

ages, and other savoury articles for the tea meal, they are compelled to do with floating batteries. See SLINGERS.

Floating hell (old slang). The hulks were so called by those who brought themselves within the clutches of the law.

Flock of sheep (domino players), the row of dominoes before a player (Baumann).

Flogger (common), a whip.

Compared with the light and elegant *floggers* of the present day, it is a heavy, common "riding companion," with a massive silver handle, with a short twisted lash.—*Sporting Times*.

Flogging (popular), a man who is careful and penurious is said to be *flogging*, or saving his coin.

Flogging cove (prison), the official who administers the cat.

Floored (studios), is said of a picture hung on the lowest row at the Exhibition of the Royal Academy.

Floorer (pugilistic), a knock-down blow. (Common), unexpected news of an unpleasant nature; a decisive argument or retort; a question which utterly embarrasses one.

The Putney Pet stared. . . . The inquiry for his college was in the language of his profession a "regular floorer."—*Cuthbert Bede: Adventures of Mr. Verdant Green*.

(Schools), a question or paper too hard to be mastered, that

on the contrary masters you. (Skittles), a stroke that brings all the pins down.

Floor, to. This word is recognised in the sense of to strike down, hence to put to silence by some decisive argument or retort: given by Wright as college cant, with the sense of "to throw on the floor as done with; hence to finish with." Gathered from the quotation—

I've *floored* my little-go work.—*Hughes: Tom Brown at Oxford*.

In the above the true sense is, "I have mastered," &c. Dr. Brewer says: "Thus we say at the University, 'I *floored* that paper,' *i.e.*, answered every question on it; 'I *floored* that problem,' did it perfectly, or made myself master of it."

Floor-walker (American), a man employed in shops to ask those who enter what they want, and direct them to the department where it is sold.

I next went into a shop a few doors farther up Broadway. When I entered I approached the *floor-walker*, and handing him my sample, said: "Have you any calico like this?" "Yes, sir," said he. "Third counter to the right."—*Frank R. Stockton*.

Called in England shop-walkers.

Flop (Vermont University), explained by quotation.

Any "cute" performance by which a man is sold is a good *flop*, and by a phrase borrowed from the tall ground is "rightly