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BY FRED'K L. BAKER.
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 secondary con idideration With rimothy
Tartly Oakam, so long as he fuliled
thei l he made a gitit of $a$ pound of fersh or of of
bread bread, he wae particular in demainding
fall creditifo it whether it was a "ran cid rabiber of bacon," or a delifate sur
loin ; an indarated monldy crust, or loin; an indarated monday crust, or
light and elátic tea-bun; they wer still at pound respectively, and for
pound.they must be appropriat fod credite日. It may appear from this in trodactory" altasion to the peculiar char-
acteristics of Mr. Oabum that he was a sui generis, unique or alcogether iligu tar, batt ont go; he har his coniterpart
and that connterpart in the feminion gendery; and in the persoo of Miss Prudence: Grace Pickem, of the ancient an
reipowned village of Pickemville. Th reipiowned village of Pickemville. Th
Pickem family were in many respect alliod, in habit, sentiment and general
character, to the Oaknum fainly, so that Picksmand Oakikm, as the cognoma of
 Miss Prudence, who wast the female hop of the hoage of Pickem, was cold as an
iciele and as crian and tart: asa a vinegar pie, Hof, lipst, when clósed, wet as square apon each other as a pair of cot
unppers, and " bxhbited a a straight laí line across her face, just about hall-way
beitweun her iose año chin; her ey brows
dilated, gising her at all times a a fort. surprised, thoigh mioderately digoified look. Prudence had heard minch and
seen little of the world outside of th precincts of the villa'te of her ancestry out what little she had sean she tarned
in her own estination, to the most profi table account. It is trae, that she may what might be considered real prof but that it was sómething tapgible, an susceptable of occular demonstration
shie itiver for F mement doubted. Mis
Picker Pickem mapifiteted at ain exceadin aarty age the hareditary proclivities
her "line, apd lingege bly hape bapn from this peculiar char acteriatic, that the family, anciently
derived its name. Few pupils at echon or semiaury, elther mate or feemete, cou
filt the measure of the ideal which Pr dence had formed of Luman excellinice and therefore she was bot approachable elled and ropipig Pemale; no mátte what the ininor qualities of their heart might have been. Towards anch as
these her demeanor was curt, enippish and apish ; and thioreffore her associate
very early in life were yery very early in hue were very few and very
seloct, accoiding to her standard. Some
thought hee solfishis. some pridigh, all thonght ber cold precise, and fa
from, agreeable as a playwate or com panionit she was hopever, regarded b
her cold aid formal piregts, as wowal and circuaispect ;", ind esteemed as th pated, but it was facetionsly admitied Chat she was a sour apple, And thius
abe grew to momanhiod, witbout chang to much, but that change Wags similiat

 Mise Yridence Grace Pickem had $\mathrm{m} ;$ allh
 ongy qure years tha jagior of Mr, Oakpm and began to feel lonaly adione by g
 ickonvile but that the parties ha from sight; for both were hirs or in heritotir of godity diffest bit they ad as a matiter of coursia, to engch punc thious poople, they. never had spoken
 paid visits to didthat and tat didit tia
 ble to a matrimpogial allipipe with qoine
 which conld only hare a claim to their





