LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

IN DEFENCE OF MR. BROCKWAY.

Letters from Eminent Men Praising the Elmira Reformatory and Its Superintendent.

From the Editor of "The Independent."

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* I have followed the investigation into the affairs of the Elmira Reformatory closely. The investigation has only strengthened my opinion that Mr. Brockway is the right man for the place. He has managed the institution wisely and well. Sometimes he may have made small mistakes, as any man is likely to, but on the whole, my opinion of Mr. Brockway and his methods is most favorable. Yours very truly,

William Hayes Ward.

New York, Sept. 26.

From the Permanent Secretary of the Michigan State Board of Charities and President of the National Charities and Correctional Conference for this Year.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* I am glad of an opportunity of expressing through your valuable paper my impressions of the attack on your model institution, the New York State Reformatory, and on its able and efficient superintendent, Mr. Z. R. Brockway, and judging from the testimony of the witnesses of his maligners, of the ignominious failure of such attack. In the light of such testimony the plot was little short of diabolical, and the cunning displayed in carrying out the attack, though it might have been solely intended to have been on Mr. Brockway, is one which, if it proves successful, will turn back the finger on the dial of prison reform many, many degrees: will bring your institution at Elmira, the just pride of every honorable citizen of New York, into disrepute, and will fill with despondency, which it will take years to overcome, the hearts of many who are deeply interested in the work of reforming prisoners and in prison reform. If we consider Mr. Brockway himself, how deplorable will be the result of the success of so vindictive an effort; Mr. Brockway, whose every thought, whose whole heart, whose very life has been given to the problem of the proper handling of prisoners, and that not alone for the benefit of the prisoner, but for his free fellow citizens as well, that they may not suffer when again the inmates of our prisons are turned back into society, as they are by the thousands every year! Yours respectfully,

Lucius C. Storrs.

Lansing, Mich., Sept. 21, 1894.

From Felix Adler.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* Even though I do not entirely agree with Mr. Brockway's methods, I regard him as one of the greatest benefactors of those who have been misled into crime. Felix Adler.

Beede's, Essex County, N.Y., Sept. 27, 1894.

From the Secretary for Twenty Years of the State Board of Charities of Illinois; Secretary of the National Prison Association; Chief of the Dangerous and Dependent Classes Department of the National Bureau of Statistics.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* I have known Mr. Brockway so long and so intimately, and am so familiar with his methods as well as with his aims, that my opinion of the man and of his work ought to be worth something. The uplifting of humanity has been with him a lifelong passion. When he was Superintendent of the Detroit House of Correction he not only procured permission to build a house of shelter for discharged female prisoners, but organized a large mission Sunday school in the neighborhood of the prison, where he labored earnestly and kept the young of both sexes who were exposed to the initial step in a criminal career. At that time he was an enthusiast in the line of Sabbath schools and young men's Christian associations, and a prominent platform speaker at religious conventions. His experience with convicts, however, moderated this early enthusiasm, because convicts showed themselves so insensible to all conscience that the effects of this teaching and exhortation disappointed him.

For a time he was an ardent experimenter in the line of intellectual culture; later he became deeply interested in manual training and physical treatment. But through all his career he has been consistently devoted, in theory and practice, to the reformation and rehabilitation of the prisoners confided to his charge. He has thought of nothing else, had no other ambition in life, and his mistakes, whatever they have been, have had this zeal as their occasion and motive. I have never met a prison officer with so acute and profound a knowledge of the criminal character and disposition, and would hesitate to condemn methods of dealing with convicts which Mr. Brockway might advocate, however contrary to my own previous impressions and judgment, without the most convincing proof that he was mistaken in the basis of his treatment.

I have not a doubt in my mind that unless we are to return to the discarded Pennsylvania system of prison discipline, with a separate cell for each convict and no association or communication between prisoners which can by any means be prevented, the principles embodied in the organization and management of the Elmira Reformatory are thoroughly sound. Mr. Brockway is not their discoverer nor inventor; they are older than he; but it has been his merit and his good fortune to be the first to make the application of them in their entirety, and to demonstrate their practicability and efficiency. He has been a pioneer in the later semi-scientific prison reform, whose reputation has reached the ends of the world, and whose influence is felt for good not only in Europe, but in Asia. It is a growing reputation and influence, which will not die with him: and it is the property of the State of New York. Around himself and his work as a centre a special literature has grown up, confined to no one language; and the attack upon him, if unjust, as I believe it to be, is an assault upon the policy he represents, a policy to which the State of New York is committed, which is her pride and her boast, and which has made converts and found imitators both at home and abroad.

It is difficult for me to separate in thought the man and the cause, or to see how friends of penal reform can lend a willing ear to calumnies against the man which emanate from irreclaimable convicts and merit no consideration. The condemnation of Mr. Brockway seems to me to involve the rejection of all that he has advocated and sought to accomplish, namely, the substitution of a rational for an irrational treatment of crime and criminals, the indeterminate sentence, marks, grades, the parole; in a word, the humane effort to make the reformation of the wrongdoer a more prominent aim in criminal jurisprudence than the punishment of the wrong. That he is impeccable or infallible his best friends will not claim. But we know him to be honest, kind, unselfish, devoted, intelligent. We know that the great majority of the men who have passed through his hands have been benefited by his treatment of them. And all the oaths of all the enemies he has in the world will not change this belief.

Frederick Howard Wines.

From a Former President of the Pennsylvania State Board of Charities and of the National Conference of Charities.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* In common with other friends of good prison discipline, who have watched the remarkable work of Mr. Brockway at the Elmira Reformatory, I was amazed at the malignant and misguided attacks on him which seemed to originate in the columns of a daily paper and to depend for their support on the testimony of criminals who had been under Mr. Brockway's care. Mr. Brockway has never concealed his belief in corporal punishment. This punishment was never designed to be very severe. It was not like the whipping post at New Castle jail in this State, where they not infrequently administered forty lashes with the cat-o'-nine-tails on the bare back; but Superintendent Brockway, it seems, simply "spanked" his recalcitrant charges as a father would spank his children with a slipper. His slipper was a piece of sole leather, and sometimes on delicate skins or in bad states of the blood the spank produced black and blue bruises, not usually, but in a few cases. Now, when we remember that this infliction is not upon children, but upon men and upon tough, hardened, and obstinate criminals, the amount of outcry about it becomes simply ridiculous.

In reading the testimony I do not see that any case of injury was brought out. The more manifest injuries, which were magnified and made to sound brutal by the former report of the State Board of Charities, were caused by the convicts resisting and fighting the keepers, and even then the latter and the Superintendent himself were sometimes as much hurt as the convict. The pith of the whole assault on Mr. Brockway's administration seems to me to be in this one question, in the wisdom or unwisdom of corporal punishment. Certain of the criminals who had been punished found ready ears with the members of the Board of State Charities who had always felt an aversion to bodily punishment, with reporters in search of a sensation, and with the soft-hearted abroad in the community; and the result is this stir, which has well nigh ruined a most valuable prison system. It seems to be the lot of ardent reformers to draw the wrath of an apathetic sentimentality upon their devoted heads, and Mr. Brockway is no exception. In my judgment, Mr. Brockway has few equals in the line of practical penology. My own acquaintance with Mr. Brockway is purely a professional one, acquired during the study of the best methods and men for the treatment of criminals, and as a member of our State Board of Charities and the National Conference of Charities and Correction. There is no sentiment about it, but I think I know a true character when I see it, and I am very much mistaken if there is any superintendent who has built up a greater system than that of the Elmira Reformatory. If his is not a character of rare strength, honesty of purpose, penetration into the motives and deeds of criminals, and of quite as much reliability as his calumniators, then I am much in error.

Philip C. Garrett,
808 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

From the Chairman of the Board of State Charities of Ohio.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* The evidence against the Elmira system or Mr. Brockway personally, so far as I have seen it in the newspapers, has not changed my views of Mr. Brockway's character and ability. What those views are can be found in the annual reports of the National Conference of Charities and Correction and of the National Prison Congress, and especially in the American supplement of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," and in the articles entitled "Prisons and Prison Discipline of Reformatories." It certainly would require more than the unsupported testimony of those who have been subjected to the applications of Mr. Brockway's strap to make me believe the stories of his cruelty. And I think I can safely say that this is also the unanimous opinion of all the members of the National Prison Association, who have summered and wintered with Mr. Brockway for the past twenty years.

The infliction of corporal punishment at the Elmira Reformatory is very mild as compared with that at our Ohio penitentiary, and many others I could name, where prison officers are thoroughly conscientious and against whom there is no complaint. I do not know of any prison officer who, by repeated warnings, guards more closely his system of corporal punishment than Mr. Brockway, and he is the only warden I know who never allows any one else to administer corporal punishment but himself. He certainly has had the largest prison experience of any man in America, and has developed a prison system which in its reformatory results is infinitely superior to any of its predecessors upon the American continent. Personally I do not believe in corporal punishment, but still I am aware that a different opinion and practice prevails in the majority of American prisons and practically in all the prisons of Great Britain and her colonies.

Desperate felons are not easily governed. Some of them are not amenable to any moral considerations, but such abnormals can be permanently segregated, as they are at the Eastern Pennsylvania penitentiary, and order can be maintained without the demoralizing influences of physical torture. In short, whether Mr. Brockway is or is not found guilty of cruelty in the pending investigation, I will still believe he is the foremost penologist in this or any other country, and that the Elmira system marks a new and better era in the management of prisons, and that Mr. Brockway will rank in history with John Howard as one of the benefactors of the human race. Mr. Brockway, doubtless, is human, like the rest of us, but with a career of forty-five years, and so resplendent for good, he ought to receive charitable judgment for his errors from his fellow men. There is only one Brockway in a century, and his errors are only spots upon the sun. Very sincerely yours, R. V. Brinkerhoff.

The Mansfield Savings Bank, Mansfield, O., Sept. 21.

Other Eminent Men Who, in the Columns of The Sun and Elsewhere, Have Warmly Espoused Mr. Brockway's Cause.

Bishop Henry C. Potter.
Elbridge T. Gerry.
Lyman Abbott.
Charles Dudley Warner.
Charlton T. Lewis.
Frank B. Sanborn.
William F. Rounds.
Dr. Lewis G. Janes.
Eugene C. Smith.
Rev. Dr. J. M. Buckley.
The Prison Association of New York.

Some of the More Notable Newspapers Which Stoutly Defend Mr. Brockway and the Reformatory.

The New York Times.
Harper's Weekly.
The Independent.
The Christian Advocate.
The Springfield Republican.
The Hartford Courant.
The Medical Record.
The Albany Argus.
The Albany Evening Journal.
The Hartford Times.

WAS ALEINIKOFF A SPOTTER?

The Populist Candidate for Judge of the Superior Court Explains.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* I trust that you will kindly give space to the following lines of explanation: About ten years ago, or thereabout, while I was a medical student of the University of the City of New York, and only a few years in this country, I was in need of some temporary employment to maintain my family. I had a friend who was a prominent member of the Socialist-Labor patry, and who thereafter became the editor of a Socialist German paper in this State. He advised me to apply for the position of "car inspector," a work in which he was then engaged, and which, he explained to me, consisted in keeping a kind of statistical account of surface car trips and reporting the registering marks in the cars.

I certainly saw nothing objectionable in an employment of this character. I applied for the position, furnished references as to my honesty from a very respectable lawyer of this city (whom, by the way, I had the pleasure to see in his ardent and most zealous and successful work in the Constitutional Convention, about two weeks ago, in favor of the abolition of prison labor competition), and was granted a temporary trial in the official capacity of "inspector;" that was the name or title given to me at the office and written on a printed blank which was furnished to me. After several days of my work, however, I was made to understand that I was expected to report conductors who were stealing fares. I did not, and do not now, approve of any kind of theft or wrongful appropriation by whomever this may be practised, by the corporations as well as by their employees, but the work I was expected to perform was not in accord with my heart, nor did it correspond with my character and principles, and for this reason I immediately abandoned the work.

It is, however, an absolute and malicious falsehood that any charges had been preferred against me in the Socialist Labor party, nor could such have been made, for the simple and logical reason that I was not then a member of said party.

Only about five years ago I took my membership card in the American branch of the S. L. P., but remained a member thereof for two months only. During the struggle for supremacy among the self-made leaders in that party, I voluntarily and without any notice or discussion withdrew from my official membership in order to retain my true principles of socialism and the love of the cause of toiling humanity. Within the party, any one observing the strife for leadership and advancement of selfish interests might become too pessimistic to retain hopes for the possibility of ameliorating the iniquitous system now prevailing.

I am glad to say that so far I have not noticed any tendency toward bossism and dictatorship in the "People's party" of this State, and therefore cheerfully work with this party for the cause of emancipation of labor and the establishment of a true republican and democratic government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Very respectfully N. Aleinikoff.

DEEP-WATER CANALS.

The Toronto Convention and the United States.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* The Deep-water Canal Convention lately held at Toronto has caused much discussion in the press upon both sides of the boundary line. Suggestions were made and issues raised the solution of which would have an important influence upon the future political relations which the two halves of the continent are to bear to each other and to the outside world. There were no delegates from American cities east of Cleveland.

The great majority of the members of the Convention were Canadians, and therefore the St. Lawrence route was chiefly discussed. It was frankly admitted that Canada was not prepared to enlarge her canals at her own cost, and therefore the Canadian delegates proposed that the United States should bear the greater part of the expense, as the value of American products benefited thereby would be far greater than that of Canadian products.

Every mile of the proposed enlarged canals would be in Canadian territory, and so far as the United States is concerned under the absolute control of Great Britain.

It was suggested that as the Government of the United States was to be asked to contribute a large proportion of the cost of enlargement it should have jointly with Great Britain control over the canals. Is it probable that Great Britain would grant to the United States rights and powers within her own territory of any practical value in the event of a serious misunderstanding between the two Governments? If not, our internal commerce might be greatly disorganized at any moment at the pleasure of Great Britain. Just in proportion as the enlargement of the Canadian canals benefited our internal commerce would it be injured if the canals were closed against it. Would it be wise to save the cost of constructing deep-water canals through our own territory to subject our internal commerce to such a risk? It is now many times the value of our foreign commerce. What will be its value fifty years hence? It was stated by Mr. Cooley of Chicago that while the Welland and St. Lawrence canals were superior to the Erie, the latter passed five times the traffic that went down the St. Lawrence.

The object of the Canadians who promoted the Toronto Convention seems to have been to interest the West in such an enlargement of the Canadian canal system as would divert American traffic from the lakes to Montreal, and also traffic from Europe to our Western States, via the same route, thus securing to Canadian vessels a cargo both to and from European ports. Will the Government of the United States give financial aid to divert for all time traffic from our own ports to those of Canada?

If ship canals should be constructed from Buffalo and Oswego to the Hudson, the chief part of the American traffic which now goes to Montreal would certainly pass through them to tide water at our own ports. Also a large proportion of the traffic which originates in Ontario, west of Kingston, which now goes to Montreal. When the railways under construction from Duluth to Winnipeg are completed the greater part of the surplus products of the Canadian northwest will seek an Eastern market via Duluth. With deep-water canals from the lakes to the Hudson we should divert a very large proportion of this traffic to our Atlantic ports. If a ship canal should be constructed from the St. Lawrence to the Hudson, New York would secure a large proportion of the traffic of eastern Ontario and the Ottawa Valley, some day to be developed as far north as James Bay.

New York has at least five important advantages over Montreal, which will always aid her in diverting Western traffic to herself:

First—The port is open throughout the year.

Second—It is the centre of a large home market for the products of the West.

Third—It is the chief distributing centre for imported merchandise as well as for the products of American manufactories.

Fourth—Mixed cargoes can be made up in New York for export more easily than in Montreal.

Fifth—Vessels can obtain return cargoes in New York with greater certainty than at Montreal.

The West needs, should have, and will have sooner or later, the cheapest possible means of transportation between the great lakes and tide water. Neither New York State nor New York city can afford to ignore the fact. Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Boston are also interested in preventing traffic which has entered Lake Erie from being diverted to Montreal.

As we consume nine-tenths of what we produce, the great volume of traffic from the West to the East will always be through our own territory. To lessen the charges for local traffic any deep-water canals constructed must be within our own country. Only one-eighth part of the total tonnage moved by the New York Central Railroad for the year ending June 30, 1894, was "through traffic." "Through traffic" bound westward would not be hauled by rail to Montreal, there to be transferred to vessels, when it could be laid down at Buffalo at the same cost, so that west-bound through freight would not be benefited by enlarging the St. Lawrence canals.

To reduce the charges for local freight there must be local competition. If one-half of the through freight of the New York Central Railway system is west bound, only one-sixteenth of the total tonnage is east bound.

The New York Central has unsurpassed western connections and is in close competition with the Canadian canals. It is not likely that the percentage of east-bound through traffic of the railways which compete with the Central exceeds one-sixteenth of their total tonnage. Only one-sixth of the lake traffic appears to go through the St. Lawrence canals, and in that sixth is included Canadian traffic as well as American. Ship canals from Buffalo and Oswego to the Hudson would control railway charges upon local as well as through freight from Chicago to New York, and vice versa; but the enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals would have no marked effect, if any, upon local traffic, which is nine-tenths of the total tonnage.

As population increases we shall consume a larger percentage of the natural products we produce than we now do; therefore local traffic will form a still larger percentage of our internal commerce than it does at the present time.

By building the canals through our own territory we should hold all of our own traffic, draw much from Canada, and lessen charges upon both "through" and "local freight" by rail as well as by water.

If the reciprocity treaty of 1854 was renewed, a very large percentage of the natural products of Canada which are now sent to Europe from Montreal and other Canadian ports would find a market in this country.

By enlarging the St. Lawrence canals we shall divert traffic from our own to Canadian ports and reduce charges upon perhaps one-tenth of our tonnage (through traffic) by rail and water.

Our great railway systems should be benefited by the construction of deep-water canals. Their prosperity is dependent upon the capacity of the country to produce and consume.

If the effect of the construction of these canals through our own country is to reduce railway charges one mill per ton per mile north of the Ohio River it will cause a saving of $50,000,000 annually to the producers and consumers of the country, in addition to the saving made upon goods transported by water. A reduction in transportation charges means increased power of consumption by the masses. Our power to produce is almost unlimited if we can sell our surplus at a profit.

Our ability to compete in the markets of the world now largely depends upon the cost of transportation. Our capacity to consume is governed by the returns we receive for that which we produce. The proposition that the United States should unite with Canada in enlarging her canals, coming as it did from Canadians, is of great importance. So, also, is the proposal made by Canadians that the United States should have control over them when enlarged jointly with Great Britain. No representative body convened in Canada has ever taken such advanced ground. It indicates that public sentiment there demands closer relations with us.

Neither proposition may be practicable, but the discussion of them leads up to the greater question, viz., a final settlement of our relations to Canada. The suggestion that the United States and Great Britain agree to settle all controversies in the future by peaceful arbitration, as expressed in a resolution adopted by the Convention, although not new, is a good one.

No true American desires to see the friendly and cordial relations now existing between the United States and Great Britain disturbed in any way, but rather more firmly established.

It is well that the Canadians are awake to the great importance to them of securing a share of our vast internal commerce. In discussing the ways and means to secure it they will sooner or later discover that there are serious and practical difficulties in the way so long as Canada remains a dependency of a foreign State and is denied the treaty-making power.

Let the discussion continue in a kindly spirit. It cannot fail to do good. It will lead to the recognition of the fact that the United States and Canada are geographically and commercially inextricably bound to each other.

That to secure the best results at the least cost in developing the internal commerce of the continent the two halves should be treated as one whole, and finally that the highest interests of both communities can be best promoted by political union. Francis Wayland Glen.

Sept. 29, 1894.

AN ITALIAN QUESTION.

Vatican and Quirinal.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* Your accomplished correspondent, "An American Traveller," does not rise to the sound ethical standard of The Sun in his untenable distinction between Crispi and "the actual Sindic of Rome, the Marchese Guiccioli, at the setting up in the Eternal City of that monument to Giordano Bruno." Although personally absent, Crispi was virtually present. His letter to the promoters of the monument expressed all they could have desired, and was greeted with applause. The Sun counts among its readers numerous students of atavism, who will be interested in comparing pro-Sindic Guiccioli of Piedmontese Rome with that noted functionary's kinsman embalmed in the diary of Ireland's poet laureate, Thomas Moore, during his visit to Lord Byron at Venice in the autumn of 1819:

"Lord Byron came up to town at 6 o'clock, and he and I dined with Scott at the Pellegrino: showed us a letter which his Countess, the Guiccioli, had just received from her husband, in which, without a word of allusion to the way in which she is living with Byron, he makes some proposal with respect to money of Byron's being invested in his hands, as a thing advantageous to both; a fine specimen of an Italian husband."—*Memoirs, Journal, and Correspondence of Thomas Moore, by the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, M. P., vol. iii., page 86.*

In declaring that he never will surrender a foot of Roman soil, Crispi has eclipsed the famed "Three Tailors of Tooley Street," known as "We, the People of England." The Italian Premier is no tailor. He is a Crispin of the Crispins, who have maintained with immemorial adhesiveness that there is nothing like wax. Certainly it can stick more steadfastly than all the sartorial combustibles from the exploded old Banca Romana to the tottering Old Lady of Threadneedle street. When, therefore, Crispi says, and pompously affirms, that he will not clear quite out of Rome, he simply enunciates the post-diluvian aphorism that a cobbler should stick to the last as long as he can.

Moreover, the distinguished craftsman has a superb Roman precedent. Who has not read of that prince of cobblers that once sat enthroned in the Seven Hilled City, Lelio Calzolaio? But the fickle of mobs is the proverbially mutinous Roman plebs. Scarcely had the flames been extinguished which made ashes of Cola di Rienzi, when the bones of the dictatorial Crispin were ignominiously tossed into the Acherusian lake. When the Italian Prime Minister goes for a day's angling he might profitably reflect that one way of escape from Rome is through the yellow billows of the classic Tiber, whereof Guidi sings:

"Upon thy bosom dark
Peril awaits the light confiding bark,
In eddying vortex swamp'd;
Foul, treacherous, and deep,
Thy winding waters sweep,
Enveloping their prey in dismal ruin prompt."

As to the precise date on which Crispi & Co. shall, nilly willy, clear out Rome, it will suffice to quote one of those epigrammatic poems with which the Muse of The Sun has enriched the American Parnassus:

Not yet,
You bet.

Meantime, the best thanks of the Diplomatic Body are due to the ambidextrous statesman who has so wittily hoodwinked the "great unwashed" by his intangible pronouncement: "We never will give up Rome." Never has political dictum been so skilfully enveloped in unassailable verbiage. Not even the Hebrew legislator could have carved on the tables of Sinai any utterance more physically true than the rudimental Latinism of old Palermo, namely, *Nemo dat quod non habet.*

The parchment of Constantine may have faded, but the Deodand of Christendom transcends the competency of terrene potentates. The inamissible sovereignty of the Pontiff-King of Rome will continue to shine in renewed splendor when the rickety dynasties of our day shall have been gone where the woodbine twineth. Arktomastix.

That Norwood-Vamoose Challenge.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* According to a morning paper the Vamoose goes out of commission in a perfect cyclone of misstatement of facts. Mr. Frank T. Morrill, who says he is the owner of the Vamoose, declares that he has made sturdy but ineffectual struggles to induce the Norwood to race with her. These are the exact facts in the case:

First—I issued the first challenge of the season, which was published in your issue of May 20. In that challenge I stated that I would race any yacht in the world (including the Vamoose) from one to twenty miles in the Hudson River for $1,000 a side. Mr. Morrill declined to accept this challenge on the ground that the Hudson River was too shallow for his boat. This allegation, however, did not prevent him from racing the Mary Powell, Now Then, and other Hudson River boats, which he knew in advance he could beat, whenever the opportunity offered. Competent river men have declared that there was plenty of water in the Hudson River at all tides to accommodate the Vamoose.

Second—Not receiving any reply to the above challenge, I issued a new one, which was published in your issue of June 20, raising the amount to $10,000, and adding that, until Mr. Morrill has raced the Norwood on the Hudson and beaten her, he has no right to claim that the Vamoose is the fastest yacht afloat.

Third—Still receiving no reply from Mr. Morrill, except his cuckoo-like repetitions that there wasn't water enough in the Hudson River for a race, I, in your issue of July 3, stated that if the amount involved was scaring him off I would race the Norwood against the Vamoose for a straw hat. As the summer waned and the cool breezes of autumn began to blow I changed this offer to the more appropriate one of a derby hat.

Fourth—Finally, on Aug. 31 last, I stated through your paper that my previous challenges still remained unaccepted and were still open.

Under these circumstances it must be obvious to every unprejudiced reader that the Vamoose has gone out of commission, not having scared off its rivals, but in a scared condition herself, and that, so far from the Norwood not being willing to tackle her, the shoe is on the other foot.

In conclusion, permit me to say that the Norwood is not for sale. Hugh Fraser.

New York, Oct. 4.

NEW YORK A GREAT CITY.

So Great that Few Can Comprehend Its Daily Needs and Wonderful Power.

To the Editor of The Sun—*Sir:* New York is a great city. The very thought of its vastness is appalling. More than a million and a half of souls! Five hundred thousand loaves of bread, 700,000 pounds of meat, 2,000,000 eggs, 2,000,000 cups of coffee, car loads of potatoes, butter, sugar, milk—oh, ye gods! who would invite New York out to dine?

A bed 900 miles wide, 3,000,000 sheets, 1,500,000 pillows, quilts, bedticks—who would care to sleep New York?

When New York puts her million-paired foot down the earth trembles, and the next day the Chicago papers speak of having "experienced an earthquake shock." When she opens her 1,500,000 mouths the world listens, and Philadelphia, Boston, and Chicago take off their hats.

Yes, New York is a great city. When she draws tight the strings of her purse Chicago cries like a child who has lost his bank full of pennies, and the nations stretch forth their hands and beg that the strings be loosed. Her arms embrace the world and the world is glad. To her feet come all peoples, and she is the crowned queen of the salted seas. Everett McNeil.

Among the Oarsmen.

The Wyanoke Boat Club will keep the four-oared shell crew which made such a good reputation during the past season in training during the winter months. The club intends having machines placed in their spacious club house on the Harlem for this purpose.

The Metropolitan Rowing Club have given up their club rooms in this city and will, during the winter, meet in their club house on the Harlem.

Capt. Cody of the Nonpareil Rowing Club will train a junior eight-oared shell crew at their club rooms in Harlem for the next year.

The Triton Boat Club of Newark intend giving a minstrel show some time this winter.

The Atalanta Boat Club will dispose of its Newark boat house shortly and intend to purchase a one-story house and locate it directly on the Passaic course, to be solely used for training purposes. The club contemplates training its crews during the winter and early spring in this city, and will use the rowing machines which were formerly at the Newark house.

Robert H. Pelton, one of the members of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen, at the next meeting of the Board, which takes place on Oct. 13 at the Hotel Marlborough, will present to the Board two amendments affecting the list of events. One is to substitute the intermediate double-scull event for pair-oared shells, and the other to substitute intermediate four-oared shells in place of the junior four-oared shells. Mr. Pelton contends that the pair-oared shell event is practically obsolete and that all of the Eastern associations have abandoned it.

Several members of the Valencia Boat Club of Hoboken recently visited the Harlem River and inspected the boat house formerly occupied by the Triton Boat Club with a view of purchasing it. No agreement was reached, however.

NOTES ON SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

The opinion has recently been expressed by a scientific writer that some information as to the degree of perfection characterizing the eye's refractive system, and as to the ultra-microscopic structure of the retina cones, might perhaps be derived from a comparison of the smallest intensity of light that can be perceived under different conditions, the fact being instanced that the light of a star which is just visible has been shown to be equal to that of a candle at a distance of some twenty-seven thousand and five hundred feet, and here, it is asserted, the source of light may be taken to be a point of absolutely inappreciable dimensions. On the other hand, M. Aubert is quoted as declaring that the minimum surface luminosity that can be seen is one of three-hundredth the brightness of the surface of the moon. The optician estimates that the image of the moon upon the retina forms a circle of about 2,025 times the area of one of the central cone filaments. The total light distributed over this area will be equal to that of a candle at 12 feet, one three-hundredth of it will be equal to the light of a candle at 208 feet, and the light received by each cone may, therefore, be put at one two-thousand and twenty-fifth part of this; it is that of a candle at only 9,360 feet. For a point source, which is not of insensible dimensions, this, it is remarked, would seem to be the lowest appreciable intensity of light, or it is so if the retinal cones be assumed to act independently of one another in perception.

A practical and convenient apparatus has been devised by which much of the labor and trouble involved in the mixing of cement is saved. It consists of a substantial bowl of cast brass fitted with cross arms, easily removable, which furnish a bearing for a centre crank shaft. The hand crank when rotated transmits its motion to a short crank in the bowl. This crank carries a paddle which circles in the material in the bowl, and, at the same time, a pinion on top of the paddle shaft engages with a fixed annular gear, which causes the paddle to rotate on its axis—the combined movements thus given to the paddle mixer producing a thorough distribution to all parts of the contents. An advantage of special note in this mixer is that it is constructed entirely of brass, except the hand crank outside. When ready to empty the bowl, all the working parts can be removed in a moment by drawing out a couple of pins.

The pumping of coal to market, by crushing the stuff and mixing it with water, is now being discussed in the scientific journals as a practicable method, and it is suggested that not merely the vast heaps of culm which are now going to waste in the mining regions, but, in fact, the whole output of the mines, might thus be sent to the consumer, the great recommendation of the plan being its economy—that is, coal could be "pumped to market," it is declared, for one-tenth the cost of rail transportation, if there be a steady demand; and still another gain, it is claimed, would be secured by the adoption of such a system, namely, that it would be unnecessary to avoid producing a large proportion of "slack," or culm. The advocates of this plan estimate that coal could be reduced to dust for from three to five cents a ton, and washed free from pyrites, slate, and other impurities for five cents more, this latter process also leaving it in a greatly improved condition and increasing its market value. Thus prepared the plan is to mingle the material with its own weight of water, and then force it through pipes as is practised with oil. It is assumed that coal, being lighter than most other minerals, and but little heavier than water, would remain in suspension easily, absence of grit would prevent erosion of the pipes, and nothing of value could be withdrawn from the coal by soaking. Moist coal, when exposed to the air, deteriorates rapidly and is liable to spontaneous combustion, but so long as the fuel is kept under water in settling basins these drawbacks would not be experienced; if not to be used at once, the coal would be stored in this way, and stirred up again before pumping to consumers.

In a paper read before one of the mining institutes of England, Mr. Wynne, a noted authority in engineering practice, presented the subject—from different standpoints—of the most approved system of underground haulage in collieries, the cost of which is, of course, one of the most important items in the production of coal, and the use of animal locomotion is, except for short distances, an out-of-date method. Having discussed the advantages and disadvantages of steam in this connection, he referred to compressed air as, unquestionably, a convenient form in which to transmit power from the surface for underground purposes, such as hauling, pumping, heading by machine, drilling holes for blasting, and driving coal-cutting apparatus, and, with its convenience, may also be combined safety in using and freedom from the damage to roads by heat or leakage pertaining to steam. As compared with steam, compressed air is much better adapted for transmitting power considerable distances underground, but this has its limits, looking at the increase in the size of pipes to carry the air extremely long distances, and the extra power necessary to apply to the compressor to attain the required pressure; then, too, the exhaust from the motors has the effect of cooling the air current and adding a little to its volume, whereas steam has the opposite effect on the temperature, and demands special means for its disposal.

A combination process for treating gold and silver-bearing ore is coming extensively into use—designed especially for the treatment of refractory ores carrying gold and silver associated with the inferior metals, such as iron and copper pyrites, lead, zinc, antimony, &c. In the machine or mill designed for this purpose the ore is first passed through a rock breaker or crusher into ore bins, passing then automatically into self-feeders, which deliver it as required into the mortars of a battery, where it is crushed wet and discharged through the battery screens upon silver-plated copper plates, which extract the free gold contained in the ore; from these plates it passes on to the first set of concentrators, where the heavier base metals are eliminated. The tailings from these machines then pass on to the second set of concentrators, where final concentration takes place, eliminating the zinc, antimony, &c.; and the tailings from this last set of machines, containing the sulphides, chlorides, and fine gold, which cannot be concentrated, pass into the settling tanks, where, after the surplus water is drawn from the pulp, it is shovelled into the pans, amalgamated, discharged into the settlers, and the amalgam strained, retorted, and melted in the usual manner.

A recent process is reported for the purification of beet juices with an iron chloride, which is said to be satisfactory in its results, it being claimed, in fact, that such purification is more complete than is possible to obtain with lime and the regular method of carbonatation; the chloride used also precipitates the albumen, and other organic substances are likewise precipitated at the same time. In this process, raw juices from the battery are mixed with lime until their alkalinity is about 0.08 per cent., and to thirty gallons of juice is added one quart of iron chloride, lime being then mixed in and heated to one hundred and seventy-six degrees; second carbonatation follows, and to twenty-five gallons of juice one-half pint of chloride; the saturation that follows should bring the alkalinity down to 0.05, and, when the purification is properly done, there remains no trace of iron. Another interesting method described in this connection is that for the manufacture of levulose with beet molasses. In this case the saccharose is first transformed into dextrose and levulose, and, if lime be added, there will be formed a precipitate of levulosate of lime, almost pure, while the coloring and other substances remain in the solution, by a careful filtration and carbonatation it being possible to obtain pure levulose.

The production of marble from limestone by artificial means, some time since undertaken at Chelsea, England, is stated to have proved a successful industry. The process is described as simple—a French invention—and by it all limestones or chalk may be converted into the semblance of marble of any tint or combination of shades, while the specific gravity is increased 25 per cent. With limestone carving or turning is more easily done than with marble, and the first process after this is the veining, as follows: On the surface of water there is sprinkled a varnish composed of sesquioxide of iron, gum thus and turpentine, and, water being unstable, a freedom of design is obtained, especially when the turpentine is broken up by sprinkling of soap; the stone is dipped on the turpentine and subsequently immersed in baths of metallic solutions, these being sulphates of iron, copper, or zinc, separate or in combinations, the specific gravity varying from 1.2 to 1.5—these being termed the primary colors, variety of shade being obtained by different periods of immersion or by varying the order of tanks used, while the varnish prevents the sulphates affecting the stone at those points, according to the density of the varnish. After this treatment in the sulphate baths, the stone is immersed in a water bath maintained at 50° C., to thoroughly fix the colors, all air being meanwhile expelled. The process thus far takes only a few minutes, and the stone is then dried in an oven at 90° to 100° C., remaining some twenty-four hours; it is then immersed for a corresponding period in an indurating bath, a solution of sulphate of zinc, which does not affect the color, but effectually imparts to the stone the hardness, density, and specific gravity of marble, with its beauty and coloring; it is afterward polished.

A Young Kentuckian's Dilemma.

From the Mt. Vernon Eagle.

The young man who lost his hat in Mr. Johnston's melon patch can have it by calling at Mr. Johnston's residence and proving his property. If not called for in ten days it will be advertised and a full description given, including the tell-tale paper which was put inside of it to make the dimensions of the hat small enough to fit the wearer's head.

MR. M'ADOO AND THE NAVY.

The "Hump" that Blocks Promotions—Various Plans for Reorganization.

Washington, Oct. 6.—Assistant Secretary McAdoo, in a plea for accelerating promotion in the navy, which he presents in the pages of the *North American Review*, illustrates the present rate of progression by imagining the 798 line officers "proceeding in Indian file, by Naval Academy graduating classes, through an enclosure just large enough to accommodate the whole, and entering and leaving through a common entrance and exit. The common entrance is the Naval Academy, and, aside from casualties due to death, resignation, or dismissal, the procession moves steadily along, without change of order, until the exit, the retiring age, is reached." This is very true, but, after all, it is not a peculiarity of the navy. It is found also in the army, up to the grade of general officer, where the principle of selection is substituted for that of seniority. If Commodores were chosen from among the Captains by the selection of the President, and Rear Admirals, in like manner, from the Commodores, we should have a complete analogy in this respect between the two services, save for a few promotions in the army by transfer to the staff. Promotion is always slow in time of peace, when it goes by seniority only; and yet this has been the rule hitherto, and still finds many advocates, because, if slow, it is at least sure. When selection takes its place, there may come an uneasy sense of the possibility of being passed over.

In the principal measure now pending for the reorganization of the personnel, that of the joint commission, seniority is tempered by selection only in a most limited degree. Selection is substituted for promotion to flag rank; and as the Commodores are to be abolished the President appoints Rear Admirals from the list of Captains, a board of Rear Admirals selecting three names for each vacancy from the list of Captains for the President's consideration. The breaking of "the Indian file" is not secured in the bill now pending by substituting selection instead of seniority in the grades below Captain. There is, it is true, a system of involuntary retirements, and boards of officers are to select candidates for such retirement in order to procure a certain minimum of vacancies each year, this being sufficient to furnish in turn the desired number of annual promotions to the grades of Commander and Lieutenant-Commander each year. But that is a little different from changing the Indian file by passing some over the heads of the others along the route.

It must be said, however, that in all the prominent services of Europe, except Germany and Austria, promotion is partly by selection and partly by seniority; and in Germany the officers average young.

Mr. McAdoo presents also the block to promotion, caused by what is known as the "hump." This is the name given to a body of officers now near the head of the procession which is likely, when it comes to the top, to create a long check upon promotions for the centre and rear. It is composed of those who entered the navy when abnormally large classes were graduated at the Naval Academy, from 1860 to 1867. It is believed to be unjust to the younger men to make them suffer from the results of a war measure like this. Besides, when the "hump" is once removed, the rush of promotion behind will be deleterious, according to Mr. McAdoo, like the present stagnation, only in a different way:

The liberated procession in the rear will move with a rush, giving a great number of those composing it scarcely time to change into the uniforms of the different grades ahead of them until, without having time to render adequate service in their new grades, they will reach the retiring age as Rear Admirals. Aged Lieutenants, capable of having their sons crowd them in the ranks, will be precipitated forward from Commander to Rear Admiral with scarcely time to have their new titles engraved on their visiting cards before they find themselves on the retired list.

And here comes in another idea. Men who have been subordinates all their lives will, after their habits of dependence have become fixed, be called to the responsibilities of command. This evil will exist on a large scale at the period in the future just spoken of, and it is one of the main arguments for the changes now contemplated. The purpose of the bill now before the Joint Commission on the Navy is to bring officers to command and flag rank at an earlier period of life. In order to do this it is proposed to increase the number of officers in the upper grades, correspondingly decreasing those in the lower; to allow voluntary retirements, supplemented by compulsory retirements, and to create a reserve list for certain shore duties. As for the reduction of the "hump," it is to be effected by a special series of retirements for officers entering the service between 1860 and 1867, inclusive, with provision for transfer to the reserve list.

According to Mr. McAdoo, "the effect upon the personnel of existing conditions is to beget discouragement, and substitute for a hopeful ambition and zealous performance of duties a perfunctory execution of the routine requirements of the service regulations. I am right in asserting that this is the tendency of existing conditions, but it would be unfair not to qualify this statement by saying that a high sense of honor and devotion to their profession keeps the standard of conduct and fidelity to the interests of the Government very high among naval officers, in spite of all their discouragements." Then there is something to be done for the enlisted men, and promotion to the grade of warrant officer, the possibility of getting a commission, and incentives for continuous service are dwelt upon.

One impression which might be conveyed by Mr. McAdoo's article is that the plan of reorganization is not quite as near being perfected as has been commonly understood. The general belief is that the joint commission had various plans before it, and, after months of consideration, drew up a specific bill, of more than sixty sections. This measure had as its basis the bill of Secretary Herbert regarding the line upon which were grafted provisions relating to the staff, the Naval Academy, the marine corps, and the enlisted men. It was also understood that this bill represented the conclusion of the labors of the joint commission, and that about all that remained for it was the adoption of Mr. Meyer's report. The reason why the bill was not reported was understood to be the difficulty in getting a meeting of the joint commission in the waning days of the last session of Congress.

Mr. McAdoo, however, does not mention at all this agreement of the joint commission, which would seem to be a key point in the discussion. He speaks of five different general plans having been proposed to the Commission, the second of them being "a remedy proposed by the Secretary," which he then proceeds to describe, without mentioning any action of the joint commission on it.

Of course it is true that, so long as the bill adopted by the joint commission is not reported to Congress, it is capable of recall, and in that sense the various plans mentioned by Mr. McAdoo are still capable of consideration. It looks, however, as if this body has done about all that it can do with these, and that Congress will make the bill already framed the basis of its discussion at the coming session.

ITS SHELL IS ITS FORT.

How a Tortoise Whips a Rat Without Danger to Itself.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Sept. 30.—A tortoise which was a most unique attraction years ago has returned after nearly three years' absence. It is about six inches in length and almost a perfect ellipse in shape. A day or two ago the tortoise was picked up up town, and was identified by a series of dates—the latest one 1891—carved into his shell. The tortoise has proved one of the local attractions for the sports.

The tortoise was presented to a local merchant four or five years ago by some one who picked him up in the forest. His new owner set him down in the yard in the rear of the store, and he was forgotten until one day a few days after his arrival, when one of the clerks heard a terrific squealing in the yard, and looking through the window, saw a strange sight. A big rat had attacked the tortoise and was biting and scratching at him, but with all his attempts the rat failed to make even an indentation in the armor of his enemy. The unique sight soon attracted the clerks and customers, until standing room was at a premium.

The big rat climbed all over the tortoise and tried all points of vantage, but his sharp teeth merely slipped from the smooth shell. While all this was going on the tortoise lay with feet closely gripped to the ground, while his head had been drawn in out of sight. Presently, in climbing over his antagonist, the rat stood with his hind feet in front of the place where the tortoise's head ought to have been, and it was there yet, for in a second the head and neck shot out and the horny mandibles closed with a snap on the rat's hind legs. When the rat felt the grip it twisted about with a squeak of pain and rage and tried its best to get at his enemy's head, but the shrewd tortoise had withdrawn not only its head but the rat's hind leg between the upper and under shells out of its enemy's reach. Fight and struggle as it would, the rat failed to move the tortoise an atom. It then turned and tried to break loose, but that was equally as ineffectual for a minute, when it broke away, but with one leg as cleanly amputated as if cut with a knife. The rat bled to death.

After this battle almost every day a similar one occurred. Sometimes the rats double-teamed on the scaly gladiator, but the result was always the same—a leg amputation, a tail abbreviated, a disk of hide and flesh cleanly cleft, or an almost severed neck always ended the battle. The clerks and young fellows enjoyed the unique departure in sport, and whenever a battle was on they filled the windows and doors and excitedly made their bets on points. The tortoise never paid any attention to the spectators, and the rats after getting fairly excited paid all of their attention to their enemy. This sort of thing continued for months until at last it appeared as if the rats had caught on and quit for good, as they entirely disappeared from that locality. Some time after the rats ceased to appear, the tortoise, probably ennuied from lack of sport and exercise, disappeared, until he was found a day or two ago.

ERIE SHORE VINEYARDS.

NOW IS HARVEST TIME IN THE CHAUTAUQUA GRAPE BELT.

Bevies of Girls Are Gathering the Purple Clusters for Market—Yearly Increase in Vine Growing—The Growers' Union.

When the early autumn days seem to hold the first chill suggestion of coming winter, and the "katydids," grown hoarse with their long quarrel, have subsided into a croaking "kate," "kate;" when the lamps of the golden rod are lit to mark each country lane, it is then that along Lake Erie's shore begins the festival of the grape harvest.

All day long, loaded vans piled high with closely packed baskets may be seen approaching the railway stations, where scores of empty cars are waiting to receive their cargo. The delicious fragrance of the ripened fruit perfumes the air, and the purple juice of the discarded skins, trodden upon by pedestrians, paves the way as with a royal mosaic. Anxious eyes are watching the weather signs, fearful of early frosts.

Further West, the deserted furrows are already outlined by the first light fall of snow; from the East as near as Buffalo severe frosts are reported; but one narrow strip of land from North East, Pa., to Angola, N. Y., known as the Chautauqua grape belt, is still exempt. It is sheltered on one side by low-lying hills and on the other warmed by Lake Erie's breezes. Gradually the boundaries of the grape belt are being defined, and fruit growers in this favored region are coming to understand and appreciate its remarkable advantages.

Year by year the vineyards have crowded out the grain fields and driven back the flocks and herds, until the grape has become the only important product there, and it is estimated that over 25,000 acres are now in bearing.

Although many varieties are successfully grown, the Concord, for a number of reasons, finds greatest favor; ripening early—the season is always long enough—it stands shipping well and is considered richest in flavor. The Isabellas are sometimes two or three weeks later, and must risk the frost.

With favorable seasons and proper cultivation a vineyard in three years will pay all expenses of land and labor; and when the fact is considered that the vines, though in full bearing at seven years' growth, continue fruitful to a great age, with small outlay after the first three years, it will readily be seen that the industry will yield large profits. Good results seem to depend not so much upon the soil as upon climatic influences and the liberal use of the pruning knife. Scarcely anything of the year's growth is left in the cutting, which is usually done in the month of February, before the sap starts, which prevents bleeding from the wounds, and thus preserves the strength of the vines.

As soon as the production of the grape belt began to exceed the demands of the home market it was found necessary to organize an association for conducting and controlling the shipments, both in the interests of the buyer and of the producer; securing for the former ripe, perfect fruit, of good quality, and for the latter ready sales and quick returns. In 1891 several small societies then existing consolidated to form the "Chautauqua and North East Grape Belt Union," which now practically controls the entire section.

The laws of this association make it an impossibility for imperfect fruit to be thrown upon the market. Each basket is so marked that it can be traced to the very vineyard where it was grown, and to the workman who packed it.

At the shipping stations all shipments are carefully examined, and unripe, over-ripe, broken, or defective fruit is promptly rejected. Under these conditions an excellent reputation has been established for Chautauqua grapes, and the demand for them is steadily increasing. Singularly enough, large quantities are shipped to California, the flavor being considered superior to those grown there. Experimental shipments have been made to London and Liverpool, arriving in good condition and finding ready sale at profitable figures. The organ of the union is a journal published at Brocton, N. Y., called the *Grape Belt.*

Many young girls are employed in the harvest, which lasts about two months, and the occupation is regarded as very healthful.

While in France the product of the vineyards is devoted almost entirely to wine making, in the Chautauqua grape belt the prohibition sentiment is so strong that a very small percentage is used for that purpose. Chautauqua county is the cradle of the W. C. T. U., and thrifty farmers have been known to quietly allow their harvest to be destroyed by frost, and the entire result of a year's work be lost, when the fruit might easily have been made profitable if gathered and converted into wine.

There is in the minds of many a feeling amounting almost to superstition that if the harvest is used for this purpose Divine favor would be withdrawn from the vineyards and a curse would fall upon them.

But recently an important industry has been slowly gaining ground. The unfermented wine, which has been used almost entirely for communion purposes, is destined to become a staple article. Its manufacture is simple, the juice being heated to a boiling point, strained, and sealed hermetically. Its medicinal value has been established beyond question; it is a delicious summer beverage and is destined to take the place of fermented wines at many a dinner table when its value becomes more widely known. The grape grower will then, even in unfavorable seasons, be able to make his entire harvest remunerative.

A BROOKLYN MAN'S UMBRELLA.

He Has Rules for Its Management and Shows His Mastery of Them.

"The worst thing about rainy weather," observed the confirmed Brooklynite as he seated himself in the bridge car and inclined his umbrella at just the right angle to send a stream of water into the overshoe of his neighbor, "is the way people manage their umbrellas. It's perfectly criminal. I've studied the matter, and I've come to the conclusion that something must be done to limit the destructiveness of this modern weapon. Take a crowd going along Fulton street on a rainy day. How many of 'em know how to manage an umbrella? Not one man out of a hundred, sir. And women? Not one woman out of a thousand. Every individual one of 'em holds his or her umbrella right out in front as if it were a battering ram. And that's what it acts as pretty often. Now when two men carrying umbrellas and going in opposite directions meet, see what happens. One man raises his umbrella, warned by the approaching footsteps of the other, and the other lowers his umbrella until it gets under the other, and proceeds to claw the other man's face with the ribs. Then number one lowers his parachute with a spasmodic jerk and just as likely as not knocks number two's hat flying in the gutter. Then there is a pause and an exchange of vocabularies, while both idiots stand soaking in the rain. Perhaps it ends in a fight, if the opponents are quick tempered.

"In the case of two women it is rather worse, for they always contrive to get their umbrellas tangled up in each others' costumes when they collide, and it takes all the adjacent populace to get 'em apart without utter ruin of apparel to both sides.

"This is the sort of thing that happens when people try to dodge. When they don't, but simply go head on and come together like two infuriated rams, the result ain't so bad for them, only the umbrellas suffer. But I've got a scheme to eradicate all such difficulties. I'm going to form an Umbrella League, the object being self-preservation in rainy weather. This league will have a system to guide the members when carrying umbrellas on the street. It will be simple and sweet. Here, for instance, are the main rules:

1. Keep to your right.
2. When two persons going in opposite directions meet, pedestrian on the inside shall incline his umbrella inward and lower it, pedestrian on outside shall incline his umbrella outward and raise it.
3. When passing a pedestrian going in the same direction always raise the umbrella.
4. If caught in a crowd close the umbrella and, using the point as a weapon, fight your way to the gutter.
5. Always carry the umbrella in the right hand.

"There are a few rules," continued the confirmed Brooklynite rising to his feet as the car reached the terminus and removing his umbrella from the flooded overshoe of his neighbor, "that would do more toward bringing about the millennium than all the political reform on Long Island. Adopt the rules of the Umbrella League and make the rainy autumn days brighter," concluded the reformer.

And by way of emphasizing his point he jammed the end of his umbrella emphatically down upon the pet corn of the man just behind him, turned at the howl of pain from the sufferer, thereby scarifying the features of a small boy just next with the ferrule of the umbrella; twisted around again, and with the handle knocked a porte monnaie from the hands of an elderly lady, who immediately shrieked "Pickpockets!" and finally, in the resultant confusion, started for the door, catching the deadly umbrella in the clothes of every one near by, and opening it wide, whereby it snatched the necktie from one man, put a hole in the hat of another, nearly removed the eye of a third, and finally collapsed utterly, as its frantic owner left it for the crowd to wreak its fury upon and escaped.

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