

An Affliction

Bishop (who has "looked in" at rural Sunday School): "Now, children, can any of you tell what is meant by the visitation of the bishop?" and he smiled down genially upon them.

Little Girl (after a long pause): "Please, sir, an affliction sent from heaven."

An Apt Answer

"What do you know," ran one of the questions at a recent examination in general knowledge, "about the following: The Golden Fleece; The Golden Age; The Golden Horn; The Golden Call?" The slungard of the class was the only member who attempted a comprehensive description. "They are public houses," he wrote triumphantly.—*Sel.*

A Steady Flow

A truly eloquent parson had been preaching for an hour or so on the immortality of the soul.

"I looked at the mountains," he declaimed, "and could not help thinking, 'Beautiful as you are, you will be destroyed, while my soul will not.' I gazed upon the ocean and cried, 'Mighty as you are you will eventually dry up, but not I!'"

Matters Made Worse

The vicar was invited to share in the festivities held in honor of the coming of age of the son and heir. At the dinner-table he sat in front of a goose, and the lady of the house occupied the chair on his left. "Shall I sit so close to the goose?" he asked thoughtlessly. Then, finding that his words might be misconstrued, he added hastily: "Excuse me, Mrs. H.—, I meant the roast one."

Nothing to Carry Away

In advocating simple sermons, the new Archbishop of York is fond of telling the story of a criticism on the sermon of an eloquent preacher by an old woman in Yorkshire.

"Nay, it were fine," said she, "but it were all to be consumed i' t' premiss; there were nawt to be carried awaa."

"A whole volume on the subject of sermons," says Dr. Lang, "could not go more directly to the heart of the matter."

Had to Tell Them So Much

He was very deferential, but he was a deacon in the church, and he felt that he had a right to criticize. "I hope you'll pardon me," he said, "if I suggest that your sermons are—"

"Too prosy, I suppose?" suggested the minister.

"Oh, no, not that, but too long." "But you musn't blame me for that," returned the minister pleasantly; "if you knew a little more I wouldn't have to tell you so much."

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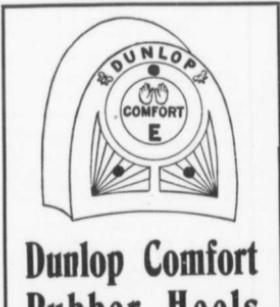
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