

**THE NEW RAPID: A LIGHT-LINE  
CONNECTIVE-VOWEL SYSTEM OF SHORT-  
HAND WRITTEN FROM PRINCIPLES  
WITHOUT THE USE OF WORD SIGNS OR  
CONTRACTIONS FOR COMMERCIAL,  
POLITICAL AND JUDICIAL RECORDING**

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The new rapid: a light-line connective-vowel system of short-hand written from principles without the use of word signs or contractions for commercial, political and judicial recording by C. E. McKee

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**C. E. MCKEE**

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New Rapid*

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WRITTEN FROM PRINCIPLES WITHOUT THE USE  
OF WORD SIGNS OR CONTRACTIONS

— FOR —

Commercial, Political and Judicial  
RECORDING,

AND IN ALL THOSE FIELDS OF LABOR WHICH DEMAND THE  
HIGHEST DEGREE OF SPEED AND LEGIBILITY.

BY C. E. MCKEE,

Principal New Rapid College of Short-Hand,  
BUFFALO, N. Y.

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1892



TRANSCRIPT.

Mighty thou art, O magic pen,  
Thou who dost serve the wants of men;  
By rescuing golden thoughts from spoil,  
And saving the world from years of toil.

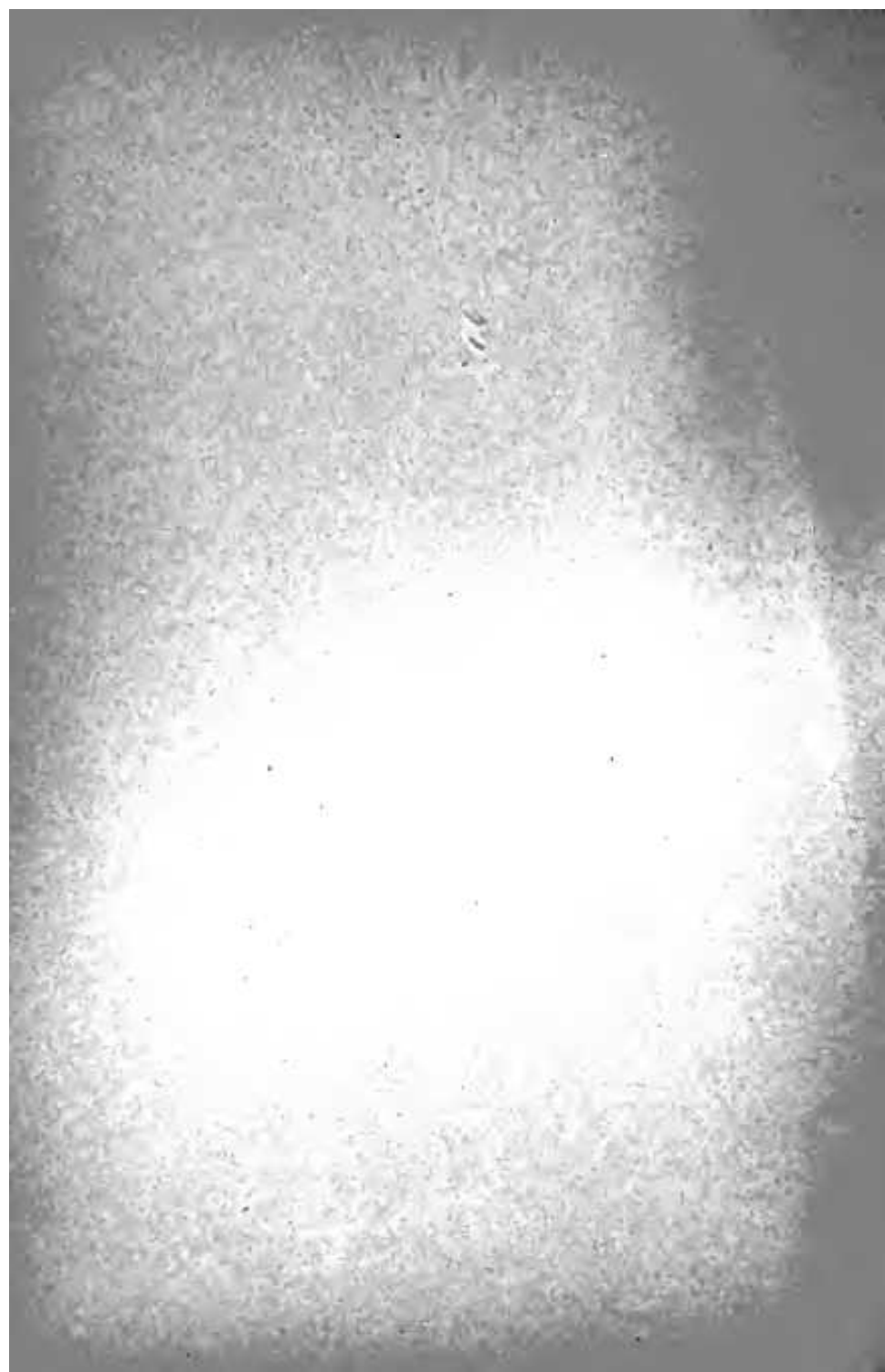
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## Preface.

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No apology need be offered for the appearance of the present work. The history of the past proves that a system of brief writing has been the demand of the ages. That this demand still exists is too obvious to need assertion. When we realize what a small percentage of the multitudes who yearly take up the study of short-hand, make a success of it, we begin to see the need of improvement in this line of human achievement. This recognized necessity for a simple practical system of brief writing, — one that can be learned and put into daily use by the masses, without devoting years of study and practice to this one branch alone — is what inspired the author in his efforts to develop the present system.

Says an eminent writer of recent date, "The formation of a really good system of short-hand has yet to be shown to the world." That this is true is admitted by all who know anything of the history of the art.

It is also admitted by all acquainted with the New Rapid system that never in the history of short-hand have such results been obtained. Students who have failed, after devoting months of laborious toil to the mastery of other systems, have in this achieved success with but a few weeks study.

Time and use have proven the system to be all that is claimed for it, and that it does not fall short of its object, which is: *To secure a shorter road to Stenographic success; to obtain greater legibility and speed, and lighten the labors of that mighty army that is daily growing in the skillful use of the pen.*

A glance will be sufficient, to enable one to see that the system is entirely different from those of the past, and that in it short-hand has been emancipated from the superstitions that have surrounded it from its birth to the present day.

For the purpose of giving the reader some knowledge of the principles of this system, and its many superior advantages, we give a brief review of it in the Introduction. In referring the reader to this we ask that it be read with a fair, impartial, and unbiased spirit.

We think, aside from the principles of this system, there is much to commend the New Rapid to those desiring to pursue the study of short-hand. The matter presented throughout the work has been carefully selected and graded. Unlike other systems, it has been presented in the form of Lessons. This arrangement will be of great assistance to the student. Whether it is pursued under an instructor, or by home study, it enables the learner to take it up in its proper order. Each lesson is so arranged that it can be thoroughly mastered before going to the next, and as it contains a complete explanation of the subject in question, the student avoids the confusion arising from disconnected lessons. Everything belonging to a lesson is placed directly in connection with it, that the student may get the benefit of it just when it is needed. A list of questions is added after each lesson, which enables the student to ascertain if everything passed over has been thoroughly mastered. They also serve as good test questions when a hasty review on theory is desired.

Realizing that *practice* is what is necessary to render short-hand useful, we have presented a carefully selected list of words and sentences after each lesson. This enables the learner to get practice on those words, that will tend to fix the principles of the lesson at hand, thoroughly in the mind.

The lists are so practical and comprehensive, that by the time the theory of the subject has been completed, the student will have acquired a large vocabulary of practical word forms.

Realizing what a vast number of the young men and women who pursue the study of short-hand, have not the opportunity to secure the services of an instructor, we have aimed to make the book a teacher of itself. We hope that all those who pursue the study will find in it *truth* and *beauty*, and a lasting degree of satisfaction in its practice.

With these few words of greeting, the system is commended to those whose labors it seeks to lessen, trusting that it may prove a faithful friend and servant, in all the fields of labor to which it may be called to administer.

*Buffalo, N. Y., March 28th, 1889.*