

BRILLIANTS.

There are nettles everywhere, But smooth green grasses are more common still; The blue of heaven is larger than the cloud.

Beating Into the Theatre.

"Say, mister, gimme yer check," greeted a reporter at the National theatre the other evening when he stepped out between the acts to enjoy a cigarette.

Another Use for Paper.

One of the most remarkable uses to which paper has been put of late years is the manufacture of zylonite, a substance which, at the will of the manufacturer, may be made in imitation of horn, rubber, tortoise shell, amber, and even glass.

Leprosy and Its Microbes.

A gentleman recently arrived from the Hawaiian islands states that for the first time in the history of the islands the whites have become thoroughly excited over the subject of leprosy.

De Young and the Blonde.

Charles De Young, who was shot by young Killoch in 1880, was singularly affected by the appearance of a blonde woman, especially if she wore glasses.

Inhospitality Toward the Bishop.

A Canadian Episcopal bishop of Scotch birth was the guest some time ago of a certain rector in Buffalo.

COUNTERFEIT BANK NOTES.

New and Bewildering Processes by Which They Are Turned Out.

"The photographed counterfeit bank bill is very common," said John S. Dye, government counterfeit detective, to a reporter.

"The detection of photographed counterfeits depends upon a critical observation of their character and appearance. Unless they are perfectly new they are off color, and show the reddish brown peculiar to faded photographs.

"Are there any other methods of counterfeiting besides photography and engraving?" "Oh, yes; but they are easily detected, being generally clumsy executed.

"How are the public to discriminate between genuine bills and forgeries?" "Well, of course, therein lies the possibility of successful forgeries.

Prices on the Wing.

Changes in the weather may be detected by a thermometer, and also by the price of chickens, but much quicker by the latter.

Different weather then.

By this time the weather had changed to a blizzard, and the street-keeper gathered in the fowls, fearing they might be sold, with the remark:

A Cave of Marvelous Beauty.

A remarkable grotto has been discovered at Dorgali, in Sardinia. It comprises a vast hall of such magnificence that it extorts an exclamation of wonder.

Papermaking in China.

Eighteen hundred years ago the Chinese made paper from fibrous matter reduced to pulp. Now each province makes its own peculiar variety.

Englishmen claim that the changeable climate of America prevents the manufacture of perfect writing paper in this country.

A mine of magnetic ore has been found in Fresno county, California; also a spring near it that cures the rheum.

IN THE UPPER TIER.

GLIMPSES OF THEATRE LIFE AMONG THE "GODS."

People Who Take a Bird's-Eye View of the Stage—Not So Bad as It's Painted—A Chance for the Poor Man.

[New York Herald.]

The definition of the gallery as the "nigger heaven," dates back to another epoch in our national history—the time when black men were chattels in the land and when the gallery—and even that only in some theatres—was the only part of the house in which a colored man could get admittance.

With all due deference to the average American, the gallery of a first-class theatre is the noblest and most worthy part. It is often more discerning, better behaved, and more intelligent than the orchestra boxes, and fully as prepared as the orchestra.

The reporter spent half a dollar one pleasant evening and visited a popular theatre during the run of a highly successful comedy.

But surely, says the average American in the orchestra chair, there is no pleasure in witnessing a drama from the gallery! There can be no enjoyment in watching the tops of the actors' heads, while stewing in the hot and vitiated atmosphere of the "nigger heaven."

Between the acts you will sometimes hear bits of critical talk that are worth their weight in gold, and sometimes catch reminiscences that would add brightness to the morrow's newspaper.

Produce of Petroleum.

Many and varied are the uses to which human ingenuity has already contrived to turn this precious gift of dirty-green earth-oil.

Another valuable product of petroleum is gasoline—a form of gas convenient for use in country houses.

And, after all these good things have been separated, there still remains a residuum of tar, which yields anthracene, benzole and naphthalene, from which are obtained a madder red, mauve, magenta, and indigo-blue dyes, which bid fair to supersede those already known to commerce.

A Burning Question.

A magazine writer devotes twenty pages of fine print in showing why society is likely to improve within the next hundred years.

Life in Winnipeg.

"The Northwestern Canadian is not a visiting man. He spends all his time in winter between his house and his out-offices, if he has any. He looks forward to splendid fields of wheat and oats to compensate him for the hardships he endures.

It is hotter in Winnipeg than it is in New York. But here, too, we are ahead of you people in some things. As we dress for the winter in furs, we dress for the summer in a becoming way.

The Early Days of Central Park.

I first drew up the plans for Central park in 1858. My report was printed in full in several newspapers, taking a whole page.

The Toilet of the Snake.

Prior to shining forth resplendent in fresh attire, a serpent seeks retirement. He becomes blind for a few days, refuses food, and appears to be in a melancholy state generally.

Forrest's Tragic Dietary.

The relation between food and artistic eminence probably exists rather subjectively than in primary form. What a man eats can scarcely be converted into passion, imagination or fervor by any known chemical process or any subtle transformation that can be stated in language.

A False Weather Prophet.

Extract Hastings offered the following preamble and resolution: "Whereas, De weather prophet now in de employ of dis club has all along predicted an open winter, an led us to believe dat robins an' blue birds an' roses would almos' prove a nuisance between December an' April; an'

Old Stamps to Order.

A wholesale manufactory of Swiss stamps of old issues has just been discovered in Zurich. The forgers have gone about their work very thoroughly. They have collected scraps of old letters bearing postmarks with various dates from 1845 to 1860, and the letter to deceive the unwary, they have stuck the stamps on to these pieces of envelope.

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