FLASHES OF FUN.

"Why don't you get out of debt?"
"I haven't time. It keeps me busy

Poet: 'Why is it that you never saything that I write?'
Editor: 'Well. I suppose it is you never write anything that I pr

Laura: 'Yee, Ida is engaged.'
Lalian: She has met her match, has she
Laura: 'Oh, no; I think the gentlems
sill find himselt decidedly outclassed.'

'Any unique features at your entertain-ent last night?'
'Yee; the Chinese lanterns didn't get on

Footlight: 'How did your friend play he part of Julus Cesar ?'
Leading Lady: 'Grand! I really hought the audience would assessinate tim before Brutus had a chance.'

"I am so unnoyed. I do not want to in-wate that horrid Mrs. Prim to my recep-tion, yet I cannot elight ber."
"Give her invitation to your husband to

'I wish,' said the blind man, 'people could see things as I do '
'I hear,' said the deaf man, 'that you see much further into things than the ordinary observer.'

Why is it that geniuses are nearly always cocentric?'
'I should say it must be because that's about the only way in which a good deal of genius can obtain recognition.'

'She said she would trust me forever with her heart.
'Well that was satisfactory.'
'Yes; and then we tell out about who would carry the purse.'

Some malicious eld bachelor says that there is a musical society in the next villa to his residence which is fifty years old, and that 'several young ladies have be-longed to it ever since its commencement;

"Young man,' said the young woman's father, 'you have boasted several times that you possess an honoured name.'
'Xes sir,' replied the suitor, haughtily.
'Well, may I inquire what bank it will be honoured at and for how much?'

Grigaon: 'It was great fun sitting there and passing remarks on the people as they came in.'
Sarton: 'Ah, but, talking of fun, you should have heard the remarks of some of the people after you went out.'

'How do you like your new cook?'
'Oh, so so. She is very dirty. She has no idea of cooking, and she smashes everything round her; but still, she has one good and rare quality.'
'What is that?'

'She stays with us.'

'How did you come to think that man had any ot the qualities of a successful author?' it quired the friend.

'Oh,' replied the lecture minager, 'you re judging him merely by his books. You ight to see how uniquely interesting he looks in a dress suit on the platform.'

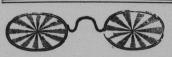
Amateur Photographer (touring in the Western States): 'Pardon me, sir; but would you object to my taking your daugh ter just as she is?'

Farmer Greene: 'Wa-al this is sudden; but take her and be happy. Keep your eyes on him, Sal, till I Scoot round for th'

Slopay (telling story): 'As I went down for the third time every event of my lite passed before me like a flash.'
Lendit (interrupting hastily): 'I suppose you didn't remember borrowing that acvereign of me, year before last, did you?'

'The difference between the idealities and the realities of life, said the philosopher thoughtfully, 'lies in the chance that when you meet your ideal and have ighly satisfied yourselt that she is deal, you will find that you are not

Then it was known that he was not



Eyes Tested Free

BY

EXPERT OPTICIANS.

The best \$1 glasses in the

Everything at cut prices.

Open evenings till 9fo'clock.

USTUM OPTICAL

WELL KNOWN VIOLINIST

Provinces — Interesting State Concerning His Experience.

STELLARTON, N.S.-James R. Murray,

STELLARTON, N.S.—James R. Murray, a well known violinist, of this place, who has traveled extensively throughout the Previnces, makes this statement:

"I was running down in health and my weight fell off from 175 to 150 pounds. Prescriptions did me but little good. My trouble was called nervous dyspepsia. I resorted to Hood's Sarsaparilla and after taking five bottles I was greatly benefited. I feel as well now as ever in my life, and have increased in fiesh so that I now weigh 177 pounds. I am well known in this part of the country, having followed my profession, that of a violin musician for the last 26 years. I gladly tell my friends what Hood's Earsaparilla has done for me. Before I began taking the medicine I did not have any ambition, but now all is changed and my dyspeptic trouble perfectly cured." James R. Murray.

N. B. If you decide to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, do not be induced to buy any substitute. Be sure to get Hood's.

Hood's Pills with Hood's Sarsaparills.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take

PRABLE IN THE PRILIPPINES.

Fisheries of Value Net Worked Among Islands of the Sulu Group. In the picturesquely miscellaneous col-

lection of Sultans, active volcanoes, Rajahs Dyak pirates, and so forth, handed over to the United States in the far Pacific as one result of the Spanish war, are the impor-tant pearl fisheries attached to the Sulu Islands—pearl fisheries that, since the decline of those of Ceylon and the Persian Gull, divide with the north coast of Australis the reputation of being the most val-uable in the world.

The Sulu pearl grounds have for some time been controlled by men or companies with large capital, of which the chief is a great London jawelry firm. These capitalsts equip and send out firets of from twenty to thirty moderate-sized schooners upon annual cruises, and employ in the pursuit, besides European officers and supercargoes many hundreds, if not thousands, of native

It may be information to many that the chief revenue of the pearl fishing industry is derived not from the pearls—a very uncertain contingency—but from the pearl shells, or mother-of-pearl, which brings in the market \$100 a ton acd upward.

As an illustration of this, while the West Australian pearl fisheries netted in one year \$400 000 from the shells, the returns from the find of pearls was valued at a little more than \$150,000, or about onethird. In this respect, while the pearls found in the Sulus are of the finest quality, the mother of pearl is sometimes characterized by a yellowish tint which renders it less valuable commercially than that obtained on the adjacent Australian banks.

The actual diving operations are carried on chiefly by the natives, though of late years Europeans, with diving apparatus, have in some instances been employed. The former method is simplicity itselt. The diver being denuded of his clothes and provided with a knite and a small net bag in which to gather the shells, and having a forty-pound stone attached to his feet, draw a deep breath, and is let rapidly down by a rope into the transparent waters. The depth at which pearl diving is generally carried on is from thirty to forty feet, though depths of eighty feet have been thus reached in a few instances. have been thus reached in a few instances.

Once at the bottom, the diver quckly proceeds to cut the shells from the rocks in his neighborhood, and while filling his bag remains under water for a period of the shell and the shell and the shell are shell as a shell to be leved Dr Williams Pink Pills saved my believe Dr Williams Pink Pills saved my

While thus engaged the divers are ometimes subject to the attacks of sharks, but they find a far deadlier enemy in the exhausting nature of their work, carried on beneath the waters of the tropics. Their lives are generally of short duration after once adopting the profession.

When a vessel has received its full capacity of from twenty to thirty thousands shells, it is put into the shore where the cargo is landed and piled high on the beach for the sun to assist in causing emposition of the dead fish, so that the decomposition of the dead fish, so that the pearls mg be more easily obtained. During the cleaning and washing process great care is exercised in order to discover the loose pearls, which being nearly all perfect spheres, are the most valuable for stringing or necklace purposes, after which the shells are examined for those that may remain attached, furnishing the many quaint shapes to be seen in jewellers windows. Pearls of value are seldom discovered in shells under four years of age—the age being computed by the weight of the shell—and eight years, it would seem, being the extreme limit of pearl mussel long-ovity.

and in the Sulus are re-ment fine white color and soft an and up till the present are principal market in Lon-archipelage has become

chamber's Journal tells of an old lady shop-keeper in a small country town in England who for the last twenty years has kept her accounts in verse. There is, of course, something to be said in tavor of keeping accounts in the orthodox fashion, but on the other hand, there is reason to but on the durr hand. there is reason to believe that a lady so persistently postical would have torcod her way into print and into the ranks of the minor poets if she had not had what we may call a business outlet for her muse. Below are some extracts from her books:

If Mrs. Jones has half a pound of tea on 'tick,' it is entered thus:

Mrs. Jones doth owe to me For half a pound of Southong tes . . 1s. 4d. If Mr. Smith buys a pound of sugar, two pounds of rice and a Dutch cheese, the entry will be, under Smith's name.

A pound of moist sugar,
And two of best rice,
With four pounds of Dutch choose,
Which I hope will be nice . . . 1s. 11%d,

And so on through the book. In some cases the verses express doubt as to the customer's intention or ability to pay for the goods ordered. Thus:

Linnie Barber for her father klad some fluut toda; Some appies, too. and totalet soap, But I don't believe be'l! pay . . . 21. 3d. [This booking work will drive me mad When I think of folks like they.]

The lines in brackets are suggestive, not grammatical, and their sentiment likely to be appreciated by shopkeepe the world over.

La Grippe's Victims.

THE AFTER EFFECTS MORE DAN-GEROUS THAN THE DISPASE.

Wall-Known Quebec Farmer Suffered Untold Misery for Three Years Before He Found Relief,

The epidemic of la grippe which has wept over Canada like a scourge this inter, has left thousands of weak and despairing sufferers in all parts of the land. Grippe is a treacherous disease. You think you are cured, yet the alightest cold brings on a relapse. Its victims are left in a weakened condition and tall an easy prey to its manifold complications. The blood is left impure and impoverished; the nerves shattered, and heart trouble and

pervous prostration are too often the result.

The tollowing statement made by Mr.

Daniel Closey a well known farmer living near West Brome, Que, indicates the ravages made by the after effects of this courge. Mr. Clossey says :- 'Some five years ago I had an attack of la grippe. The earlier symptoms passed away, yet I continued to fail in health, and I suffered intense pain in my head. I was subject to attacks of dizziness, and unless I would grasp something would fall. I gradually grew so weak as to be unable to do any work. My legs and feet were as cold as ice even in the summer months. If I attempted the least exertion my heart would beat violently. For three years I was in this helpless condition, and although during that time I was attended by three diferent doctors, their treatment procured not the slightest benefit. At this time I read the statement of one who had suffered from similar trouble, who was cured by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I decided to try them. The result was simply marvellous. A dozen boxes did what three years of expensive medical treatment failad to make this sta for the benefit it may bring to others.

After an attack of la grippe Dr. Williams Pink Pill is the only medicine that can promptly restore you to health. They drive every trace of the poisonous germs from the system, build up and enrich the blood and strengthen the nerves. Sold by all dealers or sent post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.20 by addressing the Dr Williams' Medicine Co., Brock ville Ont. Always refuse imitation or substitues.

"Not the General's Cow." 'Tommy Atkins—the slang name of the British private—is not noted for his politeness, but for his obedience to orders Years ago in a seaport town in England s general and an admiral were neighbors. The generals house was tronted by grass-plot, on which he pastured a cow. One day his wife complained to him that the supply of milk was falling short. The sentinel accounted for the deficency—The public trod down the pasture. There upon the general gave orders that no human or other aximal except his cow

ath in the tea-pot." Well cheap teas-at tead of steeped—caused the saying. G

A pure hard Soap which has peculiar qualities for Laundry Uses.

5 cents a cake.

should he allowed on the grass-plot. He added that if this rule was intringed the sentiael should be flogged. Soon after, the admirals wife in haste to keep an engagment, toak a short cut over the plot, diaregarding the sentiaels orders to keep off the grass.

"Common soldier, don't you hnow who I am ? ejsculated the offended lady.

"All know is that you're not the generals cow," was the reply.

FIVE CARDS TOLD THE STORY.

Suicide's Sufficient Explaination of the Pinch Act of his Life,

'I was dealing a game out of the box in Kansıs City back in '84 wh'n a man killed himself in the upstairs part of the establishment,' said a man with short grey hair and a pair of piercing eyes. 'I was the first man upstais after the shot was fired, and when I looked the man over I remembered him as a young chap of rather dissolute habits who had struck Kansas City with apparently plenty of money only a few weeks before. There were five or six four-handed poker games running in the room. I asked the three men—cattle men from Kansas, they were—what had ailed there table mate. They passed it

'He justs bauls out his gun sudden and does the Dutch act,' said one of them. 'Maybe he was a hard loser. I believe we're into him a few hundreds.

'Didnt he say anything at all before plunging himself. ? I asked.

'Nary a say, was the reply. 'Just scanned his hand—a pretty tairish sized jack pot, which he had opened himself —and then he reaches behind and brings up that silver-mounted pop-gun, which don't look like its built to kill a full-grown man at that. Then he puts it behind his right ear—we just looking at him, think-ing the's fooling—and off it goes, and there he is, too dead to skin. It's a queer enough game to get me going.
'A jack pot, you say?' I inquired. 'Who

'The men looked at one another. They they had thrown face down when the young man had shot himself. One of them had ens up on nines, that he had had on the tens up on nines, that he had had on the go-m. Another had a pair of queens, also on the go in, and the last of the three had drawn to an ace and failed to connect. Then I turned over the suicide's cards, that he had glaid down neatly before reaching tor his gun. There were a pair of sixes, an eight, a tray, and a king. I showed the cards to the three men. They understood. 'The ombrey needn't have killed himself over it,' said one of them. 'He might have got thrown out of the window and his pule confiscated, but he wouldn's ha' got killed.'

'The young fellow had taken a big win-

'The young fellow had taken a big win-out chance in a moment of desperation by opening a jack pot without holding the openers, a lock not without holding the openers, and when it failed to go through he was atraid of the consequences or crazy or something, and so he just let gaslight into his head, which, for all the men who had been playing with him said, would unquestionably have happened to him when

A Wonderful Clock.

A remarkable mechanical clock has re-cently been completed by M. Noil, after five years of uninterrupted work. The clock, which is of enormous size, weighs 4,000 kilogrammes, and the whole of the orks have been made by hand. It is built to represent a church, and there are forty-six mechanical figures, which go through various evolutions. The clock indicates the seconds, minutes, quarters, hours, days,

'I shall have to ask you for a ticket it that bov, ma'am.'
'I think not.'
'He's too old to travel free. He o cupies a whole seat, and the train's cross ed. There are people standing up 'That's all right.'
'I haven't any time to argue the matter ma'am' You'll kave to pay for that bor 'I've never paid for him yot, and I' not going to begin to do it row.'
'You've got to begin doing it some time If you haven't had to pay any lare for his you're lucky, or else you don't do mattravelling.'

travelling."

'That's all right."

'You'll pay for that boy, ma'um, or PH have to stop the tram and put him off."

'That's all right. You put him off if you think that's the way to get anything out of my

out of me.'

'You ought to know what the rules this company are, madam. How all that boy !'

'I don't know. I never saw him bels if you want a ticket for him you'd be ask that old gentleman sitting in the corr He got on with him.'

Don't Rub Your Even

Whenever your organs of sight feel weak do not claw at them with the knuckies, so to express it. You must not massage you eyes the same way you would the eyes the same way you would the strong parts of the body. They need help from the hands, but this help must be admired tered very gently and delicately. A wal known physician had a way of treating he eyes which, it is said, preserved the vision to old age without the help spectacles. This was to place his thum and for fineer each very second to the spectacles. spectacles. This was to place his thumb and for finger each upon an eyelid and gently rub them toward the nose a number of times each day. The action encourages circulation of the blood in that locality, does away with the tiny spots that sometimes float before the vision, and prevent that flattening of the lenses which caused dimness of sight at a certain local. It is wonderful how much good can be done to the eyes of people of all ages by using this simple exercise ten or fifteen minutes each day.

'The men looked at one another. Incy didn't know. The young tellow had put the ball in his head before the pot was decided. They looked at their hands that the face of his auditors bore evident doubts of his auditors bore evident doubts of his auditors bore evident doubts of his At a party one evening a ge of his auditors bore evident doubts of his veracity, he appealed to a gentleman, who had been present at the time when the matter occurred, to corroborate his statements. To his surprise and indignation, this gentlemen denied all knowledge of the affair. Meeting next day, the marrator asked his triend: 'Is it possible that you can have forforten the circumstances you can have forfotten the circumsta which I related last night? "Certainly replied the other. 'But I could see everyone present took you for a liar, I had more regard for my character run the risk of being taken another.

Shabby Windsor or bent wood chairs bedroom or 'den' by being p with black enamel paint. It, wh

Heads on U

PATENTS