

GENERAL MILES ON SPORT

The Famous Soldier Against Modern Foot ball, but For Glove Contests.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—General Nelson A. Miles of the United States army declares that American foot ball is a risk too great for him to regard with favor, though he has found benefits repeatedly when young in playing foot ball, but it was not of the present kind. The players kicked the ball more and each other less in those days, and the "flying V" was not thought of.

"I am for a change in the rules," said the General, "because I want to see the game perpetuated, and I don't believe it can endure under the existing so-called Rugby rules. As now played at Yale, Princeton, Harvard and Cornell, the game of foot ball is productive of a greater number of injuries, both immediate and permanent, than is prize fighting under the Marquis of Queensberry rules. Hitting and crushing is too generally excused upon the plea that the offender is excited and does not wish to do bodily injury to an opponent. He knows that by slugging or jumping upon his man he can disable him until a retirement is necessary, and these tactics are directed against the strong players, who are known to be invaluable to the success of the opposing team. I am with the reform party in foot ball and want to see the unnecessary roughness barred. Momentum plays should go. If the rules are not changed it will be a partial solution of the brutality problem to enforce the existing rules against offenders. It would be a good plan, I think, to deal with sluggers and pounders as the horse race associations do with the offenders against racing laws. A player who was found guilty would be ruled off all fields for good."