of seven hundred weight of rags raised the produce to 36 tons. This increase he attributed to the large proportion of azote, or nitrogen, present in the rags.

Woolen rags were formerly, as Mr. Way adds, to be purchased of good quality, and unmixed with any less valuable substance; but of late years rags, of a size that used to be sold to the farmer, are bought up to be reconverted into an inferior kind of cloth. The supply being in this way in part cut off, is frequently made good by the admixture of such linen or cotton rags as may not be worth the paper maker's attention.

Three specimens of these refuse rags were examined by the Professor. Specimen No. 1 consisting of the seams and other useless parts of the old cloth, which had apparently been cut up to be re-manufactured into cloth. No. 2 called "premings" and No. 3, "cuttings," appeared to be much of the same character, but totally different from the rags—they both consisted essentially of colored wool less than an eighth of an inch in length. These all contained in their ordinary state a certain proportion of water. In the three specimens above referred to, the

	Per cent.
Rags contained of water	7.87
Premings	7
Cuttings	8.70

In this state the proportion per cent. of nitrogen which they contained, and the proportion of ammonia, which, by the decomposition of animal matter, will be eventually produced from them, and from a specimen of "shoddy," is given in the following tables:

	Nitrogen.	Ammonia.
Rags	0.47	12.71
Premings	9.92	12.05
Cuttings	11.84	14.31
Shoddy	4.55	5.52

It appears, then, says Prof. Way, that it is quite incorrect to estimate the value of the different kinds of woolen refuse by the known composition of the wool itself, for, to whatever cause the inferiority may be due, it is plain that they do not, on an average, contain two-thirds of the nitrogen found in the raw material.

The mineral substances found in wool refuse are of small fertilizing value. In 100 parts of some inferior wool refuse were found:

Water	7 15
Animal matter and Oil	52.87
Phosphate of Lime	1.48
Oxide of Iron and alumina	2.10
Carbonate of Lime	9.42
Sand, &c.	21.26
Loss, &c.	.10

This specimen contained about 2.5 per cent. of nitrogen.

Professor Voelcker has explained the chief reasons for the considerable difference of opinion, which exists in different places, with regard to the fertilizing value of woolen substances (ibid. vol. 16, p. 94). These, he considers, are to be best understood by a reference to their analysis, and the time of their application, and the physical compositions of the soul. Shoddy, for instance, often contains from 20 to 25 per cent. of oil, which, by excluding moisture, and the atmospheric air from the interior of the wool hairs which compose this refuse, prevents its decomposition, as effectually as the oil in sardines, or a cover of grease the potted meat. And thus the decomposition of the shoddy is retarded for a considerable period, so that no effect is produced if it is applied to the land when the young wheat has already made its appearance, or even if applied two or three months previously. But if the same refuse is applied to the land a considerable period before the sowing of the crop which it is intended to benefit, or if it is previously brought into a state to readily ferment (and then it may be applied at once to the young wheat), a very marked and early good effect will be produced by its use, since ammonia is then gradually formed from the nitrogen of the shoddy. In light and porous soils this necessary preparation proceeds much more rapidly than in stiff, heavy lands.

The farmer by his practice confirms these chemical conclusions. The Kentish hop-growers, we are told by Mr. S. Rutley, in his prize essay, (ibid, vol. ix., p. 562), deem woolen rags, shoddy, and refuse seal skins to be very lasting manures, but much more valuable and early in their effect on dry than wet soils, all of them being the best adapted for the soils of the Kentish rag. On the Kentish hop grounds they apply from 12 to 20 cwts. per acre of woolen rags, 20 to 30 cwt. of shoddy, and about 160 bushels per acre of seal skin. For corn crops on light chalky land, or for grass, about 10 or 12 cwt. per acre of woolen refuse are used in Oxfordshire and Berkshire.

The amount of wool produced by different breeds of sheep was some little since ascertained by Mr. J. B. Lawes. The average weight of the wool per head, produced from 50 wether Cotswolds, 40 Sussex, 43 Leicesters, 40 Hampshire Downs, and 42 cross-breed wethers, was as follows:

	lbs.	oz.
Cotswolds	9	4 3-4
Hampshire	6	4
Sussex	5	10
Leicesters	8	2
Cross-breeds	6	7

The proportion of wool to 100 pounds of the live weight of the sheep, at the time of its being shorn in March, was

Cotswolds	5.44
Hampshire	3.77
Sussex	4.57
Leicesters	5.08
Cross-breeds	4.60

Mr. S. Bruce of Eusham, considers the average weight of the fleeces of different breeds of sheep to be as follows: (*Farmer's Almanac*, vol. vi., p. 218.)

	Ewe.	Tup.
Cotswold	5 to 7 lbs.	7 to 10 lbs.
Leicester	4 6	5 8
Hampshire Down	3 5	6 7
Pure South do	2 4	3 6
Cross Cotswood and Southdown	4 6	5 8

The importation of foreign wool has largely and steadily increased during the present century. Previous to the year 1800 all the wool annually imported barely exceeded 3,000,000 lbs., and this was chiefly Spanish. About the year 1801 this had increased to about 9,000,000 lbs.

In 1810 to	10 914,137 lbs
1820	9 789.020
1830	32 318 059
1840	49.436.284
1850	74.206.778
1858	126,783,724

Of this large quantity in the year 1858, 16,597,504 lbs. came from the Cape of Good Hope, and 51,104,560 lbs. from Australia. Of these imports, 28,054,815 lbs. were exported in 1850, and 26,537,426 lbs. in 1858.

A considerable quantity of foreign woolen rags, fit only for manure, are also yearly imported. In 1830 they amounted to 411 tons, 1052 in 1840, and to 1102 tons in 1842 — since which I am not in possession of an official statement.

It is remarkable how little the large supply of foreign wool has tended to reduce its English market value. From 1784 to 1790 the price of Southdown wool was about 1s. per lbs.; in 1800 it was 1s. 5d.; in 1810, 2s. 4d.; in 1820, 1s. 5d.; in 1830 it had fallen to 10d.; it is now about 2s. And not only has the flock-owner had to contend with an annually increasing import of wool, but, moreover, the number of our sheep and, consequently, the *home* produce of wool has enormously increased during the present century; and, again, from the improvements in their breed, the weight of their fleeces has also become considerably greater. The number of sheep in Great Britain were estimated, in 1698, by Gregory King, to be about 12,000,000. In 1740 they were calculated to have increased to 16,640,000. Arthur Young, in 1774, thought they were about 25,589,754; and in 1801, Mr. Luccott estimated them at 26,148,463. They are now estimated to be about 35,000,000 — England possesses 27,000,000, Scotland, in 1854, had 4,787,235; Ireland, in 1853 had 3,142,656, so that, at 30s. a head, the sheep stock of Britain is worth £52,500,000. About 10,000,000 are annually slaughtered; these at 80 lbs. each furnish 800,000 lbs. mutton, which at 6d. is worth £20,000,000 sterling. Professor Lowe thinks that on an average each fleece weighs 4½ lbs., so that the total produce of wool will be 157,500,000 lbs.; fixing then the total yearly value of the wool of Great Britain at 1s. 3d., this produces nearly £10,000,000.

As regards the increased weight of the fleece, in 1800, Mr. W. Nottage, of Bermondsy fellmonger, ascertained that the Southdown sheep, when slaughtered at full maturity in London, produced about 3½ lbs. of wool per skin. Thirty years afterwards he found that they yielded from 4 to 4½ lbs, and that this has still further increased of late years.

I trace these very important and interesting statistical facts with the more pleasure, because I feel that happily my countrymen possess, in their farming, one branch of the profession of agriculture which well rewards them for their skill and energy. Fortunately, too, there are as yet no symptons of the flocks of England being exhausted in their produce, or deteriorated in value; but, on the contrary, there is yearly to be found in our island more numerous and more productive flocks; and in support of these a larger, a better paid, and consequently better fed and warmer clad population. Happily, too, for our country, whilst the demand for woolens and muttons thus largely increased, foreign importations, however considerable, have failed to diminsh their market value.

How Sam Smally got Converted.

"Sam, you was once a member of the church; tell us about your conversion," said Leake to Sam Smally, a long, lank specimen of humanity, as the aforesaid Sam, Leake, Stubs and myself were returning home one fine evening, from a sale at a neighbor's, who was about moving West.

Sam was about half tight, and consequently very loquacious.

"Tell yer about the time when I war converted?" yawned the old whisky barrel.

"Yes," said Charley, "I reckon it will be very edifying. So let us have your experience."

"Well, yer see, boys, thar war a big camp meetin' over thar in Hancock; it wur held by the Hardshell Baptist—"

"Stop Sam!" said I; "you forget that the Hardshells never hold camp meetings."

"Then it warnt the Hardshells. I remember now, it was the Methodists."

This was more like it, and so let him have his own way.

"Wall," continued Sam, "I went over thar to that camp ground, when I arriv', I tied my horse to the saplin', when who should I see but preacher Saunders and Wash Hamlin—you know they lives over here in Jones. Says old Saunders, 'Samuel come this way;' and I went down in a thicket with 'em, for I know'd jess natural like what they wanted. Coz I know'd when them two commenced rummaging a thicket, thar wur whisky about, certain. Arter we got a piece in the woods, Wash run his hand under an old chunk and pulled out a jug as weighed nigh on two or three gallons.—'Brethren,' said the preacher, 'I ain't one of 'em as approves of drinkin.' It is a 'bomination, but I thinks it are wholesom to take a little for a pain in the stomach.' And so sayin' he tuk about ten, an' I took atween six and seven and a hundred and seventy-two.

"Wall, we then adjourned to the meetin' place whar thar war a big crowd gathered to hear our preacher Saunders hold forth.

"Wall, he got up inter the pill-porch and tuk his text in Jeremiar, whare it says, 'Come unto me all as are heavy and can't tote your burthens much longer.'

"And then he commenced sorter slow, at fust, but then all at once the spirit or the whisky begun to move him, and he jist let out. I thort heaven and yearth were comin together. I begun to get skeered and feel curious, when all at once an old 'oman as weighed in the neighborhood of five hundred pounds, fotched out a squall an' shouted 'Glory!' and then they all commenced. One old brother grabbed Wash, an Wash like a fool hollered, 'hurray for the Democracy—here's my hand for a thousand years!' jist like he does when he is in town on 'lection day.

"Bymeby, while I wuz sadlin round, an old brother got me up tu the alter, the old whisky had got me so drunk that I didn't know but what I war the preacher and the hull congregation, when the fust man I saw war old General Saunders, shoutin' as if he warn't afraid to do it.

"Stan' firm, Sam,' sez he as he cotched me by the head and pulled me down on the straw; and the fust thing I know'd—for they war kickin' and rarin' so as I didn't know nothin'—down sat that old 'omen right on top of me.

"Oh Lordy!" sez I.

"Pray on—yer burden will be lifted directly," said old Saunders.

"Right there the old 'omen's snuff bottle turned over and filled my eyes right chock full. I commenced groanin' and twistin' like a duck in a hornet time.

"Weep on," said the General.

"I'm with yer to the tomb!" said Wash.

"I tried my best to get up, but it was no use; thar that old 'omen sot er shoutin' as contented as a hog in a mud hole. At the last trial I cotched the old lady by the leg by my teeth; she fatched a yell and riz; I got free and broke fur my horse; and darned ef that ain't the last time I war ever at preachin' in Hancock."

LACONIC CORRESPONDENCE.—The epistle of Mary Foot, mother of the celebrated comedian, written while under the arrest for debt was:

"My dear Son—
I am in jail,
Your affectionate mother,
MARY FOOT."

The reply:—

"My dear Mother—
So am I.
Your affectionate son,
SAM'L FOOT."

☞ "Sambo, you black tief, Sambo, why you betray dat secret I told yer de oder day?" "I betray de secret? I scorn de 'putation; I found I couldn't keep um, so I told um to somebody dat could."