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We consider Abbey's Salt absolutely the best effervescing salt made in any country."

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In Lighter Bein.

The Optimist.

"I'm just a silly optimist with cheerfulness galore,
I'm tired of hearing people say
that everything's a bore;

I'm tired of melancholy moans, and so
I point with pride
To the inspiring axiom that I am satisfied.

If there's anything I love to eat it's food: If there's anything I love to wear it's clothes; And in times of relaxation I have

proved by demonstration is nothing half so restful as There repose.

Absent Treatment.

Ulysses was off to the wars.
"But," protested Penelope, "why go
away to fight? Why not stay at
home?"

Preferring the foreign article, however, he hastily started forth.

A Kissing Duel.

At some amateur theatricals in Victoria two people in the stalls, whenever the heroine was kissed, kissed each other loudly and with ostentation. It turned out that the man in the audience was the husband of the heroine, who disapproved of her theatrical tastes, and (with the help of an amiable friend) took this way of reproving

A Bent Pin.

Little Mary sat on the floor beside her mother's chair, busily dressing her

doil.
"Please give me a pin, mamma," she said, and her mother handed her a pin from the cushion, not heeding that it was bent.

"Oh! this is a wilted one, mamma," she exclaimed. "Can't you give me a fresh one?'

The Man Who Failed.

A man had been sent by the house agents to take an inventory of the drawing-room furniture. He was so long about his task that at last the mistress of the house went to see what was taking place. She found the man slumbering peacefully on the sofa with an empty bottle beside him; it was evident, however, that he had made a pathetic though solitary attempt to do his work, for in the inventory book was written, "One revolving carpet."

Chopping Him Off.

Mr. Coopah (passionately) -"Miss I am in yo' hilarious Smoot, when I feels so influential and delusive dat I can't explain de altitude muh cohesiveness! Miss Smoot-

(coldly)-"Dat's all Miss Smoot right, Mistah Coopah! O' cou'se, I a gen'leman to be cawdial, and all dat, but don't jump up in muh lap, sah; dess please don't jump up in muh

How it Happened.

"So you are a hermit, eh? Well, if you don't mind, kindly tell me how you came to adopt such an undercrowded and nonremunerative profes-

sion?"
"Well, you see, my auto broke down near here, and rather than endure the joshes of the triumphant jibs and farmers of the neighborhood, I took the machine to pieces, carried them to this cave, and have remained here ever since, trying to put them together again. Looks a trifle like rain, off to the northeast, don't it?"

The Sphinx Smiled.

Captain Lambton, when contesting Newcastle, told a story of a ride which he and Lord Charles Beresford took on donkeys in Egypt. The latter had the misfertuae to be thrown to the ground by his comblesome mount.

"Whoa, "ima" in " shouted Lord

to alique form of the address are and Contilla to bloom's curiosity.

"What are you calling that Egyptian moke' Tipperary for?" he asked.
"Well," was the reply, "Tipperary also unseated me when I stood for Parliament!"

The Other Kingdom.

The teacher had been instructing the class about the three kingdoms of the universe, and to make it plain she said, Everything in our school-room belongs to one of the three kingdoms—our desks to the vegetable kingdom, our slates and pens to the mineral king-dom, and little Alice," she added, looking down at the child nearest her, belongs to the animal kingdom." Alice looked up quite resentfully, and her eyes filled with tears as she answered, Teacher, I fink you are mistaken, for my mamma says that all little children belong to the kingdom of heaven."

Palsely Charged.

A little Northern boy was visiting the South for the first time. His awe and admiration for the darkies knew no bounds. Meeting a little negro boy one day, he screwed up his courage to ask

him his name.
"I is dun called David," promptly

replied the little negro.

"Oh!" exclaimed the little fellow, his face full of delighted surprise, "are you the David that killed Gollath?" The little negro gave him a terrified glance, and sticking his dusky nuckles in his eyes, shricked out, "Naw, I ain't nebber teched him."

He Surprised Eliza.

A story is going the rounds of the territory press of a farmer, living a few miles from Henryetta, who wore his old suit until everybody was tired of it, and his estimable wife was almost ashamed of him. But one day, when selling produce in town, he determined to buy a new suit, and a happy thought struck him. He would surprise Eliza. So he bundled a new suit into the wagon, hurried toward home, and at the bridge, two miles from the town, he stood up in the wagon and "peeled" and threw the despised old suit into the creek. Then he reached out for his new clothes. They were gone—had jolted out of the wagon! The night was cold and his teeth chattered as he hurried home. He surprised Eliza even more than he anticipated.

A Typical English Ane

A pleasant story of Sir William Bull, M.F., has just come to light.

One morning recently the member or Hammersmith boarded a London United tramway-car, but found when the conductor came for the fare that he had no money. The conductor politely offered to pay it for him and also said if Sir William wanted any more he would be pleased to lend him some. But Sir William only wanted

his fare. Next morning the conductor was agreeably surprised to receive a silver match-box as a gift from Sir William, and his card, with this inscription: To a courteous gentleman,

who not only lent Sir William Bull n penny, but offered to lend him as much more as he wanted.

On the reverse side was: A friend in need is a friend indeed. Receipt for one penny, kindly lent without security.

Our Colored Belles.

"My stahs, Lowindy, but yo' is suttinly got nice haih. How yo' mek it so long en straight?" asked woolly Miss Geawgiana of her friend Miss Lucinda. "Doan' yo put somefin' on it, now hones' truf?"

"Nevab data

"Nevah done nothin' to it, true as I stan' hyar, only done wrop it up in cup-towel when I sweeps or dus'es. yo' goin' tuh have nice haih yo'll have it, en ef yo' ain't yo' ain't, yo' tek my wohd foh hit, honey W'y, yo' all knows my sistah Evaleen. 'Clah goodness, dat chile's lots neahah wite 'n' I am, but huh haih's as bad as youahs 'n' she's jes' plumb crazy to pick it long en straight. W'y dat po' niggah she spen's houahs on it. She jes' ma-a-nicu'hs hit, en ma-a-nicu'hs