MARY SMITH.

BY EUGENE FIELD

Away down East, where I was reared among my Yankee kith. There used to live a pretty girl whose name

was Mary Smith: nd though it's many years since last I saw

that pretty girl, And though I feel I'm sadly worn by Western strife and whirl.

Still, oftentimes, I think about the old familiar place,

Which, someway, seemed the brighter for Miss Mary's pretty face,

And in my heart I feel once more revivified the glow

I used to feel in those old times when I was Mary's beau.

On Fri lay night I'd drop around to make my weekly call, And, though I came to visit her, I'd have to

see 'em all: With Mary's mother sitting here and Mary's father there.

The conversation never flagged so far as I'm aware: Sometimes I'd holl her worsted, sometimes

we'd play at games,

each other's names-Oh, how I loathed the shrill-toned clock that told me when to go!

Twas ten o'clock at ha f-past eight when I was Mary's beau.

And Mary, should these lines of mine seek out your biding place, God grant they bring the old sweet smile

back to your pretty face-God grant they b ing you thoughts of me, not

as I am to-day, With faltering step and dimming eyes and aspeet grimly gray;

But thoughts that picture me as fair and full of life and glee As we were in the olden time-as you shall al-

ways be. Think of me ever, Mary, as the boy you used to know

When time was fleet and life was sweet, and I was Mary's beau.

(Dear hills of old New England, look down with tender eyes Upon one li tle, lonely grave that in your

bosom lies; For in that cradle sleeps a child who was so

fair to see God yearned to have unto Himself the joy she brought to me;

And bid your winds sing soft and low the song of other days, When, hand in hand and heart to heart, we

went our pleasant ways-Ah me! but could I s ng again that song of long ago

Instead of this poor, idle song of being Mary's

BY J. L. HARBOUR.

the "Help Wanted" columns of the daily Perry's situation. rs for several days. He needed after a brief illness, leaving no property, Perry. The boy must care for them.

Perry faced the situation manfully. He had intended to go to college, but he gave up his high hopes without bemoaning. He procured some good letters trains. from men who knew bim well, vouching for the sturdy character that he had proved.

He was ready to do any honest work that a boy of his years and inexperience they paid little attention to him. could do to earn even a small salary. One day he read this notice in a paper published in the city where he lived:

WANTED.—A young man of from eighteen to twenty years of age for a responsible position a few miles from the city. No previous experience required. Must come well recommended as to character, and be ready to go to work at once. Call between nine and ven this morning at 269 B Street, Room 14.

Perry was at 269 B street, armed with his letters, and standing at the door of twenty-five boys and men had formed in line. Perry was third in the line. At nine o'clock the door was opened

by an elderly man, who gave an exclamawere waiting. Then he said: "Well, 'First come, first served.

need only one. I'll talk with you." He nodded toward a tall young man at the head of the line, who stepped briskly into the room, and the door was closed. The young man came out five minutes the gentleman came to the door and said,

The next young man came out, too, and then it was Perry's turn. He was asked regarding his age and

family, and his recommendations were "These are all good," said the gentle "Now do you know where Lake

Windom is?" "Yes, sir." "If I engaged you, I would want the grounds." you to go out there and stay until Octo-

"Very well, sir."

"Have you ever been out there?" "Yes, sir, I went out there to a picnic the men. one day last summer.'

There are picnic parties at the lake still rowing. nearly every day from the middle of May to about the tenth of October. The to you. owners of the lake and grounds want some one to go out there and take rowing faster than ever. charge of the boats that are hired out by the hour to pleasure parties, and collect the charges. There are some other things to be done, but nothing that a boy of rowed after Perry, who now threw off thought of imitating my example, but your age could not do. But I want to his coat, and rowed as hard and as fast now there are several other plantations tell you beforehand that you will have a as he could. lonely time of it at night.' "Wouldn't there be any one else there

at night but myself?" "No, you would be entirely alone. There is a cafe there, and a peanut stand or two, and a man who takes tintypes.

that they were gaining on him.

They shouted to him to stop, declar-But these people go to their homes in ing they meant him no harm, but he Crofton, a town about a mile from the paid no heed, and rowed on steadily. Crofton, a town about a mile from the paid no heed, and rowed on steadily. lake, at night. We should want you to They were gaining, and Perry feared lake, at night. We should want you to stay at the grove for several reasons. I that the two boats would reach the optimize safe enough, but it would be lonesome."

They were gaining, and Perry feared that the two boats would reach the optimize safe enough, but it would be lonesome."

Spanish populace is the bull ring, and 15,000 or 20,000 people can often be seen at a bull fight in Madrid. The Infanta Eulalia is a member of the royal

ions of long, lonely nights passed through his mind; but his need of money was have it, boy! It'll be the worse for you

"I'll be glad to go if the pay suits me," he said. "Well, I will give you ten dollars a

stay until Monday morning." It was more than he expected. He or eight dollars a week for anything an

"Thank you, sir," he said. "I will report for duty to-morrow morning." All right. There is to be a big picnic party out at the lake to-morrow, and the young man who had charge of the boats and swings last year will go out with you and instruct you in your duties I would like you to go out on the seven o'clock train. Call here at about three this afternoon and get your railroad ticket for six months.

Lake Windom, twenty miles from the city, was a clear, deep body of water about three-fourths of a mile long and half a mile wide. The grass grew to the very edge of the water all around, and at one side was a large and pretty grove Sometimes dissect the apples which we named fitted up for picnic parties that paid for

the use of the grounds. There were thirty-five or forty small boats for hiring out at fifty cents an hour to pienickers. It was Perry's duty to take full charge of these boats and to collect the money for their use.

There were some swings with box seats cents a half-hour was charged for the aside there, old gentleman. swings. Then there was a bowling alley in charge of a young man named Hale, who lived in Crofton. He went to his home every evening, after turning over the receipts of the bowling alley to Perry.

The total sum thus placed in Perry's charge sometimes amounted to seventyfive dollars.

Perry's situation was a pleasant one in the day time, when the grounds were often filled with merry picnic parties, but the silence and loneliness that followed their departure were depressing. The sounds were heard except the dismal hooting of owls in the dim woods or the mournful song of the whippoorwill.

As the shadows of the trees length; ened on the lake and the water darkened in the twilight, Perry would sometimes take a boat and row for an hour or two, after walking around through the deserted woods to pick up things lost by

the picknickers. The keeper of the cafe always set out Perry's supper, and then left for Crofton After eating his lonely meal, time would drag slowly with the boy until 9 o'clock, when he "turned in" for the night. He slept in a bare little room at one end of the cafe building-an unpainted and un-

plastered structure. of Perry's nights came to an end, but he and sent to the penitentiary. would have preferred solitude to the company that then resorted to the that summer, but sent the boat money to grounds. Nearly every night the place the city every day, and was never molested was visited by tramps, whose shouts and | again .- | Youth's Companion. Perry Dakin had been eagerly scanning | brawls increased the disagreeableness of

The tramps would wander around the emething to do. His father had died grove, picking up and eating the food Cutting Time Comes Once in Four thrown away by the picnic parties, before and a widow and two little girls, besides | going to sleep in the dancing pavilion or He was seventeen years old, strong and cafe. Here little that could be stolen or tral Railroad, and about nine miles from prietor, who took his stock in trade to peculiar in that it renders to its owner Crofton every evening and returned in and tiller but one crop in four years, and the morning before the arrival of picnic that a crop of willow shoots.

> The tramps never came around in the they were ignorant of the fact that he had money in his possession.

Perry's instructions were that he should send to the city every Thursday morning his receipts for the three previous days, and bring in with him on the three closing days of each week. On on successive days amounted to nearly a them of their green outer covering, and, hundred dollars.

The money made a package of con-siderable size. Almost half was in it all tied up in a handkerchief.

The third picuic party left the grove at five in the afternoon and Perry was alone on the grounds, sitting in one of by a shout, "Hello!"

Perry looked up. Two tramps, whom he had never seen about the place before, iron wire -and different woods. Among had come from behind a small building the best families in European countries later looking a little crestfallen. Then on the shore, and were looking at him cradles, woven by German workers, may with interest.

"Good morning," replied Perry, gathinto the handkerchief. "Kind o' struck it rich, ain't you,

young feller?" said one of the men. "No," replied Perry, "I haven't. It fowl, isn't my money. "Oh, it hain't? Whose might it be,

then?"

"Nowhere in particular," said Perry,

"I haven't got time," called out Perry, The two men exchanged a few words, in a form for the weaver. which the boy could not hear. Then they jumped into another boat and

before the tramps started. But they

were two to one, and he soon realized

'Yes, I suppose so," said Percy. Vis- became angry, and called out.

"We're after that money, and we'll

if you don't stop!" Perry's boat grated on the pebbly bank about twenty feet in advance of his pursuers'. The boy jumped out and ran week and your board at the cafe and a swiftly through a narrow strip of timber ticket on the railroad, so that you can to a wagon road, on the opposite side of come to the city every Saturday night and which was a field in which a tall, thin, elderly farmer was cutting grass with a scythe. Perry slipped between the rails had not hoped to receive more than seven of the fence and ran toward the farmer. "Help me to defend myself!" ne nexperienced boy like himself could shouted to the astonished man. "There are two tramps after me. They're after money that isn't mine. Here they are!"

The tramps came running across the road, jumped over the fence and advanced bold!y. "Hand over that money of ours, you young thief, you!" said one, and shook

his fist at Perry, who was standing close to the farmer's side. "Your money?" said Perry, indignantly. "It isn't your money, and you

can't touch it." "We can't, hey? See if we don't!"

He advanced a few steps. "Hold on, my friend," said the far-"Jest stop right where you air until we talk this matter over. Now, boy, go on and give us your side of the case. "It belongs to the owners of the lake grounds. I have charge of the boats over there, and these fellows have been trying to take it from me."

"Well, if that ain't a good one!" sneered one of the tramps. "But it won't do, boy. The money's ours, and we don't feel called on to say any more bout for four persons near the boats. Ten it, 'cept that we're goin' to have it. Stand

"I reckon not!" said the farmer. "I've heerd both sides o' the case, an' if you'll 'scuse me fer speakin' so plain, I don't b'lieve a word you two rascals have said -a purty pair you air. This is a clean, straight-for'd-lookin' boy, an' you ain't nary the one nor the other-no you don't -no you don't! Not a step nigher!" He held up the scythe threateningly.

"I wouldn't want a better weepin' than this old scythe to defend myself agin a dozen sich fellers as you be. You jest come within swing o' my scythe if you think it'll be healthy fer you. Law! lake was secluded, and as night came few I'd cut ye down fer the two wuthless weeds of the airth that you be! Here, boy, jest slip your hand down into the pocket of my overalls and you'll find a knife there with a blade 'bout six inches long. You take the knife an' I'll hang on to the scythe, an' I reckon we kin hold the fort for quite a spell."

They did not have to hold it long, for the two tramps soon took their departure, but they were not allowed the privilege of departing in peace.

An hour later the farmer drove over to Crofton with Perry, and notified the authorities. The deputy-sheriff there had been looking for two such men, who were wanted for burglary. A posse was organized, and before

nine o'clock the two men were in the As the season advanced, the loneliness | Crofton jail. They were tried, convicted Perry remained at the lake the rest of

WILLOW AS A CROP.

Years, But It Pays. on the long covered piazza in front of the of Melvale station, on the Northern Ceneaten was kept over night by the pro- the city, there is a peculiar farm. It is

The farmer, Antone Spath, came from Frankfort, Germany, many years ago, daytime, and Perry tried to believe that and after erecting himself a comfortable stone house, which still stands in the Usually | midst of a picturesque clump of willows, at the end of the little valley, set about planting his first crop of willow shoots. Every year he has gone on planting row after row until the valley has become covered with them. Spath had learned Saturday night the money taken during the art of weaving willow ware in his boyhood days by the shores of the River Wednesday night of the fifth week of his | Main, and as fast as his little plantation stay his takings from three large picnics grew he gathered the shoots, stripped

after drying them, wove baskets of every conceivable form or size. "It seems rather peculiar work in this room 14 at eight o'clock, where, by nine silver, and the rest in bills. Perry had country," said the willow farmer, in speaking of his business, "but in all parts of Europe, especially in the German provinces, it is a very common thing to find willow plantations and tion of surprise when he saw how many the boats counting the money. He had willow weavers, for there willow is used were waiting. Then he said: each, and the bills he was running over of purposes than I find it used in this Sorry I can't employ all of you, but I in his hands. Suddenly he was startled country. In Germany and France willow is employed in making at least twenty different sorts of bird cages, while in America metal is used-brass or be found constructed entirely of willow. Then there are a hundred and one shapes ering up the money and putting it back of marketing baskets, baskets used by milliners and laundresses, baskets and panniers to be carried upon the backs of

man and beasts for holding fish and "In preparing the willow for the weaver, we plait the slips in long rows, parallel with a running stream of water. "It belongs to the company that owns and cut them when they have attained four years of growth. The cutting time While he was speaking he picked up is early in the spring, before the sap is the oars and sent the boat out from the done running, and after tying them in ore. bundles they are placed in ponds of water to keep them in a green state until ready for stripping. Stripping the willow is accomplished by drawing the switches through and between two heavy "Well, wait a minute, we want to talk iron stanchions, whose edges peel the light green bark from the white heart, and then, after drying or curing them upon long racks, we have got the willow

"It was many years after I planted this farm with willows before any one as he could.

He had learned to row very well at the lake, and was well out on the water quite as busy scenes there, you will scarcely find a more picturesque place than this anywhere, and that was one of the reasons that led me to settle here.'

-[Baltimore American. THE great national pastime of the family who finds enjoyment in the sport

Aunt Masie the Snake Woman,

There has recently died a well known character of Okolona, Miss., known as "Aunt Masie Huggins," or the "Snake Woman," who lived an isolated life with snakes as her only friends. She had built herself a hovel composed of branches of trees, clay and other debris, which, though often washed down by the rains, she would build up again. This novel residence is said to have been fairly alive with snakes of every local variety, hanging from overhead, lying under foot, and creeping from the chinks in the wall. The woman subsisted on the products of a small garden near her cabin, which she cultivated herself. With the exception of the necessary intercourse with those from whom she purchased the few things she required, she was never known for over thirty years to have held any conversation with any human being. She could often be met after dark walking through the town with her strange companions twined about her arms, her neck, and nestling in her bosom, with their ugly heads protruding, hissing at every one that passed.

On these occasions, however, when hailed or questioned she would make no reply. Once some boys of the neighborbood prowling about her cabin found several of the snakes on the outside and killed them, and before they were aware of it Aunt Masie appeared in the doorway with a shotgun, which she let fly at the crowd. None of the boys were killed, but one of them was shot through the ear, and the rest scattered in a hurry. That the woman's mind was affected there seems little doubt. Her only son while out hunting in the woods was bitten by a rattlesnake, and days afterward his swollen and discolored body was found. This appeared to craze his mother, who left her home, saying the snakes were calling her to come and live with them, and that they would give her back her

She is said to have come of a good family, and to have been well educated. When discovered she had been dead for days, and the snakes were crawling over the body, but fled on the appearance of strangers, and have not been seen near the cabin since. By those who have seen her surrounded by her queer adopted family it has been estimated that there must have been at least 200 of them, numbering among themseveral venomous varieties. The woman did not claim to have charmed them, as the saying goes, but it is probable that her perfect fear-lessness tamed them.-[P'iladelphia Times.

Why Stars "Twinkle."

If we look intently at a bright star we notice that the color and intensity of the light is constantly changing from brilliancy to almost total obscurity, and from bright red to blue, orange, yellow, etc. This is the phenomenon usually spoken of as the "twinkling" or scintillation of the stars. The "twinkling" will be noticed more plainly when the star is near the horizon, and will diminish in intensity as it rises until it is near the zenith, at which time the twinkconfessed that this twinkling has never been explained to the satisfaction of all In a beau iful sweep of lowland north investigators. However, it is generally believed to be due to controlling causes within the earth's atmosphere. That the cause may be looked for within the belt of air that surrounds our planet (to particles of vapor, dust, etc.) may be inferred from the fact that the planets never exhibit the charateristic twinkling so noticeable in the star. One reason for this is the size (apparent) of the planets. The planets each show a sensible disk even to the naked eye, while the strongest instrument in the world only shows the stars as being mere points of light. This being, the case, any foreign substance in the atmosphere would momentarily hide the light and make the star appear to "twinkle."-[St. Louis Ra-

Founded by a Numismatist.

George W. Becker, of Dover township, exhibits a number of coins which he found in the Conewago Mountains. There are fourteen pieces in all. They are all brass except one, which is composed of nickel or lead. Five of the coins are about the size of a twentydollar gold piece, while the balance are the size of a cent. They are all round except one of the large ones, which is eight-cornered. On one side of the large coins are the English letters "N. V, A," and the figures "8" and "728," the former at the top and the latter at the bottom of the coin. On the reverse side is an "N," with strange figures and hieroglyphics in the spaces between the On the lead piece the hieroglyphics are the same, but the letters are different, viz.: "S, V, L, T." A large number of persons have examined them, but no one has been able to tell to what nation or country they belong. The coins are not tarnished and are in a good state of preservation. The brass coins appear to be galvanized. Mr. Becker says he found them on the surface of a rough strip of land in the Conewago Mountains, where he had planted strawberries. He also found near the same place a number of Indian relics. The coins will be sent to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. - [Baltimore American.

Freaks of the West.

An extraordinary freak of nature is reported at Rigdon, nine miles north of Elwood, Ill., in the shape of a calf with two perfectly developed heads. It is healthy, playful, and it seems to have two separate and distinct appetites. Hardly less wonderful is the four-legged chicken hatched at Portland, Ind., a few days ago. It is represented as extremely vivacious and self-assertive, and a long and useful life is fondly anticipated for the little quadruped. The extra legs come out just behind the others and doubtless will be found convenient for purposes of rest when the regular legs become tired. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the faithful telegraphic correspondents to whose tireless energy and unerring instinct in the search for exciting news the public is indebted for these remarkable facts .-- [Chicago Tri-

THE JOKERS' BUDGET

JESTS AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Unbalanced-A Dangerous Question-A Good Foundation-Not to be Overworked-A Passing Object, Etc., Etc.

UNBALANCED. Doodle-I hear that Tikkle has entered

the third wife. Noodle-Yes. Doodle-I thought he'd vowed to remain single for the balance of his days? Noodle-So he had, but you see the trouble with him was that he never had any balance. - [Boston Courier.

the matrimonial circle again and taken

A DANGEROUS QUESTION. Wykoff-Dear me! Old fellow, how came you so dreadfully hoarse ? Raykoff-Adswerigg the blabed fools that ask be how I caught this cold. Good-bordigg."-[Chicago Tribune.

A GOOD FOUNDATION. Foreign Visitor-Your American so-

ciety has no old castles with haunted American Girl-N-o, we haven't, I admit; but (brightening) we have plenty of

A WISE PROVISION OF NATURE.

Teacher-What are marsupisls? Boy-Animals which have pouches in

their stomachs. Teicher-And what do they have nouches for? Boy-To crawl into and conceal them-

selves in when they are pursued .-[Figaro.

NOT TO BE OVERWORKED.

Mrs. Younglove-Shall you expect me to bake my own bread? Mr. Younglove-Just as you prefer, dearest; but you needn't bother about baking mine. - [Puck.

A PASSING OBJECT.

Attorney-Did you see what passed between the two men during the quarrel? Witness-No, sir. Attorney-You were present, were you

Witness-Yes, sir; but my eyes are not quick enough to follow a bullet .-

A COOL CALLER.

Miss Dukkets-I heard you tell Mr. Getthere I was not in?

Bridget-I did, mum. Miss Dukkets-What did he say? Bridget-He said, "Well, tell her to come down as soon as she is in." He's boss gets hot .- [Troy Press.

in the parlor .-- [Puck. A FALLING OUT.

"Binkles and his girl have had another falling out," "Is it possible? What caused it?" "Defective hammock."-[Washington

Too hot to drink, too hot to write. Too hot for joy and laughter; Too hot for Georgia fish to bite

And lie about 'em after. - Atlanta Constitution. SWEET DEDUCTION.

Tommy-Paw, I read that a man can stop chewing tobacco by eating candy. Do you suppose that is true? Mr. Figg-Probably. Tommy-Say, paw, if a little boy was kept filled up with candy all the time, don't you suppose that he would never

want to learn to chew tobacco?-[Indianapolis Journal.

IT WAS FAR TOO TEMPTING. "I think, Willie," said his father, who of something surprising and wonderful had been looking through the new house, that it was a new herring. I was fur-I shall give you one of the rooms at the ther told that new herring cost a few other end of the building.

"What's the matter with this one?"

ing slowly down over the eye, "is that herring were not during the season any the window opens out on the kitchen dearer; only, though just as fresh, they roof, the coal shed is close to the were not called a new her:ing. The kitchen, and this is the circus season." -[Chicago Tribune.

TRUE. day that Mehling was a pressman. you say he is an expressman. How is cents, to ten cents, to five cents, and

Quingly - He was discharged last

night. That's how he became an expressman.

IT HAS ITS USES.

Cholly-Fweddy, we can't get through this crowd. Fweddy-Wait a minute, Cholly. Here comes a lady with a parasol. will follow her .-- [Truth.

SAME THING IN THE END. Maud-The word "homely" is not used in the same way in England as it is in America. A homely girl there means one who is fond of domestic surround-

Marie-Domestic surroundings are the only things a homely girl has a chance of being fond of, whether in England or America. - [Life.

WELL NAMED. Friend -I see you have named a new

brand of cigarettes after Cicero. Manufacturer—Just so, Friend—But Cicero knew nothing about tobacco. Manufacturer-That's all right, No

tobacco in 'em .- Good News. AN AWKWARD QUESTION. Miss Keedick—Oh, yes, I know Miss Gildersleeve very well. She's a friend

of my youth. Miss Gaskett - And what is your vouth's name?

A LOUD SNORER. "My dear, Johnny must not use his scroll-saw while I am taking my nap.

You know it makes me pervous. Please

tell him to stop." "Johnny isn't sawing. He isn't home from the ball game yet." "Oh, he isn't, eh? I suppose what I heard was an echo from a saw-mill some-

where off in the mountains." "No. Mr. Wilkins, it was not, was your own snoring you heard."

CAN THELP THEMSELVES.

He-If there is anything I detest it's a flirty woman

She-Humph! Why not a flirty man? He-Oh, well, a man has some excuse. Women are so attractive, you know .--|New York Weekly.

INDEFINITE PRAISE.

"Does she sing?" asked the young "Oh, yes," replied the girl to whom he was talking. "Why, all her neighbors stay awake nights listening to her."

POWER OF THE PRESS.

- Washington Star.

New York Weekly.

Famous Scientist (excitedly)-Something must be done to stop the spread of the opium habit among women. Great Editor (calmly)-Very well, sir; I'll put in a paragraph saying that a hankering for opium is a sign of old age .-

HIS SOLE PETITION.

His Honor-Have you anything to say before sentence is passed upon you? The Convicted-Yes, Your Honor, I have one simple request to make. In sentencing me please don't say that I was convicted by a jury of my peers .-

ODDS AND ENDS.

To miss the last car and not have the price of a coupe is what tires men's soles. - Detroit Free Press.

He-This shoe doesn't fit. Try a bigger one. She (severely)-No, sir; bring me the same size a little larger .- [Denver Sun.

To Angeline-If you are as dissatisfied with your lot as your letter indicates we advise you to see a real estate agent at once. - Troy Press.

A number of prominent New Yorkers have incorporated the "Oval Club," but this need not prevent their new social circle from being conducted on the square. -[Philadelphia Ledger.

When a girl first begins to wear long dresses the advent of the mosquito season doesn't seem nearly so dreadful to her as it did only twelve short months before .--Somerville Journal. In these days of general financial dis-

sional vocalist to know that his capital s sound. - Buffalo Courier. The small boy cries out against the gooseberry pie-but not until after taking .- [Cleveland Plain Dealer.

aster it must be comforting to the profes-

When a man's dollars have gone to the dogs that's the time he has to whistle for them .- [Philadelphia Times. Almost any employee can tell you that

some one is liable to be fired when the Father-in-Law--I am ruined; all is lost. Son-in-Law-Ahem! Then I mar-

ried for love after all?- Tid-Bits. Tourist (at Swiss hotel, giving up the struggle with an uncommonly tough steak)-Here, waiter, get them to fasten these beef-steaks to the bottom of my boot soles, I am doing a stiff climb tomorrow.--[Humoristische Blatter.

Holland's Herring Aristocracy.

Needless to say that, being so surrounded by water, the Dutch are great lovers of fish. Indeed, social rank is indicated by the consumption of fish, and strange to say that for this purpose the humblest of all fish, the common

herring, has been selected. At a good restaurant at Amsterdam I asked for a thoroughly Dutch dish, and to my great surprise a small raw herring was served to me, and for this strange dish I was made to pay a very large price. In answer to my inquiries I was informed in a particular tone indicative weeks ago as much as \$1 each. I protested that in London new herring were inquired Willie, anxiously.

"The matter, my son," rejoined the experienced parent, his left cyclid comwas smilingly informed that in Holland point is to eat a new herring, and a new herring means a herring out of season, or the first herring that heralds the coming season. It is these rare and early herring Bumly-I thought you told me yester. that are sold at \$1 each. Then the price Now falls to half a dollar, then to twenty

> finally to one cent or less. When the new herring are first announced Dutchmen inquire of one another, "Have you already eaten a new herring ?" If you are able to answer "Yes" early in the season then you are considered a man of means and importance. But if you continue for long confessing that you have not eaten any new herring then your kind and charitable friends conclude you must be involved in serious financial difficulties. - Chicago Times.

He Dies Once a Week.

An Italian, who cannot be other than a most remarkable impostor, has been playing wonderful tricks upon the good people of Tiflis, in the Caucasus, Russia. His name is Tagarelli, and while he cannot be termed an Italian in the strict sense of the word, having been born in Russia, of parents born in the same country, it is known that he is of that extraction.

He is known all over the land of the Czar as "The Dying Prophet," his ability to delude the public depending on a queer faculty he has for dying and returning to life once every week. A person who has viewed the situation

on the ground says: The audacity of his pretensions, the skill with which they are maintained, and above all the profound effect produced upon all who come in contact with him, have no parallel in history. He is a most extraordinary being, and if he be an impostor, then he is the most marvellous impostor of the age. He dies, to all appearances, and the ordinary death tests declare that life is extinct. While in this condition he leclares that his spirit visits "the other world," but which of the two he will son

All that he will divulge in regard to his doings while on these "trips" is that he can tell the spiritual standing of every person who cares enough about it to make inquiries .- [New York Journal.