

CAPITAL LETTER.

An Interesting Trip Through Newspaper Row.

The Correspondents of the Outside Press—How They Work—The Old-Timers and the New Men—A Busy Crowd.

[Special Washington Letter.] The old original "Newspaper Row" is a thing of the past. The growth of the country has been kept pace with by the growth of the Metropolitan daily newspapers; and as a corollary of this fact, the number of the Washington correspondents has annually increased in no great degree as to overcrowd Newspaper Row and compel many of the representatives of the daily papers of the rapidly developing West to seek quarters elsewhere. Some of the oldest and most widely known correspondents have been caught up in the rout and carried beyond the sacred precincts. Mr. E. H. Wright, formerly of the Chicago Tribune, but for the past five years representing the Inter Ocean, has his office around the corner on F street. W. E. Shaw, often called the "Nestor of the Press," is on Fifteenth street, opposite the Treasury. Judge Noah, of the Denver Tribune and Kansas City Times, is two blocks away.

Newspaper Row is distinctively that half block between Pennsylvania avenue and the Ebbitt House, on Fourteenth street. It did not originally include the B. & O. Building, but does now. Turning the corner from the avenue, and going north, the journeyer comes to the stone steps which lead into the fire-trap, the death-trap known as the B. & O. Building. Upon the second floor we find Mr. Roberts, of the Chicago Times. He has two excellent rooms, plainly furnished, and divides one of them with Conquest Clarke, of the New York Star. Mr. Roberts is a new man here, but is a very bright one, and is doing his paper excellent service. Conquest Clarke is an old timer and knows all the news, you know, every day even into the midnight hour. Upon the same floor are located the offices of the St. Paul Pioneer-Press, Philadelphia Press, St. Louis Republic and New Orleans Picayune. "Behold, how good



GENERAL E. V. BOYNTON.

and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." The Pioneer-Press has recently come two young men here, neither of whom has ever had experience in Washington life, but they are doing exceedingly well. Unlike the average new men on the Row, they have not come here to show the old hands how to attend to business.

It very frequently happens on the Row that some bright young reporter comes here, and immediately sets himself up as an authority on his own section; but very speedily they learn that each one of these old correspondents has a very fair set of brains himself, and they simmer down. The St. Louis Republic is represented by O'Brien Moore. He is one of the brightest, blindest, roughest, plumpest, most likeable fellows in the world. He knows news, too, when he sees it, and dresses it up in all manner of superlatives with highly verbal adornments. Colonel L. C. Washington represents the Picayune, and is one of the oldest newspaper men in Washington. He is an elegant Southern gentleman, dignified, polite, considerate, keen, bright, an incisive writer, a friend of all public men regardless of party affiliations, and respected by all of his associates.

Just north of the Baltimore & Ohio building we come to the New York Sun building. It is crowded. Several gentlemen have desk room there. Mr. Barry represents the Detroit Journal and Grand Rapids Times. Mr. Wellman represents the American Press Association and the Chicago Herald. Bob Vance, ex-Congressman from Connecticut, represents the Sun, and is assisted by Mr. Barry and Amos Cummings. They are a coterie of educated, refined, scholarly gentlemen, and the Sun building is a popular place on the Row. Adjoining this building, on the north, is a brick which has long been unoccupied. Mr. Willard, its proprietor, has acted like a dog in the manger about it for many years. He is idiosyncratic, wealthy, cranky in some senses, and the boys have tacitly agreed to let him severally alone. In the natural order of events Mr. Willard will be gathered unto his fathers, and then this building will be occupied. We next come to the office of General Boynton, of the Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette. There is no other newspaper correspondent than General Boynton, and no more accomplished gentleman. He is reputed to be a fighting character, in his correspondence; and it is true that his belt is filled with the scalps of public men who have dared to cross him. But, with his friends and associates on the Row, General Boynton is one of the most kindly-disposed, genial, helpful men in Washington. Those who know him best like him best.

Fred Munsey and Bob Wynne are associates of the General on the staff of the Commercial. Every body knows Munsey. He has been a National character for several years past, although he is yet a young man. I regard him as

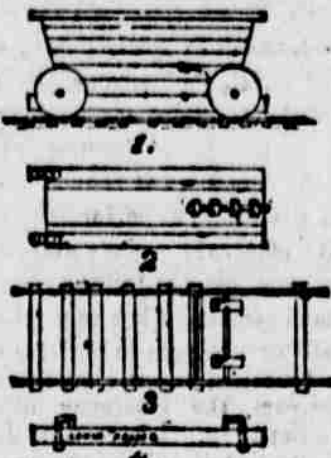
AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

HANDY DUMP CART.

A Useful Vehicle to Have About the Place—How It is Constructed.

I have in operation at my barn, says a writer in Farm and Home, an ingeniously made car, than which nothing could be more satisfactory. It is a great labor saver and can be used to advantage alike for getting out sand for a cranberry bog, drawing manure, or where I use it for clearing the stables of my large barn. In the first cut it is shown complete as it stands upon the track. It is 5 feet long, 2 feet high, 3 feet wide at the bottom and 3 feet 8 inches at the top. It has a handle at each end. The axles are bolted to the frame as shown in the last cut. Fig. 2 shows the bottom of the car. It is made of inch-and-a-half plank and room is left for expansion by moisture. Along each side of this bottom a piece of strap iron is secured to come in contact with a series of rollers shown between the car tracks in Fig. 3. As the car passes over these rollers the bottom is lifted slightly, so that the bolt which holds it in place can be shot without difficulty.

One end of this bottom is hinged, while the other end is held in place by a single heavy bolt. The object of this



HANDY DUMP CART.

is that the bottom may fall down at the proper moment and discharge the load without rehandling it. The bolt is drawn by a raised tie while the car is being pushed along. Starting at the left-hand side we will suppose the car to be pushed toward the right-hand end of the track shown in Fig. 2. On approaching the rollers mentioned we see the raised tie.

The car passes over this tie with the exception of the last end, where a bolt head hangs down, and this is caught by an iron in the tie and drawn back. The iron in the raised tie which draws this bolt is four inches wide, three-fourths of an inch thick and eighteen inches long. It is fitted in the raised tie edge-wise, and has a coiled spring under each end of it. This allows the knob on the bolt to pass over. The bolt is fastened to the bottom with staples through which it slides. Released, the bolt leaves the bottom free to drop down, but this is prevented by the rollers over which it must pass until the open space at the right of the rollers is reached, when it falls and the load follows it. Pushing the car on a little further, the bottom comes in contact with another tie and it is raised in place, when the bolt is pulled forward and the car can be run back for another load.

FODDER FOR HORSES.

An Undue Prejudice Against It—A Horseman's View.

There seems to be quite a difference of opinion among horsemen as to the value of corn fodder as a food for horses. A leading farm paper recently cautioned its readers against feeding horses on corn-stalks, stating that they would make the horses' coats rough. Mr. C. W. Williams, the breeder and trainer of Artell, says that his wonderful colt had little besides corn-stalks for rough fodder during nearly two winters. He says he considers corn-stalks the best rough fodder he can get for colts. The writer once worked for a farmer who never cut any hay. His cattle and horses never had any fodder but cured corn-stalks. The animals always looked well and the horses did their full share of work. The writer now has two horses that have very little to do and are not heavily fed.

One of them prefers corn-stalks to hay, while the other runs down if fed on stalks without hay. It is an old horse and can not handle the stalks as well as a younger horse would. We find that this prejudice against corn-stalks for horses is quite common among a class of farmers. Except in the case of old horses with poor teeth, we do not think the prejudice is just. In fact it seems reasonable that a moderate supply of well-cured stalks will prove beneficial to a horse in winter, and even with old horses if the stalks could be cut and moistened with hot water they would prove valuable. A good deal of the objection to stalks for horses may be traced to the fact that the grain of the corn is fed with the stalks. This makes an "ill-balanced" ration. When stalks are fed give oats and wheat-bran.

Don't entertain the idea of wintering animals of any kind cheaply, that is, by feeding poor hay and straw that lack the proper nutritive elements. The farmer who follows the plan, and in addition endeavors to warm all out-doors with a few sheep or cattle, not only deserves failure but a dose of his own medicine.—Farm, Field and Stockman.

NATURE plants plums in thickets. The "plum thicket" is a familiar childhood phrase. Therefore an Illinois horticulturist argues that plum trees should never be planted singly, but will do best in clumps, including different varieties that will aid each other in fertilization.

The Governors of Texas, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Illinois, South Dakota and New Mexico have already agreed to appoint delegates to the Inter-State convention of cattle men to meet at Fort Worth, Tex., March 11, 1894.

BARLEY AS STOCK FOOD.

Its Value in This Respect Not Fully Appreciated by Most Farmers.

Owing to the depressed condition of the grain market many farmers in the Northwest find themselves with a large stock of barley on hand, for which they are offered but a small price per bushel. We know of farmers living not more than a hundred miles from Chicago and Milwaukee, says the Breeder's Gazette, who have been offered but twenty or twenty-five cents per bushel, and some are selling for these prices, while others are holding, not knowing what turn it will take next. In past years many farmers have found barley-growing quite profitable, but as a rule they have never practiced feeding it in any form whatsoever. Now that the markets are against them, with other food fairly abundant, many of these parties are timid about venturing to feed out the grain to their own stock. In many cases it had better be fed to farm stock than drawn to market for the prices buyers will now give. If a fair proportion of it could be disposed of in this way the remainder would probably bring as many dollars, in the aggregate, as the whole crop will under the present manner of disposal.

Curiously there is quite a prejudice with many farmers against feeding barley. When we hunt this prejudice down and try to locate it we find it practically without foundation in fact. A little reasoning would enable us to arrive at correct conclusions. In a large part of Europe Indian corn can not be grown successfully; and in much of that area barley is the general grain crop for farm animals. It is strange that a country so largely settled by Europeans as ours should permit such wrong ideas to prevail so tenaciously as does this prejudice against barley. Not only is barley the common grain crop of Northern Europe, but in California it is extensively grown for hay, and the grain forms the almost universal horse feed of the "Golden State." At this very writing the farmers of California are busy sowing their grain fields to wheat and barley. Part of the barley will be cut early, when the grain is in the milk stage, for the purpose of making hay; the remainder will ripen and be thrashed as in the Eastern States. Part of this grain will come East for brewery use, but a large portion will be held for horse feed.

In California the barley is not ground, but crushed or rolled. Those who are familiar with California horses and their ability to withstand long drives and hard work realize that this grain must be excellent horse feed. In such favor does the Californian hold barley hay that when some of the famous horses of that State are sent East for racing purposes hay is shipped with them, the owners fearing that the Eastern-grown article will not prove satisfactory in the time of trial. With the experience of Europe on the one hand and that of California on the other it is about time our farmers laid aside their prejudice against this grain and not about handling it intelligently and judiciously. If the buyers find out that the farmers intend to feed this grain if they can not get a certain price for it they will likely become less independent, and prices will rise to a living, paying basis.

We have spoken of barley for feeding horses; if good enough for horses it can certainly be used for fattening cattle, for milk cows, sheep or for swine. The experience of the experiment stations show that, pound for pound, barley has not quite so high a fattening power as Indian corn, but the difference is not very great. One hundred pounds of barley contains more muscle-making food than one hundred pounds of oats, and for growing stock it should prove a most valuable grain feed.

FRUITING THORNY BUSHES.

As to the time of cutting out the old wood from raspberry and blackberry bushes, I have now pretty much settled on fall. I always like to "wick up" my small fruit patches before winter, and have every plant in good shape pruned and supported by a stake.



The question with me has always been how to cut out and remove the tough prickly canes of blackberries. At last I had the blacksmith transform an old file in a hook, weld an iron rod to the other end, giving me a tool as shown in accompanying sketch. Of course the edge of the hook is kept sharp, and it works to my entire satisfaction. With such a firm and comfortable hold on the tool one can work for days without the least fatigue, and if the hand is gloved with perfect comfort. The old wood after being cut out of the hills is simply left to decay. There will be little of it left next season.—Popular Gardening.

HORSE TREATMENT OF INSECTS.

Editing a paper is often hurried work, and the expression of the writer is loose, and perhaps the penmanship is bad, which may lead to serious mistakes in composition and proof-reading. We have sometimes seen kerosene recommended as an insecticide, but when we have seen the recommendation we have supposed that the careless editor meant that it should be used as an emulsion. But the reader may not know that. One certainly did not. He read that kerosene would kill the oyster-bark louse, and he done it on. It did kill it. The louse found the trees upon which the application was made a very unhealthy place to stay. But the bark of the trees were badly injured. Kerosene should be used in such cases only as emulsion. It is the kerosene emulsion—kerosene with soap and water—that is meant when the careless editor recommends kerosene.—Western Rural.

Having the stock, but let them sit themselves upon the days.

WONDERFUL BLIND MEN.

One is an Ohio Man and the Other a Native of France.

It is almost incredible that Simon Collins, of Marietta, who has been blind for twenty-seven years, is an expert carper-weaver, makes and prints paper floor sacks in colors, doing the printing on a Washington hand-press, and with a perfect register. I have known him for seven or eight years and have seen him frequently on the streets of his town, cane in hand, walking rapidly, making all the ins and outs, going down into a basement or up-stairs into a business office, never making a mistake and never being hurt. A year ago he made a canoe from his own design, and the same boat won a race in the regatta upon the Susquehanna at Columbia. He is the possessor of a brush handle, makes fishing nets and cane-seated chairs. His latest triumph is the mastery of the type-writer. He bought one some months ago, and is now able to operate it quickly and correctly. He is said to be an expert euchre player, but I can not vouch for that, though it is scarcely more notable than many things already mentioned which I have known him to do.

Vidal, the blind French sculptor, has been without vision since his twenty-first year. He is now one of the wonders of Paris. One can understand how a blind farmer would cultivate the ground with the plow, spade and hoe; how he would feel around the tender plants and gently loosen the dirt from their roots; or how the blind Birmingham (Ala.) miner tells, with the sense of touch alone, the direction and to what depth to drill his holes before putting in the blast; but the work of Vidal stands out in bold relief, unique, wonderful and incomparable. To be a sculptor it is generally supposed that one must have the "mechanic's eye" and the artist's taste and perspicuity. The latter faculties Vidal has to an exceptional degree—even more acute, he believes, than if the former were not lost to him forever. By slowly passing his hands over an object he notes its external proportions, and imitates them in clay in a manner which strikes the beholder dumb with surprise. A dog, horse, human face, or any thing alive or dead, he models with as much ease as any of the dozens of Parisian sculptors who still retain the faculty of sight. From 1855 to 1875 Vidal received more medals than any other exhibitor of works, in the Paris art exhibitions. Many of his works, made in the solitude of his perpetual midnight, are now on the shelves at the great Exposition, where the blind wonder condescend in friendly rivalry with his less unfortunate brother artists. He never complains, is always genial and festive when among his friends, who always speak of and to him as though he could see, and well may they do so, for he is one of the best art critics in all Paris.—Cor. Marietta (O.) Times.

THE MODERN NEWSPAPER.

It is a Power, and Trains the Literary Expression of the Time.

The function of the press, as we understand it, is to influence the course of public sentiment, to direct the public policy, to discern and forecast the logical conclusion of political doctrines and tendencies, and in this Republic to instruct the people in the art of self-government. No conducted a sound newspaper, following out consistent principle, exercises a valuable and a lasting power. It is not for a day, but for all time, and its discussions are the more likely to be effective because their texts is in passing events, and they come in chapters published daily and presented in a way to attract the public consideration. The number of books read is few in comparison with the number of newspapers carefully studied; and as the development of the newspaper goes on the public demand for it steadily increases. The old essay and the old pamphlet have gone out of vogue, and have been succeeded by the newspaper article, so much more provocative of interest. One chief reason why we hear so many complaints of the decline of the conventional literature in these days is that the best informed and most productive minds are now employing their energies in newspapers and periodicals. And why do they do this? It is because they can thus secure more regular and better material recompense, and because they can wield a wider and a greater influence. They not only gain a vastly larger audience, but they also gain the enormous advantage of iteration. Day by day they can hammer their thoughts into the minds of the people, so slow to receive and welcome new ideas and give up old prejudices and conceptions. Nor is it true that a well-edited newspaper exercises little or no influence on literature. Much of the best writing, judged by a high literary standard, is prepared at this period for newspapers. There are men now engaged on newspapers who would have been singled out for wide literary fame a hundred years ago. We have read newspaper articles as perfect in literary execution and as well deserving to rank with artistic literature as anything which the masters of style have produced. Such articles constitute an example and a lesson in literary art, and help to clarify the thoughts of many thousands of people. Even the unlearned know and enjoy good English, and their taste is improved by it. A well-written newspaper, lucid, logical and vigorous, is the school in literature which exercises the largest influence. It trains the literary expression of the time.—N. Y. Sun.

HOUSES MADE OF IRON.

Iron is rapidly increasing in its use for houses. You can buy a complete iron house at the manufacturer's and have it sent anywhere in pieces. A large number of iron villas have been sent from England to the Riviera and put up there upon plots of land purchased or leased, with the provision that when the lease expires the house can be taken away. A comfortable house can readily be built in a month. The price of a room measuring 22x13 feet is about \$250.—London Letter.

Where there's a will, there is often nothing left for the boys.

RESIDE FRAGMENTS.

—Roux, ammonia and oatmeal will soften hard water, which dries the skin when washed in.

—Celery Stew: Cut the stalks and root into small pieces and stew till tender in a little water as will suffice. Then add a little milk and butter and thicken with flour to make a nice sauce.

—Foamy Sauce: One half cupful of sugar and piece of butter the size of a walnut, beaten well together with one tablespoonful of flour. Pour over this a cupful of boiling water; while it is boiling add the yolks of two eggs well beaten, a little lemon, then the whites of the eggs beaten to a stiff froth. Take immediately from the stove.—Yankee Blade.

—Make carving-cloths from red-and-white checked linen toweling, fringe all around and place over the tablecloth at the carver's place; also one opposite, where the mistress sits. They help to save the wear of the cloth at the edge of the table. Three-quarters of a yard is none too long. This toweling also makes good every-day napkins, cut in squares and hemmed.—American Agriculturist.

—To serve oysters on toast, strain the liquor off of a quart of oysters. Put one cupful of cream or rich milk and one cupful of butter in a porcelain kettle. Let this come to a boil and add one teaspoonful of flour wet with a little cold water. Drop in the oysters, adding salt and pepper, and let them boil up. Lay slices of bread, nicely toasted, in a dish, and pour the oysters over them. Serve immediately.—N. Y. World.

—The best way to make a pot-pourri, or flower mixture for a rose-jar, is to put nothing into it but leaves and salt. Alternate the layers of rose-leaves and salt, pressing the latter down upon the former. When the scent becomes evident, the leaves of any other fragrant flowers may be added, such as heliotrope, lemon, verbena, violet, or even those of the geranium. A jar filled in this way will prove a source of delicious fragrance for many months.—Golden Days.

—It is said that paper pillows are very cool, and in some respects superior to feather ones, especially for hospitals. Newspapers will not do so well on account of the disagreeable odor of the printer's ink; but brown and white paper, letters and envelopes, etc., are the best. Cut or tear the paper into very small pieces, the smaller the better, and put them into a pillow sack of drilling or light ticking.—Advance.

—Fruit Pudding: Chop six apples fine, grate six ounces of stale bread, add six ounces of brown sugar, six ounces of currents washed carefully and floured; mix all well together with six ounces of butter, a cupful of milk and two cupfuls of flour in which two teaspoonfuls of baking powder have been thoroughly mixed. Spice to your taste. Put in a pudding bag, tie loosely and boil for three hours. To be eaten with cold sauce made of butter and sugar stirred together, a cupful of sugar to one-half cupful butter.—Indiana Farmer.

HOUSE AMUSEMENTS.

How to Make Children, Aged Three or Four, Contented and Happy.

At the age of three and four children want guiding in their play more than at any other time during childhood, because they are then changing their little habits—leaving babyhood behind and taking up childish ways, which will remain with them many years. To make such little ones happy and keep them amused is not so difficult a matter, but much patience is required and not a little ingenuity. It is well always to aim at teaching them from their infancy to amuse themselves. By that means the mother is laying a good foundation in the child's character on which its greatest happiness will be built.

Give the busy fingers something to do—you may call it play or work. The latter pleases them most, and by encouraging them in the belief that they are really helping mother you will make them happy. Give them some strips of soft woolly stuff and tell them you want them all picked up threads to fill a cushion or a muff. Cut some paper into strips and coax their chubby little fingers to make spools for lighting candles, etc. Give them a piece of calico and a needle into which you have tied a pretty colored cotton thread and suggest that they make a doll's frock. Although quite unable to make two even stitches, the idea will fill a little girl's heart with pleasure. Let a slate and pencil be used every day—there is endless amusement in them. Draw something—no matter how crude or funny—and get the little one to try and do the same. Many a merry peal of laughter will gladden mother's heart at the queer figures which will appear on the slate. Save all pieces of paper with pictures on them advertising sheets and such things—and let them have an old blunt pair of scissors and try their hands at cutting out pictures. It is not an easy, but a very interesting thing to do, and if encouraged to persevere they will, later on, become quite expert, and might then be allowed to paste them into a book or upon a screen—that would make them very proud. Don't mind if they make a litter of their amusements; it is impossible to avoid that, but always teach them to clear up their bits when they have finished. They will do it willingly with a little coaxing—and some day will, in consequence, be more careful. Then teach them some simple songs, with marching step and hand-clapping introduced, for exercises on wet days. Get a book of tiny tales for children and read one, at least every day aloud to them. You will be repaid by the enjoyment they will get from it. Give them odd buttons, beads, or even dried beans will do, and teach them to count and play at having sweet-shops with them. Do not buy many toys; but what they have allow them to play with at any reasonable time. And, if they have no other companions, mother must sometimes play too, just to show them how to use their dolls and balls—or whatever toys they may have—for it is not natural for all children to play nicely without help or guidance. They often require to be started right.—Harriet Lamb, in Detroit Free Press.