

And, James, just touch the telegraph,
 And bid my engineer
 Turn out six dozen ploughs next week,
 To get the breaches clear;
 And tell professor Faraday,
 And my sub-chemist, Jones,
 To forward, by next Monday's post,
 Their last extract of bones.

'Tis time I got my turnips in;
 I should not like to mess it;
 And as I've only one square mile,
 There'll be enough to dress it,
 And, James, do turn the battery on,
 The wheat is just in flower,
 And give it one galvanic shock;
 It wants a gentle shower.

And syringe all the cabbage plants
 With essence of guano;
 And ask Miss Jane to milk the cows
 With the new "vaccine piano."
 And, James, fetch down my last balloon,
 With speed-retarding crupper,
 I'm going to Barnet fair to-day,
 And shan't be back till supper.

An Interesting Sheep Experiment.

In Scotland as well as England it is well known there is great attention paid to sheep-breeding, both for the wool and flesh; indeed, there is no country in the world where success has been so great and gratifying. Our best breeds of sheep are obtained there; but we have found that the mixed breeds do better with us in the long run than the pure imported stock. The following experiments, undertaken by the Parlington Tenant's Club of Scotland, as we find it reported in the *Scottish Farmer*, to prove the fattening qualities of certain breeds, will be read with interest. A stone is 14 lbs.)

There was eight different kinds of sheep, and each lot were turned into a two-acre plot of a 16 acre field, each plot being of equal grazing value. The lot consist of—1st, ten crosses from the Teeswater with the Leicester; 2nd, twelve crosses from the Cheviot with the Leicester; 3d, ten Lincolns; 4th, ten South-Downs; 5th, ten Shropshire Downs; 6th, twelve Leicesters; 7th, ten Cotswolds; and 8th, seven odd sheep, one from each of the above classes—all hogs. The fairness of the above trial would thus appear to be somewhat vitiated by the difference in the numbers. The cross Cheviots and the Leicesters would have a sixth less grass than five of the other is, and five-twelfths less than the odd sheep.

The lots were all turned into grass on the 23d of May. A fortnight after this they weighed. The weight of the Teeswater crosses were 106 stones 3 lbs.; of the Cheviot crosses, 124 stone 13 lbs.; of the Lincolns, 125 stone 9 lbs.;

of the South-downs, 95 stone 10 lbs.; Shropshire-Downs, 101 stone 6 lbs.; odd sheep, stone 7 lbs.; Leicesters, 116 stone 3 lbs.; and Cotswolds, 90 stone 9 lbs. Between this date and the fourth of October the Sheep were weighed four times. After four months' grazing, supplemented by 3 lbs. of linseed cake per day, from 17th June to 1st August, and then forward with 6 lbs. per day of the same material, it was found that the Teeswater crosses had added 18 stone 1 lb., or nearly one-sixth to the original weight; that the Cheviot crosses had added 18 stone 9 lbs., or little more than one-seventh; the Lincolns 6 stone 7 lbs.; or about one-twentieth; the South-Downs, 13 stone 2 lb. or less than one-seventh; the Shropshire-Downs, 20 stone 8 lbs., or about one-fifth; the odd sheep, 11 stone 10 lbs.; or almost one-sixth; the Leicesters, 24 stone 7 lb., or nearly one-fourth; and the Cotswolds, 19 stone 6 lbs., or more than one-fifth of the original weight. The advantage is thus in favour of the Leicesters and Cotswolds. The Cheviot crosses, however, do not seem to have had enough of grass, having decreased instead of gaining in weight during the last month.

One sheep of each kind was tried on grass without any artificial food. Under these conditions, the Cheviot and Leicester cross greatly surpassed all the rest, making three stones four months.

The grass eaten is, of course, an item of profit, comes to be calculated, and the Cheviot crosses appear to be the greatest consumers. Next to them the Lincolns and Shropshire Downs bared their pasture most, and after that the pure Leicesters and Cotswolds. The fact that the sheep were not all in the same condition when procured, must also affect the experiment to some extent, but it is to be commended as a step in the right direction.

REMEDY FOR SLEEPINESS IN CHURCH.—An art of balancing has become quite popular, has been deemed worthy of explanation in form of a lecture by the scientific Mr. Pe, who is smart and learned at the same time. We must extract one of the little jokes which he peppered his lecture and made most acceptable fare: he said the old seats in Westminster Abbey, in Henry VIII's Chapel, were placed on an axis which passed through the centre. As long as they remained awake nothing happened, but directly they began to sleep the seat upset and they were thrown out. This unclerical merriment was allowed for at the church at Bishop's Stortford where the seats were similarly constructed. The idea is worthy of introduction into some of our modern "sensation" churches.—*Court J.*

ANTLERS OF THE STAG.—There is no comparison, as regards size, to be made between the antlers of the present and of former centuries. The antlers of the present are greatly inferior to those which were in