

peddler, who was at once recognized by all of them.

When the joke was explained to him, Alpheus reformed, began to think more of himself, overcame his fits of sadness and the blues, and became a better and happier man.

Little Stories.

What Did He Mean?

A clerical gentleman was walking through the main street of a small town where he had once been minister, and meeting an old member of his church, paused to speak with her.

"How are you, Mrs. Block?" said he kindly.

"Fairly well," said the woman plaintively.

"And how is your husband?"

"My husband is in heaven, sir, this two years."

"In heaven! I am very sorry to hear it," responded the clergyman absently, as he passed on, leaving the poor woman dumb with astonishment.

A Cruel Infliction.

The other day, in a Sunday school class of boys between the ages of six and ten, a question was asked as to how God punished Adam for disobeying him. There was silence for a moment or so, and then one bright boy said:

"Please, sir, God took away one of his ribs and gave him a wife."

A Slight Interruption.

The little boy was on his knees in his little night dress saying his prayers, and his little sister could n't resist the temptation to tickle the soles of his little feet. He stood it as long as he could, then he said:

"Please, God, excuse me while I knock the stuffing out of Nellie."

Impossible.

"What is a miracle? Well," said a negro preacher, "if you saw a cow in a field, it wouldn't be a miracle; and if you saw the cow climbing a tree, that wouldn't be a miracle; but if you saw the cow climbing the tree backwards, that would be a miracle."

He Ought to Know.

Miss Penstock.—What became of the clergyman who preached such a grand sermon on "The sins of covetousness?"

Miss Hammond (of Chicago).—He went to another church that offered him a larger salary."

Not That Kind.

Waiter.—What's your order, ma'm?

Guest.—I'll take some beefsteak.

Waiter.—Medium?

Guest.—No, I'm not, young man! I don't believe in spirit rappin's.

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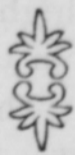
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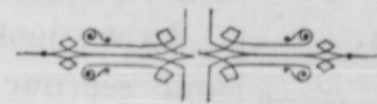
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