

Ben Kuleshov

Professor Sarah Cole

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H.G. Wells Admires the Brooklyn Bridge

“Much more impressive than the sky-scrapers to my mind is the large Brooklyn suspension-bridge. I have never troubled to ask who built that; its greatness is not in its design, but in the quality of necessity one perceives in its inanimate immensity. It tells, as one goes under it up the East River, but it is far more impressive to the stranger to come upon it by glimpses, wandering down to it through the ill-paved van-infested streets from Chatham Square. One sees parts of Cyclopean stone arches, one gets suggestive glimpses through the jungle growth of business now of the back, now of the flanks, of the monster; then, as one comes out on the river, one discovers far up in one's sky the long sweep of the bridge itself, foreshortened and with a maximum of perspective effect; the streams of pedestrians and the long line of carts and vans, quaintly microscopic against the blue, the creeping progress of the little cars on the lower edge of the long chain of netting; all these things dwindling indistinguishably before Brooklyn is reached” (Wells 37-38).

Works Cited

Wells, H. G. "Chapter III - New York." *The Future in America, American Literature*, AmericanLiterature.com,
<https://americanliterature.com/author/hg-wells/book/the-future-in-america/chapter-iii-new-york>.