

## The Shepherd Song

When I kept sheep on Salis - bu - ry Plain my heart 'e begin to weep — And the  
 sheep and they have out of the fold and they beg - an to bleat Then  
 I rose up with kit - ty and ov - er the hill did go — When \_ the  
 cold storm — y wind when the cold storm - - y winds did blow

[1. We shepherds are the best of men that e'er trod England's ground  
 And when we come to an alehouse, we value not a crown.  
 We spend our money freely and pay before we go,  
 For there's not ale in the wold where the cold stormy winds do blow.  
 (Repeat last 2 lines)]

[2. A man that is a shepherd doth need a valiant heart,  
 He must not be faint-hearted but boldly do his part,  
 He must not be faint-hearted be it rain or frost or snow,  
 With no ale in the vale where the cold wintry winds do blow.  
 (Repeat last 2 lines)]

3. When I kept sheep on Salisbury Plain my heart 'e begin to weep  
 And the sheep and they have out of the fold and they began to bleat  
 Then I rose up with kitty and over the hill did go  
 When the cold stormy wind when the cold stormy winds did blow.  
 (Repeat last 2 lines)

[4. As soon as I had penned them there I turned me back in haste  
 Unto some jovial company some liquor for to taste,  
 For drink and jovial company they are me heart's delight  
 While me sheep lie asleep all the forepart of the night.  
 (Repeat last 2 lines)]

Source: Sung by Peter Gill (83), of Sheepscombe recorded at Stroud Workhouse.  
 Collected by Cecil Sharp on 2 April 1912.

Notes: Sharp collected only one verse (verse 3) from Mr Gill. The remaining words are as sung by  
 Richard Chidlaw of Dursley. The repeat of the last 2 lines is surmised from Sharp's manuscript.