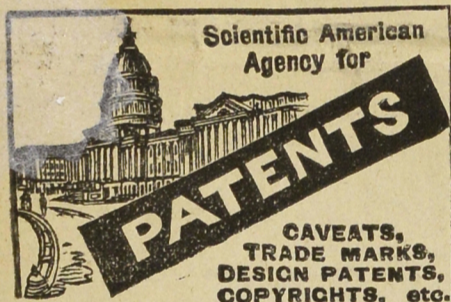


Checkerboard Avenue.

Editor BUTLER'S JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—Since I last wrote you one sidewalk of the Avenue has received a coat of asphalt, a decided improvement it has the effect of making the stately grottos loom up in the "Buz-zard's Roost" section of that earthly paradise. "Ye Ancient Mariner" Mack has evicted the Hudlin Eatman gang, who have joined the exodus in St. John, Cholly no longer can intercept the kid with the basket and cull from it the choicest fragments. Poor Collar Button, they left him behind. When asked why he did not accompany the rest, he replied in the following manner: "See yeah, man, you mus' be a fule; as much as I can do is to keep out of jail up yeah, let alone goin' to St. John. If I went dar I spects dey would put me in Dogsches-ter, so don' talk to me dat way." Johnny Dean's wife has arrived in Smokey Hollow, and she says that she will leave no stone unturned to separate that fastidious coon from the allurements of the guileless Hannah. Mrs. Dean made a formal charge against her faithless hubby, but Johnny was "up to snuff," got his heels greased and took the "wings of the morning," and under the guidance of that prince of detectives, Owney McL., who covered up his tracks, he has disappeared from this arena as if the earth had swallowed him up. Ginger T. is doing his holidays at Mack's mansion, and has the offer under consideration, made by Mack, to accept power of attorney for the transaction of business, collection of rents, etc. Jim Pinkey, after a protracted visit to the city by the sea, has returned to his "Hotel," Beech-mount.

R.



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