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AN ALTERNATIVE.

There's Byron on my shelf, and Shelley, too; There's dear old Doctor Holmes, and Thomas With Wordsworth just below him, bound in And Browning's works stand over by the

There's Milton, Scott, Macaulay's "Lays of There's Tennyson and Matthew Arnold terse: Longfellow, Shakespeare and Rossetti's tome; The odes of Horace and blest Omar's verse.

So vast these riches are in my poor eyes, I can't decide which poet on my shelf Pil read tonight, and so I'll compromise And read these "Rhymes" in full calf by

-J. R. Bangs in Harper's Weekly.

THE FEUD.

It was certainly a first rate feud and a source of much pride to the settlers in and about Hickey township, just as a haunted house, or a murder mystery, or a long lived scandal might have been-only the feud was much more satisfactory, because it had been on for four years, and hardly a month had passed, during all that time, that had not witnessed some new episode in the affair, and each one seemed more startling than its predecessor. And so it was that Agent Pacific Express Co.

Hastings, Nebrasks, April 6th, 1892.

Hastings Nebrasks, April 6th, 1892.

History township held their heads just a little bit higher than their less fortunate friends who resided in more peaceful portices of the country.

It-the feud-all started on account of a yearling calf, than which, per-TRATION, DIZZINESS, SPASMS, SLEEPLESS. mit me (a stock raiser of limited but MESS, DULLNESS, BLUES, and OPIUM HABIT, fruitful experience) to interpolate, there never was nor can there ever be a creature more hopelessly, un-TRY DR. MILES' PILLS, 50 DOSES 25 CTS. reasonably "ornery," and one more display of sultry temper on the part of its keepers. Yearling calves have caused the recording angel more trouble, broken up more old friendships, produced more family jars, and, in the form of veal, begotten more indigestion and the insomnia resultant therefrom than-but this is not an essay on the sinful, sportive steerlet and his shortcomings.

The Walkers and the Benedicts had been old neighbors for years "back in Ioway." In fact, the elder Walkers and the elder Benedicts had been married about the same timeat the beginning of the war-and had just settled on adjoining homesteads when the first gun was fired on Sumter. The men enlisted in the same

company, fought side by side, ate and slept and suffered together, and at home their young wives waited and wept together.

When the little Walkers and the little Benedicts grew large enough to run about they were playmates and internal, blind or bleeding, itching, chronic, recent or hereditary piles, and many other diseases and female weaknesses, it is always a great benefit to the general health. The first discovery of a medical cure rendering an eration with the knife unnecessary hereafter. This remedy has never been known to fail. Si per box, 6 for \$5; sent by mail, why suffer from this terrible disease when a written guarantee is given with 6 boxes, to refund the money if not cured. Send s'amp for free sample. Guarantee issued by WOODWARD, CLARKE & Co., wholesale and retail druggists, sole agents, Portland, Or. Brooks & Legg agents for Salem, 166 State street, Patton's block.

5-2-ly-dw ly to prove conducive to a truce on the part of the disputants.

It was this way: The Benedict and Walker houses had been built on adjacent corners of the homestead quarters, and were quite close toboth families for the first four years after coming to Dakota, and it was only a short distance from either

FRIENDS POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE. But it came to pass that on the Walker domain there was born and grew and waxed fat and "sassy," a brindle calf, with a right smart chance of white in its eye and a plethora of deep dyed mischief in its soul-and he (for it was a young gentleman "critter"), while yet of a tender age, but tough record, engendered the feud.

He had wandered away the day before, and when he returned at night, the gates of the calf pen was shut against him, and in the morning, when Papa Benedict arose from post breakfast family prayers, and, followed by the younger male Benedicts, hied him toward the stable, he beheld his neighbor's incipient steer nipping in the bud sundry young and toothsome cabbages and kicking out of the earth, in his bovine abandon, all he could not eat.

Then was Papa Benedict wroth, and thereupon did he give way to naughty, profane words, while the young Benedicts surrounded the offending calf and brought him up for

judgment. Now Papa Benedict was a man of hasty temper, but easily calmed; so, when the calf was tendered him at the end of a long picket rope, his wrath had decreased several degrees, and he wound the rope around his hand and started to lead the calf

It was while he was pondering on what to say to the calf's owner that the calf suddenly remembered a previous engagement and started in some haste to keep it, heading directly across the croquet ground. Papa Benedict wished to follow with more dignity than the calf desired, and presently his feet were scraped from under him by a wicket, and we was

in South America are supposed to miles away and coming at lightning make butter-at the end of a lasso. speed. He did not look very neat when, a few minutes later, he reached the Walker residence and called his Mr. Benedict and the three elder

neighbor out. He was holding the boys and Bessie, in an incredibly calf up short, but his temper had short space of time, put into the two slipped its tether and caused him to wagons everything that it was possisay bad words, to which Papa Walk-er replied in kind, whereat Papa George saddled their ponies, joined Benedict seized a convenient neck Tom and Roy with the herd, and the

considerable ill chosen language. Then, as soon as possible, Papa Benedict sued Papa Walker for the damage to his cabbages, and Papa Walker sued Papa Benedict for the value of the calf. After that they prosecuted each other for assault and battery; the younger members of both houses "sassed" each other at every available opportunity; Mrs. Walker Mort! I haven't and Mrs. Benedict did no more of 'em all day!" "neighborin," and Mort Benedict and Nellie Walker "busted up" with each other—that is, Nellie broke with Mort, who had a wholesome contempt for feuds and such nonsense and would fain have ignored the state of affairs, so far as Nellie was concerned, except for the opposition any overtures from him would have received on all sides, and especially from Nellie. So he had to grin and bear it, leaving, however, all hostilities to the others and speaking pleasantly to any of the Walkers he chanced to meet.

But finally, through a rash act of his own, he was forced into the feud. There was a husking bee of the good old fashioned sort at Thompson's one night, and the younger members of the hostile houses attended. During the evening Mort found a red ear in his pile, and he never knew what impelled him to do it, unless it was that Nellie looked so spare time." And Mort tore out of

As soon as it could be done without the girls knowing of it, Bud Walker and Harvey Free invited Mort and Pel Horner out into the moonlit pasture, where Bud insisted on "having it out." Mort demurred, but in vain, and much to his regret was forced to "lick" to a standstill not only the man he hoped some day to call his brother-in-law, but the latter's second as well, Pel Horner being a cripple and unable to accommodate young Free, who was "pinin" on account of his principal's defeat.

That settled it. Thereafter even tender hearted Mrs. Walker—who. like Mrs. Benedict, sincerely but silently regretted the trouble that kept boon companions; the children of her apart from her old time friends boon companions; the children of one family felt as much at liberty in the home of the other as they did in their own—for twenty-eight years the two families lived in peace and amity, and then that miserable calf precipitated an irreparable row. It was too bad, all the neighbors said, the second the second these four long years, and who had always had a pleasant greeting for all the family, especially for Mort, who was a great favorite of herative family, and then that miserable calf precipitated an irreparable row. It was too bad, all the neighbors said, the second the first of the second the second the second the first of the second the first of the second t lie had been wont to recognize his presence on those rare occasions on

which they met was now denied him. All this cut Mort deeply, but he was made of too tough fiber to show it; so till the end of the feud he tried to act as though he did not carejust as did Nellie, who, however, was so far away! obliged to confess to herself once in awhile that she did care "lots."

The spring of 188-is a memorable one in the history of many portions of the Dakotas. The amount of rain in the fall and the snowfall of the winter preceding had been very Mr. Walker now and then gave a winter preceding had been very slight, indeed, and there were no spring rains to encourage the farmers. The creek beds and coulees were and said nothing, only clinging to dry; the lake beds and sloughs were the seat more desperately as the wagas innocent of water as powder on bounced and lurched.
magazines, and the matted grasses Mort looked at her; he

and reeds standing in them were as dry as was the grass on the prairies. Everything invited the fire fiend, whose work on the plains is so swift and thorough, and he accepted the

From the wheat regions up north came tales of his deadly work—of counties almost entirely laid waste, of hundreds made homeless and penniless, with nothing left even wherewith to wring their bread out of the

In C- county and its neighbors, however, all felt secure; the fires were far north of them, and being the shallow river, and he knew no gradually exterminated. Besides, more. they were in the Jim River valley; it is curious how much confidence the proximity of a river will give to the settler who is threatened by prairie

Mort Benedict and his father were returning from the county town one day, having been in to leave "mother" for a two days' visit, and to have the breaking plow repaired. For a day or two there had been rumors of fires only twenty miles or so to the north, and they were talking of this as they crossed the bridge four miles from home. As they reached the top of the hill on the west side of the river Mort glanced at the northern horizon, which was not distant, on account of a range of hills running east and west, and-

Did his eyes deceive him, or was that smoke, just rolling up above the line of hills?

"Look, father!" Startled, the elder man did so. "Good God, Mort! She's a-comin an comin t' beat h-1 too! We got

The later of the same of the later of the same of the

being handled the way the vaqueros | yard the flames were only a few

yoke and killed the cause of the trou-ble. whole procession, headed by the two wagons, driven by Mort and his fa-Of course there was a fight and ther, moved off at a rapid pace toward the river.

Then, and only then, did Mort notice that there was no sign of human life about the Walker place. His

heart gave a leap.
"Bess!" he said sharply, "did—did they git away? Did ye notice 'em movin round?"

The girl's eyes opened wide. "Oh, Mort! I haven't heard or seen a sign "Take them reins. I'm goin back

He leaped from the wagon and ran back, noting as he did so how hot

the air had become and how near the big wave of smoke was. Mrs. Walker, singing softly as she bustled about the kitchen, was a bit startled to see who her unannounced visitor was.

"Mis' Walker, where's all your men folks? No, I didn't come fer trouble -only th's a prairie fire only a little ways off, an comin down like mad!" Mrs. Walker sank into a chair. "Oh, heavens! An father sick abed

breakin bee!" 'Good Lord! Ain't I glad I come back! Where's th' hosses?" "Oh, Mort! They're all loose in

an all th' boys over t' Berry's on a

the paster!" it, unless it was that Nelne tooked so pretty and tempting, he took his former sweetheart in his arms and to the pasture, not noticing that Nellie had entered the kitchen and was oven eved.

staring at him, open eyed.

Both Mr. Walker's wagon teams were composed of animals usually as docile as lambs, but today, bunched together in a corner of the pasture. they sniffed the coming flames, and it seemed to put wild imps into their lumbering carcasses, and it was a long, trying time before Mort could catch two of them, swear, pray, try as he might-and the great fire rolled swiftly nearer. The wind had shifted from northeast to northwest. Mort saw, with a sinking at his heart, that there was an even chance of getting cut off from the river.

Mr. Walker was on a feather bed on the floor of the wagon, and Mrs. Walker crouched beside him. Nellie ran back into the house for the family Bible, then climbed up beside

"Git up! Clk!" The heavy whip came down hard on the horses'

Faster came the flames. The billow of smoke rolled over them, now and then dropping feathery grass cinders as it passed. They could hear the roar of the fire and feel its hot breath whenever the wind increased in velocity-and Jim river

Nearer came the great wave of flame; the air was dense and suffocating. Mort, in his frenzy, lashed the now running horses incessantly, feeble moan; Nellie, on the seat beside Mort, kept her lips tightly closed

Mort looked at her; her silence an gered him. "Git off'n th' seat!" he roared. "How d'ye think I c'n drive with you sittin thar?"

The girl obeyed, and fell, rather than climbed, back into the box.

Mort Benedict's recollections of what occurred after that are very dim. He remembers driving deeper and deeper into the terrible heat and smoke, of tearing through a volume of flame that seemed endless—flame that burned his eyes, his nostrils, his throat, and scorched his hair and eyebrows—then, with a final leap, the horses dashed down the slope into

When Mort awoke he could not for some time realize where he was, and lay for some minutes trying to remember. Oh, yes; he was in Will Berry's room. He remembered the antlers on the wall and the white curtains at the windows. Some one came in softly from the next room.
"Who is it!" he asked.

It was Nellie, and she came and leaned over him. "It's me, Mort. I've be'n here all th' time. I thought ye knew me sometimes. You've be'n

"Are ye here t' stay, Nell-always, I mean? She sat down on the edge of the bed and put her hands on his shoul-

"If yo' want me to, Mort." He drew her face down to his, but put her at arm's length presently. "But how about th' feud, Nell?" "They ain't no more feud, Mort."

-R. L. Ketcham in Argonaut. t' race t' save anything!"

And race they did, but the fire was in his window reading, "Any reracing, too, and when they drove spectable man, woman or child can their panting horses into the door have a fit in this shop." Intermarriage in Eurasia.

There is no remote chance of Eurasia ever being reabsorbed by either of its original elements; the prejudices of both Europeans and natives are far too vigorous to permit of much intermarriage with a people who are neither one nor the other. Occasionally an up country planter, predestined to a remote and "jungly" existence, comes down to Calcutta and draws his bride from the upper circles of Eurasia—this not so often now as formerly. Occasionally, too, a young shopman with the red of Scotland fresh in his cheeks is carried off by his landlady's daughter, while Tommy Atkins falls a comparatively

easy prey.

The sight of a native with a half caste wife is much rarer, for there Eurasian as well as native antipathy comes into operation. The whole conscious inclination of Eurasian life, in habits, taste, religion and most of all in ambition, is toward the European and away from the native standards.-Sara J. Duncan in Popular Science Monthly.

Two women have been elected to the vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal church at Hickman, Ky.

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Sheriff Marion Co., Or. February 28, 1893.

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