

# THE SUNBEAM

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## OWLS.

THE chief peculiarity of owls is their mode of flying, and their quick sense of hearing. Their eyes being mostly mice and other small animals which easily hide themselves in the ground, great silence and clear sight are necessary, as well as quick hearing. The wing of an owl is provided with feathers so remarkably soft and pliant that in striking the air they make no rushing sound like the feathers of other birds do.

There is something in the strange appearance and silent flight of owls which has made them long feared, and superstitious people have thought them always messengers of evil. But there is hardly a more useful bird anywhere; their food consists of vermin and insects that do great harm to crops; and the farmer is thought to be very thankful to the quiet ones who go round the fields in the dark and prey upon all the vermin and insects that injure the corn.



OWLS.

## HOW HARRY WROTE IT.

WHEN you are tempted to do wrong, and you go all around and find that nobody is intended her to. To-day I will tell you a story of how a little boy wrote something not just the way it was intended, but, I

to some poor children. Harry Lee met her, and when he found where she was going, he said, "Why don't you keep it for yourself? Come, let's hide it, and every day we can get some and eat it." Ah, what a selfish heart Harry has:

think, not a very bad way, after all.

A great many years ago John wrote a letter to Christians, and it was put in our Bibles. At the close of the letter he wrote, "LITTLE CHILDREN, KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS." What he meant was, from loving anything better than we love God.

Harry was to write this on a card but the way he did it was this "LITTLE CHILDREN, KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDLES." You see the word "Idles" is spelled differently, so it means something quite different. This means "idle people"—the boys and girls who have nothing to do—and it is very wise to keep away from such idle people, or they would make you idle too; and we know that "Satan finds some mischief still For idle hands to do."

## A KIND HEART.

ROSE has a kind heart, and loves to make others happy. One day she was told that she might carry a basket of fruit