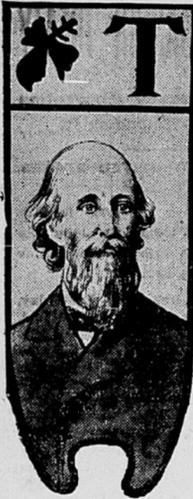


# HOW TO REFORM THE CRIMINAL

By REV. LYMAN ABBOTT,  
Of New York.



THE methods now in force for the reformation of criminals are all wrong.

If you take all the criminals and all who are dependent on criminals in the United States, you will find that one person in seventy belongs to the criminal class. And this class has on the whole been increasing throughout Christendom. In the United States, for instance, it has increased one-third faster, proportionately, than has the population since the civil war. The question is, how shall we treat the criminal class?

Society has often said: "Get rid of them. The simplest way to get rid of them is to kill them." And until a recent period that was the method pursued. In Great Britain, under Henry VIII., 263 crimes were punished with death, and even at the close of the last century 200 crimes were so punished. In the reign of Henry VIII., 200,000 were hanged in Great Britain. Of course we have got too humane to carry on that process now in that way. But we Danish men or lock them in jails to get rid of them.

The other remedy commonly suggested is to hate the criminal, and to express that hate by hurting him. The theory is that when a man has done a wrong he should suffer a wrong, and that we are the ones to inflict it.

Both theories are wrong. The protection of society is not the end we should seek. There is something higher and better than that. And the deterrent power of fear is not the means. It has been tried and it has failed. MEN ARE NOT DETERRED FROM CRIME BY FEAR. We have broken men on the wheel and burned them alive. We have hanged them and gathered the criminal classes all round the gallows to see the execution, and the victim has died gaunt. He has become a hero in their eyes and the men who have seen the execution have gone back to plunge deeper into crime than ever.

The proper object to seek in dealing with criminals IS SIMPLY AND SOLELY THE REFORMATION OF THE WRONG-DOER. Let me sketch an ideal system. A man is arrested and brought into court. Inquiry is made into his life, character and surroundings. If he has friends who will take care of him he is put under their tutelage. If the evidence of his criminality is too deep he is put in a cell and his industry is carried on there. He is studied and investigated. He is not allowed to come out into the common fellowship until he has proved some degree of submission to authority and readiness to reform. Then he goes into the workshop, but the workshop is not to develop character, not to make money. His record is kept. When he has proved that he is able and determined to earn an honest livelihood then some employment is found for him outside and he is set free.

A guilty conscience is a good pot in which to brew troubles.

What is the saddest feature of the war in South Africa?

It is the hundreds of unmarked graves where lie men done to death by the ignorance, stupidity and conceit of men who have been entrusted with places in the military service of England for which they were in no way fitted.

## The Work of England's Incompetents

By A. G. HALES,  
Special Correspondent London Daily News.

There are hundreds of men lying in these unmarked graves who ought to be alive to-day, but who have been allowed to die like dogs for a lack of proper care and instruction on the part of incompetent officers.

I have seen men who had left comfortable homes in the home land to go forth to follow their country's flag gasping out their lives like stricken sheep, just when the glory and the lust of life should have been strong upon them. I have watched the Irish lad with the down upon his brave boyish face pass with the last deep-drawn quivering sob over the border line of life, into the shadows of the unsearchable beyond, A WASTED SACRIFICE UPON THE GRIM ALTAR OF INCAPACITY.

I have seen the kilted Scotch laddie lie, with hollow cheeks and sunken eye, waiting for the whisper of the wings of the Angel of Death. I have seen the damp gather on his unlined brow, and watched the gray pallor creep upwards from throat to temple, until my very soul, wrung with anguish unutterable, has risen in hot revolt against THE CRIMES OF THE INCAPABLE.

I have watched them pile the earth above the last home of England's sons, and the gallant children of the old Welsh hills. I have seen them laid to sleep, as harvest hands will lay the sheaves in undulating rows when the summer shower has passed, and over every shallow grave I have sent a curse for THOSE WHOSE BRUTISH FOLLY CAUSED THE FLOWER OF ENGLAND TO WITHER IN THE PRIDE OF THEIR BOYHOOD.

They have not died because of unchristian death traps left by the enemy; the Boers were not given to poisoning the water which we drank or otherwise taking an uncivilized advantage. Nor did they die because the climate lent itself to the propagation and dissemination of fever germs. No, they died BECAUSE OF THE IGNORANCE, INCAPACITY AND FOLLY OF THE TRIPLE-DYED DANDIES AND DUNCES A GOVERNMENT HAD PLACED OVER THEM AS OFFICERS. THEY DIED BECAUSE OF NEGLECT OF THE MOST SIMPLE LAWS OF SANITATION, laws which even a fool should have known, but which the men sent out at the heads of companies, troops and batteries and the medical service either did not know or did not care to worry about.

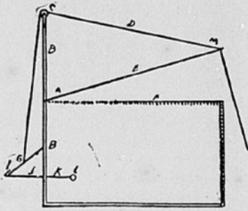
No, while the soldiers died the so-called medical staff looked on, and puffed their cigarettes and talked under their eye glasses. The fools, the idle, empty-headed noodles. And whilst they smoked and talked twaddle, the grim, gaunt Shadow of Death chuckled in the watches of the night, thinking of the harvest that was to follow.

# AGRICULTURAL HINTS

FOR CATCHING VERMIN.

A Secure Box Trap Which Has Been Tested with Uniform Success by Its Designer.

Get a common box, remove the top and one side and put them together as at e, and fasten with a hinge as at a. Fasten a spool, c, in the end of a board, b, and nail it to the back of the box. Then bore a one-inch hole about six inches from the bottom of the box, and at h cut a notch in the outside of the end board. Sharpen stick, g, at each end. The stick, l, should be 12 inches long, notched at k, so as to balance in the hole. The end, l, should be pointed, and the end,



BOX TRAP FOR VERMIN.

notched and pointed. Fasten a string at m, bring over the spool at c, and down to g and tie at the middle of stick, g. Have the string short enough so that when set the door will be wide open, about eight inches. Place bait of any kind on l. When a rabbit or other pest sniffs it he will dislodge stick, g, by moving it at i, and the cover will drop. Sometimes a weight can be used on the cover to advantage.—Farm and Home.

## STORE-BOX FARMERS.

They Are the Fellows Who Object Against the Introduction of Rural Mail Delivery.

The chairman of the committee on post offices in congress declares, in an interview, that free delivery of rural mail is not favored everywhere and cites as proof that some country people somewhere are objecting because they are denied the privilege of their store visits to get the mail and also that some are not on the route and are objecting. He concludes by saying he will go to the bottom of the affair and intimates that further appropriation is not desirable. If the above is not "cheap store" talk I never heard of it. If the chairman had read the several letters of the assistant postmaster general he would have found all of these objections stated and at the same time have seen them completely removed. Free delivery does not throw any barrier in the way of the "store meeting," it only disarms the boys and men of the "mail excuse." From the above interview we would be led to believe that the social and educational training of the rural people depended upon these "store meetings." Who attend? The leaders of society and the most successful? Nay, verily. Here we invariably find the Jack-knife farmer and those of his class. The knowledge to be gained by such association is a minus quantity and the language used is not according to our best grammarians, while the stories told are not worth the time, and destroy the mind for better things. If the "store meeting" is so classical why not take our daughters and wives along? But, alas, we cannot. From this we rebel, for it is free delivery of another kind that makes it obnoxious to our ladies. You all know what I mean by this latter delivery—it usually consists of a box two feet square, filled with ashes or sawdust. These "store meetings" instead of doing good actually result in a great many wrongs. The wife is left at home to carry the wood and water, the stock oftentimes goes without feed, the girls are obliged to go without the paper or magazine till the store meeting is over and so it continues.

There is nothing that makes me lose patience with my fellow farmers so much as to see them idling their time away on the store box—and complaining that farming does not pay. How much better if this time were spent in reading good books and good papers and then instead of meeting in the store to attend the grange where the best thought and associates are found and where refinement and culture abound. Let us hear no more of turning the wheels backward to accommodate a few back numbers.—National Stockman.

## Cottonseed Oil Industry.

According to the latest census reports, there are 357 establishments in the United States for the manufacture of cottonseed oil, using 2,499,386 tons of cottonseed, costing \$28,632,616, an average cost of \$11.55 per ton. The total value of the products from this amount of seed used was \$42,411,835. The quantity crushed was 53 per cent. of that produced. The figures given are for 1900. It is likely that owing to the high price of cottonseed and meal, the figures for this season's work will amount to an increase of about 25 per cent.

## Good Roads Promote Trade.

The countries of Europe were fortunate in having a system of roads established long before the invention of the steam railway. In the United States the rapid extension of railways has caused the roads to be neglected. Good roads are essential to the prosperity of rural districts, as they promote local commerce and tend to make the people better acquainted with one another.—Thomas W. Knox, New York City.

## USING CONVICT LABOR.

It Might Be Employed Advantageously in the Construction of Permanent Roads.

The coming of the Southern railway's good roads train has, we believe, done more to arouse interest in the subject of better highways than anything that has ever been attempted along this line. It has not only afforded a valuable object lesson in the practical work of road building, but it has put the people to thinking on the problem of how to secure better roads.

This thought has naturally turned to that class of labor which the state already owns and controls—its convicts. And the opinion seems to be forming that some rational, practical plan for utilizing this labor to this end is the one to be first considered.

The Journal frankly admits that it has not as yet given the matter sufficient thought to be able to advance a definite idea as to what is best along this line, but it has been impressed with the suggestion that to use the convicts to build a modern system of public highways is to be carefully considered, providing such a system can be made practically self-supporting and at the same time be free from the objectionable features which are, obviously, involved in this public display of criminals in stripes.

The first and foremost benefits to be derived, it seems to us, is in removing the convicts from competition with honest, free labor—a condition which, while clearly objectionable, is no easy one to solve.

Other states have tried to solve this problem in various ways, but so far with indifferent success. If, as claimed, to turn the whole system over to the work of building modern roadways is the solution of it, we take it that every one will welcome such an arrangement.

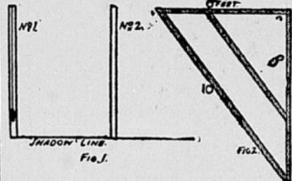
The proposition to make the system self-supporting by conducting a clothing, shoe and tool factory and a farm in connection with the system, where all long term, decrepit men and women convicts may be employed in producing supplies for the entire system, and for this purpose alone, seems, on the face of it, to be one way of removing the convicts, as nearly as would ever be possible, from competition with free labor, and at the same time of making the system practically self-supporting.

At any rate, the matter is one that is going to occupy the attention of our people from now on, and it may even be made an issue in future legislative elections, so that we may reasonably expect to see the solution reached before very long.—Atlanta (Ga.) Journal.

## SCIENCE OF SQUARING.

It Is Easy to Learn and Should Be Mastered by All Who Have to Lay Out Fields.

In laying out fields, it is often necessary to have them square and true. Figure 1 shows two posts six feet long, which are used to get north and south, or east and west lines. Set stake No. 1 and plumb it; at 12 o'clock noon drive stake No. 2 at the end of the shadow cast by the first stake for the north and south line. To get a line east and



SQUARING METHODS OUTLINED.

west, the second stake must be set at the end of the shadow at six o'clock in the morning or night, about March or September 20. In squaring buildings make a triangle of 1x4-inch boards, as in Fig. 2. On one side should be six feet and the other side eight feet. The other side will then be exactly ten feet.—John Eckroat, in Orange Judd Farmer.

## Rural Free Mail Delivery.

The post office department is going to try a new experiment in rural free delivery. The local plan has proved such a great success that the system will be made universal in counties where conditions are favorable. The government has tried it in one county in Pennsylvania, and will make the experiment in Peoria and Vermillion counties, Ill. The reason why these counties were selected was because the population was more evenly distributed and because the roads were generally good. Farmers who want the benefits of free rural mail delivery should see to it that their roads are kept in shape, so that they would be passable at all seasons of the year.

## Early Cultivation Counts.

Many farmers fail to realize how much easier and cheaper it would be to do more of the required cultivation before the crop is planted. Begin your preparations early enough so that when you have your land ready to plant you can leave it alone for a week or more, and then harrow and cultivate the surface over again. One crop of weeds will thus be destroyed at a light expense and the surface will be brought into finer tilth and better prepared to receive the seed. On lands liable to suffer from drought this process may be profitably extended for weeks or months before planting the crop.—Midland Farmer.

## The Ethics of Good Roads.

Good roads and broad highways for good citizens; alleys, slumways and cowpaths for the vicious, the depraved and the lawless.—Charles N. Day, New Haven, Conn.

# THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE IN THE EAST SIDE OF NEW YORK

A bent and tremulous man, incredibly old-looking, incredibly little for his lofty fame, whose kindly eyes looked out through big round glasses from a wasted face framed in snow-white hair and whiskers of the type called "Galways"—such was Peter Cooper as I saw him last; and fortunate was I to come upon the scene early enough for even this fleeting glimpse.



Cooper and His Institute.

Cooper's was of an original mind. He made one of the earliest locomotives in the world; he gained a fortune by such dissimilar methods as making glue and forging iron and steel. He was not a great millionaire like the Vanderbilts of his time, but he founded Cooper Union, to which his heirs have just given an additional endowment of \$300,000 and Andrew Carnegie a like sum. This institution, the model of every great technical school since founded, is thus placed beyond want or accident of narrowing means. And thereby hangs a tale not widely enough known.

Peter Cooper built the union, lived to see it filled with students unable to pay for education along the usual lines, many of them compelled to work by day and able only to enter the night classes; but he did not endow it sufficiently. Even when he had shrunk to a thin skeleton of a man sheltered from the wind it did not occur to him that he might die.

Die he did, and his work was in danger of being crippled. Without self-advertisement—their action not suspected until long afterward—his family made up the deficiency from year to year. As the work grew it was necessary to rent a part of the building for commercial uses to provide funds. As late as 1897 the endowment was only \$300,000; the yearly expenses are \$60,000. Mr. Carnegie has given in all \$600,000 to the union; besides keeping it going 15 years Edward Cooper and Abram S. Hewitt have given as much more. It is one of the most solidly endowed as well as one of the oldest technical schools in the world.

## Where and What It Is.

The union stands where Third and Fourth avenues branch, looking down the Bowery. In the little park in front is a statue of Cooper, erected ten years ago. It is the geographical center of the "East Side" of New York. It was founded for youth of native American growth; because of changes in the neighborhood and the building of other schools, like Pratt institute in Brooklyn and the Achromut schools uptown, it is largely used by the children of recent immigrants, Russian Jews in the majority. There are no people more passionately bent on self-improvement than these same people who have so lately escaped from the rule of the czar.



The Kilted Philanthropist.

Cooper had faith; he was a poet in his way. He built for all time. Pratt was no poet. The first buildings he put up for the institute that bears his name are severely plain and low storied. People wonder at the contrast between them and the later, more appropriate structures. The explanation is simple. Pratt so constructed his classrooms, machine shops and studies that "if the school didn't go" he could turn them into a factory. So many years was Peter Cooper, in his simple faith, ahead of the canny business man—and ahead of his times.

## Jerome Living on the "East Side."

With Cooper Union as a center of learning at one end and District Attorney Jerome as a haven of refuge against sharks and robbers at the other, the Bowery feels well fenced.

For four years this scion of an aristocratic family will make his home on Rutgers street, a mean alley only three or four blocks long that runs from the Bowery down to the East river.

Tall tenements crowd about it, but there a few old-fashioned houses not yet swept away. In one of these Jerome has installed his law library and his personal furniture. He will eat there, sleep there, hear stories of oppression there, and will try to be in truth "the poor man's lawyer." Over Sunday he will go to Lakeville, Conn., where Mrs. Jerome and the children will live. The very poor of the East side who last fall elected him and through him the rest of the reform ticket have extravagant expectations of what his joining among them means. And

these are the men whom it makes feel uneasy:

"District leaders" who live by blackmailing poor push-cart peddlers; corrupt policemen, of whom there are many yet undisturbed; landlords who count on their tenants' ignorance of law to browbeat them; loan agents who charge enormous interest illegally; pawnbrokers who evade the laws meant to protect their clients; and other slimy creatures whose like can scarcely exist in a city less large than New York, or work among people less ignorant and credulous.

If Jerome can do half what is expected of him he will be the most talked of young man in the country next to Roosevelt. He will not try to do everything alone, "steam engine in breeches" though he is. His is "the largest law office in the world." He has assistants by the score, deputies by the half hundreds. He has surrounded himself by young, vigorous men. Already wonders are being worked. A murder is committed at night. At once special men from his office are put upon the case, the police sweat off part of their fat hustling lest they be left behind, and in 24, 36 or 48 hours somebody is indicted by the grand jury. If the pace lasts New York will see interesting times.

## The Regeneration of New York.

At times New York seems almost a modern City of the Plain, too unwieldy in its iniquity to be moved. It is not so. I have lived here you will not ask how many years, and though at times and in places it may grow worse, on the whole it betters. It is so big, clumsy, inchoate, that it appeals to ambitious youth of good aims, and a young chief of his hundreds of the clan.

Jerome are devoting their spare time to it. He differs from them only in energy and gifts.

The East side is dotted with missions, "settlements," "neighborhood houses." These are known. Other workers evade knowledge; young men who go down into the slums to live, scornful organization and making their friends among the poor. I know a boy with "expectations" whom circumstances made free of action, who from his fourteenth year was friend and adviser to a lot of poor immigrants on the East side; some of them were three times his years, but they followed him implicitly; he kept them out of crazy real estate schemes; he forced the lads to go to night school when they wanted to play; he advised them about civil service examinations, about places on the police, in the post office, on public works. When he went to college he kept informed of their doings; when he graduated—he is an orphan—he simply came among them to live, though his means would permit of quite another course.

His proteges never beg of him nor lie to him; he has not been to them a goose to pluck or a dude to despise; he has taken the boys camping with him in summer and kept a protecting eye on the babies. His relation to these people is more like that of a young highland chief to his clan than anything else that I can think of. Outside his little circle no one knows him. There are hundreds like him in their different ways. Only by such men and means can the immigrants be managed—unless the "district leaders" of either party are to manage them for their destruction and the city's harm.

## The Rush from New York.

Another class of New Yorkers only content of leaving the city to evade taxes. It's impolite to mention a lady in such a matter, but the case of Mrs. Astor is especially striking.

The original Astor came to New York with a backload of musical instruments less than a hundred years ago and built up a fortune that for his descendants has grown to over \$200,000,000 in the direct line, besides half as much more diverted through female heirs by marriage. Now the American head of the family, the admitted head of American society, Mrs. Astor, is to be a resident of Newport because taxes there are half as high and assessors conveniently blind.

There are others—the Gerrys, famous for interest in yachting and in charitable work; the Schermerhorns, a family that New York has enriched through two centuries; the Van Alens, whose redoubtable head tried to head a hospital corps in South Africa for the "king's soldiers" and was repelled; the Browns, who were Rhode Islanders originally and can't be blamed; the Chanlers, rich with Astor money; and members of the Lawrence, Fearing, Cushing, Gibbs and Andrews families. OWEN LANGDON,