Bellefonte. Pa., March 6, 1908.

THE WORLD GROWS BETTER.

Oh, the earth is full of sinuing And of trouble and of woe, But the devil makes an inning Every time we say it's so. And the way to set him scowling, And to put him back a pace, Is to stop this stupid growling, And look things in the face.

If you glance at history's pages, In al! lands at i eras known, You will find the buried ages Far more wicked than our own As you scan each word and letter. You will realize it more That the world today is better Than it ever was before

There is much that needs amending In the present time, no doubt; There is right that needs defending, There is wrong needs crushing out And we hear the groans and curses Of the poor who starve and die. While the men with swollen purses In the place of hearts go by.

But, in spite of all the trouble That obscures the sun today, Just remember it was double In the ages passed away. And those wrongs shall all be righted, Good shall dominate the land, For the darkness now is lighted By the torch in Science's hand,

Forth from little motes in chaos We have come to what we are, And no evil force can stay us, We shall mount from star to star, We shall break each bond and fetter That has bound us heretofore And the earth is surely better

Than it ever was before

A COWTOWN EPISODE.

[By Thomas B. Montfort.] EE them two old plugs over there?" the landlord of the Maverick hotel asked, pointing across the street. The grocery drummer, who had been caught over Sunday in the little Kansas cowtown, looked up and saw two grizzled, gray old men sitting peacefully side by side

building. "As mild and quiet as a pair of little innocent lambs," the landlord added. with a chuckle, "and dwellin' together jest like they was own twin brothers!"

on a dry goods box in the shade of a

The grocery drummer yawned and hand, took up a paper and began to read. in his experience to see a couple of old feilows loafing on a village street.

"But that's jest the way they always are," the landlord went on. "You hardly ever see 'em when they ain't together. Wherever one goes the other here and put us on to it we been callin' em Damon and Pythias. You've heard tell of them chaps, I reckon?"

The drummer nodded.

"Well, these two old cubs is jest like that so far as their friendship goesquiet and peaceable! You would natu-Sunday school and hadn't never heard tell of nothin' but the Bible all their a block away.



THE BALL CUT A LOCK OF HAIR FROM AB'S HEAD."

The drummer made no reply, and a long silence followed. At last, however, the landlord emitted a soft chuckle and, pointing across the street,

"You wouldn't ever guess, now, a-lookin' at them settin' there that way, that they used to be two of the toughest cusses that ever run the range and that for two years they tried their very best to kill each other. Now, would you?"

"Hardly," the drummer answered. "Yit it's even so. I bet each of 'em has got a pound of lead in him now that the other put there, and as for scars-well, I reckon they've branded each other up about as complete as they could without puttin' the scars on double."

The drummer began to show interest. He laid aside his paper and asked for the particulars.

"Well, it's like this," the landlord began. "Joe Kern-that's the one on the right there-he used to be a cowboy

and worked on the Triple X ranch. bout twenty miles south of town. And he was shore a holy terror. There was lots of mighty tough cowboys round here in them days, but the toughest of 'em was as mild and harmless as bables compared with Joe. Their little scrappin' and shootin' wa'n't much more than Sunday school work when looked at alongside of what he done.

"Among the eccentric notions Joe got into his head was one to the effect that this town didn't need no marshal and shouldn't have none. Accordin'ly, as soon as that idea hit him he sent in word to the marshal invitin' him to resign or move away and sayin' that he would be up in a few days and would be under the painful necessity of vacatin' the office with his six shooter if the marshal disregarded his well meant invitation.

"The marshal was a young feller, and he hadn't never felt any special longing to quit this world for another that he didn't know anything about, so he suddenly decided that he'd give up his tob and go away to some place that was more conducive to longevity. Accordin'ly, he tendered his resignation and without waitin' for it to be accepted lit out.

After that there were other marshals, but none of them held the office very long. As fast as they were elected Joe invited them to resign, and they showed respect for his wishes. Some of them were a little slow, though, and he had to come in and press his invitation by firin' a few shots just close enough about their heads to make them nervous and loosen up the muscles of their legs.

"Well, things went along that way for 'bout a year. Then one day a long ganglin' feller with a mild eye, a soft voice and a solemn lookin' face happened into town. His name was Ab Case, and that's him a-sittin' over there on the left.

"Ab he was lookin' for a job, and the town it was lookin' for a marshal jest then, so the two gits together and strikes up a deal. Ab says he ain't never been a marshal, but 'lows he can manage it all right, and the town is findin' it difficult to get anybody to take the job with Joe Kern and shore death hangin' over it, so to speak.

"Well, Ab is sworn in and puts on the star, and then here comes a invite to him from Joe, askin' him to resign. Ab listened to Joe's message, which was delivered by another cowboy, then shrugs his shoulders and replies that he don't never accept invitations second-

"If Mr. Kern wants me to consider The old men did not interest him in any proposition he has got to offer the least. It was no uncommon thing along that line,' he says, 'he will have to come in and see me pussonally.'

"About three days later Mr. Kern did come in. Down at the saloon he told them why he had come. It was to convince the new marshal that he ought to resign and go away. "And I have brought my very best

goes, and whatever one does the other arguments with me,' he finished, 'ardoes. Ever since a feller come along guments that ain't never failed as a last resort.'

chester and a brace of six shooters. And he knowed how to handle them arguments 'bout as eloquently as any man that ever lived.

"He irrigated his system at the bar, stand by each other through thick and coolly lighted a cigar and then went thin, and either of 'em would fight to out to look up the marshal and pay his the last breath for the other. And respects to him. And he didn't have to go far, either, for he was scarcely out rally think they'd been raised up in a of the saloon when somebody pointed out Ab standin' on a corner 'bout half

"'Are you shore that's him?' Joe asked. 'I'd rather not make any mistake and kill an innocent man if it can be helped.'

" 'That's shore him." they answered. "Joe smiled and raised his gun.

"'I'll sorter wake him up.' he said I won't hurt him at first, but jest call his attention that I'm here.'

"He fired, and the ball cut a lock of hair from Ab's head. Ab looked around sort of casual to see what it meant and the next instant sent back an answer to Joe's shot. That answer plowed a furrow along the side of Joe's head.

"From that they went at it in dead earnest. Everybody else got out of the way and give 'em a clear field. There wa'n't no backin' down and no runnin' on the part of neither of 'em. They jest stood up there and pumped lead at and into each other as carelessly and cheerfully as you please.

"After 'bout ten minutes the firin' ceased, and then we all cautiously peered out to see how it had ended. They was both down on the ground helpless, but still tryin' to shoot.

"When we come to examine, we found 'em pretty badly riddled up, but sick dog suffer for attention if I could with no wounds that promised to be fatal. We carried 'em off, and the doctors patched 'em up, and for a long time they remained quiet in bed.

"Some of us reckoned the matter would end there, as they had both shorely had enough, but the older men thought different. One of 'em said:

"'It won't ever end while they both live. Kern will never give up, and it's pretty evident Case won't either. When they get out, they'll be at it again, and they'll keep at it till one of 'em is done

for. "And it proved that he was partly right. The very first time they met after their recovery they took another

round of shootin' at each other. "The result this time was similar to what it had been before. Both were badly used up, but neither injured fatally.

"And so for two years it continued. Every time Joe came up to town there was a shootin' bout. They fought to kill, too, and, both of 'em bein' good shots, we reckoned every time one of 'em would be shore to git it. But, strange to say, neither of 'em ever did. They riddled each other all up, but they was never able to git in a finishin' shot.

"'I'll git him yit, though,' Joe declared. 'I'm jest bound to do it before I quit.

"Ab made the same declaration, and we was all shore one of 'em would be killed before the thing come to an end. Didn't seem like it could wind up any

other way. "But it transpired that we was all entirely mistaken, as you can see for

yourself.

"One day, 'bout three months after the last shootin' scrape and jest when we was expectin' Joe to make another appearance a covered wagon drove into town and stopped in front of the mayor's office. The wagon was from the Triple X, and we couldn't understand its bein' covered that way, so we all gathered round to see what it meant.

"In the bottom of the wagon was some straw, and lyin' stretched out on the straw was Joe Kern. We see at a glance that Joe was mighty sick, for he jest lay there and moaned and didn't take no notice of nobody nor nothin'.

"While we was standin' there gapin' like a passul of idiots Ab come up and pushed his way through the crowd to the wagon. We 'lowed shore as soon as Ab got his eyes on Joe he'd plug him, but right there we was mistaken some more.

"Ab looks at Joe a minute, then turns to the driver and says: "'What's the matter of the cuss?"

"'Smallpox,' the driver replies. "In about half a minute that identical part of town became rather scarce of population. All of uspexcept Ab. Joe and the driver happened to

more pressin' business other places. and we hurried off to tend to it. "It seemed, as we learned afterward, that Joe had been exposed to the smallpox somewhere and that the first thing and out, every time he enters he must they knowed he took down with it. The ranch wa'n't no fit place for a sick man to stay, so they loaded him up and sent

him into town, expectin' the mayor to



THERE'S ANY MORE SHOOTIN' DONE, YOU'LL HAVE TO DO IT !

him. But it happened that the mayor was away from home and wouldn't be back for a week. "Ab studied a little while. Then he

said to the driver: "Take him down to my house. I'll keep him and do the best I can for him. That seems to be all there is for

"So the driver went on down to Ab's house, and he and Ab took Joe from the wagon and carried him in and put him in Ab's bed. Ab turned nuss and stayed right there with Joe, sleepin' on a blanket on the floor.

"Of course we was all surprised at Ab doin' that way, seein' that he and Joe were such bitter enemies, and we talked about it and wondered at it. Joe couldn't understand it, either, so one day when he was gittin' better he says to Ab:

"There's one thing I want to know, Mr. Case. I've puzzled about it a good bit lyin' here, and I can't seem to git the hang of it. I would like to know why you took me in and nussed me this way?'

"'I hope,' Ab replied, 'that you ain't got no notion that I done it for love? "'Hardly,' Joe answered, 'But that is what makes it harder to understand.'

"'Then I'll explain,' Ab said. 'First, I wouldn't be brute enough to let a help it, and, second, I didn't want you to die a natural death and cheat me out

of the pleasure of shootin' you.' "Joe's face broke into a smile, and he reached out and took Ab's hand and pressed it warmly.

"'Your words are a great relief to me,' he said. 'I was afraid you was goin' to place me under obligations not to kill you, and it worried me. But now I understand, and it's all right. As soon as I get out of this we'll take up the fight, and we'll keep it up till I

git you.'
""Till I git you, you mean,' Ab cor-

"'Do I? Well, you'll see.' "It went on till at last Joe was able to be up and around; then I'm blamed if Ab didn't turn in and take down with the smallpox. Then them two jest reversed things. Ab took the bed, and Joe nussed him and slept on the floor. Ab was mighty bad off for awhile, but finally he begun to git bet-

"One day when Joe was sittin' by the bed Ab broke a long silence by

saying: "'I'll be out soon now, and then I reckon we'll be done with this cussed

"'Yep, I reckon so,' Joe replied. "'And it won't be long either,' Al

went on, 'till we can resume our little pastime of shootin' each other up.' "Joe turns around and looks Al straight in the eyes and says:

"'You may think me a coward if you want to, but I say right now that If there's any more shootin' done you'll have to do it. I'm through for my part. Before I'll shoot a man who took me in and cared for me like you did I'll pull up stakes and leave the country.' "Ab looked surprised for a moment;

then he stretched out his hand and said:

"'Put 'er thar, pard. Them's my sen timents exactly.'

"And from that day them two fellers has been jest like you see 'em now, quiet and peaceful as lambs, the very best of friends and always hangin' around together."

A Well Mannered Bus.

Riding in an omnibus up Regent street recently, an old lady was annoying the other passengers by her remarks. The conductor remonstrated with her, saying, "Ma'am, remember you are in a public vehicle, and behave as such."-London Spectator.

In a Nitroglycerin "Hill." In the "danger area" the severest discipline is maintained. All entrances are carefully guarded by searchers, who rigorously examine every individual that desires to enter, relieving him of any metallic objects that may be carried upon his person, together with matches and other suspicious obsimultaneously remember that we had jects which upon coming into contact with the dangerous chemicals used in this zone might provoke serious trouble. No matter how often an employee engaged within the hill may pass in submit to this preliminary and essential operation. There are also some 500 girls employed, and these are under the charge of matrons. Hairpins, ordinary pins, shoe buttons, metal pegs within the soles of the shoes, knitting and other needles are all religiously barred. Their hair is tied with braid or ribbon, and, as with the male employees, every time they enter the 'danger area" they are similarly searched by the matrons. - Scientific

American, A Hard Knock. Railroad claim agents have little faith in their fellow creatures. One said recently: "Every time I settle a claim with one of these hard headed rural residents who wants the railroad to pay twice what he would charge the butcher if he gets a sheep killed, I think of this story. illustrative of the way some people want to hold the railroad responsible for every accident, of whatever kind, that happens. Two Irishmen were driving home from town one night when their buggy ran into a ditch, overturned, and they were both stunned. When a rescuer came along and revived them the first thing one of them said was, 'Where's the rain?' 'Why, there's no train around. he was told. 'Then where's the railroad?' 'The nearest railroad is three miles away.' he learned. 'Well, well,' he commented. 'I knew it hit us pretty hard, but I didn't suppose it knocked us three miles from the track!"-

Argonaut.

The Page Between. A New Orleans woman, well known for her work for charity, recently accepted an invitation to speak at an anti-tuberculosis meeting. On the platform she found herself seated between a bishop and a rabbi, and the tone of the meeting seemed to be rendered extremely solemn by the combination.

In order to lighten the solemnity, she said. turning to the rabbi, "Do you know, I feel as if I were a leaf between the Old and the New Testaments."

The rabbi turned a sad eyed gaze upon her.

"Yes, madam." he said, "and, if you will recall, that page is usually a blank one."

She Was a Bit Bashful.

Mr. Peet, a very diffident man, was unable to prevent himself being introduced one evening to a fascinating young lady, who, misunderstanding his name, constantly addressed him as Mr. Peters, much to the gentleman's distress. Finally summoning up the courage, he earnestly remonstrated: "Oh, don't call me Peters. Call me Peet!" "Ah, but I don't know you well

enough, Mr. Peters," said the young lady, blushing, as she withdrew behind her fan.-London Telegraph.

The Onion In Cooking. The greatest of French cooks, being asked to give the secret of his success answered: "The very foundation of all good cooking is butter and onion! 1 use them in all my sauces and gravies. They have the effect of making a customer come back for more. Butter without onion will drive the customer away after a few days. Boil the onion till it melts or entirely disappears; then add the butter and call the mixture stock."-Exchange.

Artificial Flies.

Dame Juliana Berners, prioress of the nunnery of Sapwell, near St. Albans, England, was the author of the first book on angling in the English language, printed in 1496. She gives a list of twelve flies, and now, after & lapse of more than four centuries, artificial flies, constructed after her formulas, would prove as successful as any et the up to date creations.

Ella-What a helpless girl she is! Stella-Yes. If somebody should provide the mistletoe and furnish the man she couldn't do the rest. - Canadian

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ENDORSES DAVIS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL BILL.

Congressman C. R. Davis, of Minnesota, ments from the leading educational men of lutions from many educational organizazations, farmers' associations, State colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts, commercial organizations, boards of trade. manufacturers' organizations and industrial organizations generally throughout the country have inspired the hope that Congress will be induced to consider favorably the measure during the present session.

By appointment Mr. Davis had an interview with the President recently in which the provisions of the hill were considered. He was very much gratified to receive from the President his hearty and interview allusion was made to the President's speech at Keckuk in October last, and the President was gratified to know that his ideas then expressed concerning this measure were receiving such favorable consideration throughout the entire country. In this speech the President said :

y. In this speech the President said:

"We should strive in every way to aid in the education of the farmer for the farm, and should shape our school system with this end in view; and so vitally important is this that, in my opinion the federal government should co-operate with the state governments to secure the needed change and improvement in our schools. At present there is a gap between our primary schools in country and city which must be closed and if necessary the nation must help the state to close it. Too often our present schools tend to put altogether too great a premium upon mere literary education, and therefore to train away from the farm and shop. We should recerse this process."

Among the hundreds of indorsemen

Among the hundreds of indorsements Mr. Davis has received and to which the President's attention was called, a letter written by Judge Peter J. Shields, of the Supreme court of California, especially attracted the Presidents' attention. He not only approved of its contents but preed that great publicity be given to it as embodying briefly the desirability and neces sity of developing education along indus-trial lines as embodied in this bill.

The President was much gratified at the equitable manner in which this bill distributes technical and industrial education among the masses. He was especially pleased to know that this bill divides the money about equally as between agriculture, the mechanic industries and home making.

Judge Shields' letter, written to his friend, Col. Weinstock, of Sacramento, California, is as follows :

November 2nd, 1907.

My Dear Mr. Weinstock : I received your letter enclosing a copy of the "Davis Bill" which I now re-inclose to you. I was familiar with the bill from conversation with interested parties but had never seen it and was glad to get it through you. I regard it as a very good bill; if it works out well it will prove a great bill. The only wrong about it would have to come in its administration, it is perfectly sound in its purpose. You know that when a Federal fund is provided for State distribution what a scramble there is

for it. This to some extent has been true of the agricultural college endowment, although in the long run that has worked its way ont and proved a really great success. The danger which I have pointed out however is very well guarded against in the "Davis by requiring the several States to first Bill" provide the grounds, the farm and the school buildings and making the payment of the semi-annual amounts dependent up on the right use of proceeding sums, and placing the Secretary of Agriculture in con-

trol of all disbursements. Rightly enforced the bill is admirable. First it provides for technical, industrial and practical education as distinguished from the old theory of educating all alike regardless of his type or the life he was to lead; of teaching the boy or girl books alone that they might thereby acquire the strength and fiber of mind to later learn men and things. The character of educarealities of life direct and in the process cultivate the mind as well as the old plan. One of the most fruitful fields of the education of the future will be nature, the wondrous world we live in, and of this

field agriculture comprehends its best features. This bill is broader than that however including mechanics and domestic coience within its purposes. I am sure hese arts and sciences can do no harm will do incalculable good. I am not afraid of vulgarizing the world or making it what is called "utilitarian" by teaching all of the people to know plants and animals; through domestic science to feed the baby with wholesome food and the soul with all of the finer things which are comprehended within the limits of the real bome, or through the mechanic arts which train men's bodies to their highest usefulness and to give expression to the mind's best nceptions. I am not afraid of the fate of a country whose people are given over to breeding perfect animals, rearing crope of est excellence, building good roads, labor saving machinery, automobiles, and railroads, constructing convenient houses, furnishing them perfectly and making real omes of them, to the building of bath tubs arranging plumbing, weaving fine cloths and making them into right form. If the doing of such things does not make peace and union, for moral industry and some progress then my judgment is hope lessly at fault.

Nor can I doubt that out of such condi tions will surely spring the soundest moral and intellectual culture and impulse. This bill represents this general direction and purpose and I have no hesitation in pro-nouncing it sound and wise.

and getting your views of it.

Any own are even more favorable to it than I have been able to state.

Very truly yours

PETER J. SHIELDS.

Mr. Davis has been investigating some of the few objections suggested against the bill, and particularly those wherein it is claimed Federal appropriations would lead to national ownership of the contemplated schools, and also that these appropriations would relieve the States from the contemplated would relieve the States from the contemplated in the contemplated schools, and also that these appropriations would relieve the States from the contemplated schools, and also that these appropriations would relieve the States from the contemplated schools, and also that these appropriations would relieve the States from the contemplated schools, and also that these appropriations would relieve the States from the contemplated schools, and also that these appropriations would relieve the States from the contemplated schools, and also that these appropriations would relieve the States from the contemplated schools. responsibility. In answer thereto he quotes from a letter written by the Hon. E. E. Brown, U. S. Commissioner of Education. as follows :

"The recent effect of the national appropriations under the act (1882) has been to stimulate greatly the support of the land-grant colleges by the States in which they are situated. Ten years ago, the amount which these institutions received from their several States was \$2,218,100, while in 1906 this amount was \$1,531,502 showing an increase of about 240 per cent. In 1896 these institutions received, the country over, 29 per cent of their support from the National government. Ten years later, in 1906, owing to the increase of State appropriations, the grants from the national treasury covered only 15.4 per cent of their total support."

These figures Mr. Davis contends are altogether encouraging as showing that national appropriations have not tended to feels greatly encouraged concerning the passage in the numerous endorserelieve the States of the sense of responsithis measure are of exactly the same class the United States, including favorable resolutions from many educational organization of 1862, and like them will strengthen the States directly and the Federal Government indirectly. As these State colleges have remained under the State control so will the schools of agriculture and the schools of mechanic arts provided for in this bill remain under State control, bence no cause for alarm from centralization. Instead of destroying the unity of our school system, this measure bridges the gap between the education of the school hor and the education of the home, the farm and the shop. Heretofore our education has lacked unity, it has been too much full endorsement of the measure. In this centered about the literary, the non-industrial ; its forms and substance have been too little co-ordinated with the training of the bome, of the shop, of the farm and of the great outdoors. Through technical training it will keep our youth out of a peasant or submerged class; and by encouraging the States to expend more money for education it will greatly increase general as well as technical educa-

A Hundred Million Ties a Year.

In the construction of new track and for renewals, the steam and street railroads used in 1906 over 100,000,000 cross-ties. The average price paid was 48 cents per

Oak, the chief wood used for ties, furnishes more than 44 per cent, nearly onehalf of the whole number, while the Southern pines, which rank second, contribute about one-sixth. Douglas fir and cedar, the next two, with approximately equal quantities, supply less than one fifteenth apiece. Chestnut, cypress, Western pine, tamarack, hemlook and redwood are all of importance, but no one of them furnishes

more than a small proportion. Oak and Southern pine stand highest in both total and average value ; the average value of each is 51 cents. Chestnut ranks next, followed by cedar. Hemlock, at 28

cents, is the cheapest tie reported.

More than three-fourths of all ties are hewed; and with every wood from which ties are made, except Douglas fir and Western pine, the number of hewed ties is greatern than the number sawed. In generai, when lumber has a relatively low value the proportion of sawed ties increases. because the market for ties is always active. while that for lumber is frequertly sluggish. All Western species are affected by this condition, for stumpage is abundant

and its value relatively low. Ten per cent of the ties purchased were treated with preservatives either before they were purchased or at the treating plant of the railroad company. At least ten railroad companies are operating their own plants for the preservation of their

construction material. Of the many forms in which wood is used, ties are fourth in cost, sawed lumber being first, firewood second and shingles and laths third. It has been calculated that the amount of word used each year in ties is equivalent to the product of 600,000 acres of forest, and that to maintain every

tie in the track two trees must be growing With nearly 300,000 miles of railroad trackage and approximately 2,800 ties to the mile, there are over 800 000,000 ties constantly subject to wear and decay. The railreads report that in the form of ties cedar lasts 11 years, cypress 10 years and redwood 9 years. These woods, however, lack the desired weight and hardness, and what is more important, they are not available in the region of the trunk lines of the central and eastern States. When it is considered, then, that the service of the longest-lived tie timber in general usechestnut, white oak, tamarack, spruce and Douglas fir-is but seven years, while with some, as the black caks, it is but four years, whereas a treated tie with equipment to lessen wear will last fifteen years, it is apparent how much the railroads can save if preservative treatment of ties is universally adopted. The saving in the drain

upon the forests is of even greater moment. Details of the consumption of ties in 1906 are contained in circular 124, just issued by the forest service in co-operation with the bureau of the census. This phamphlet can be secured by application to the forester at Washington, D. C.

Mme. Paderewski.

It has usually been the task of the musi-cian's wife to look after her husband's health and in a measure after his business, and to play in fact the part that falls so often to the husband of the Prima donna. As Mme. Paderewski has a rather larger responsibility in that particular than the wife of any other virtuoso, she rises to it in a correspondingly efficient manner.

She has an exact knowledge of every de-tail of her husband's business and is the mistress of the Paderewski farm at Morges. It is to Mme. Paderewski that every statement of expenses on the private oar of the pianist is taken, and she sees to it that the naturally extravagant tendencies of her husband are held in check.

Mme. Paderewski is dark haired, pale-

faced and the typical Pole in looks. Much of Mme. Paderewski's life was spent in Paris and her taste in dress is therefore more Gallic than Polish. She was the wife of Ladislas Gorski, the Polish violinist, before her marriage to Paderewski. By this marriage she had a son who was for a while in this country and acted as secre-tary to the pianist on his last previous visit to this country. She was born Baroness

von Rosen.

up on his own account, and eventually turned out the safety pin that is in use today all over the world."

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