

THE END OF A FEUD.

It Usually Comes When There Are Not Enough Survivors to Take Sides.

The Hatfield-McCoy feud may be over, and it may not. In all the cases ever known the feud died only when one of the families did the same. The Morton-Cummins feud in Texas belonged to this class.

The only man left of those two families now is Dan Morton. Three years ago he was dealing fur in El Paso. His face is like leather, and he is about as tough. Fear is a thing he does not know. He will probably die in his boots, because men of that sort are never pleasant to have about, and the community revolts occasionally.

But, to go back. How the thing started doesn't matter especially. Probably in the same way that it ended—in a saloon quarrel. This much is known: A Cummins shot a Morton; then the thing went on with deadly regularity until some six or seven had been killed on either side. Finally there were only two Mortons and one Cummins left. The latter had just killed one of his opponents and he lit out for other parts and kept away for a good many months.

One day Cummins came back. Everybody was offering bets that Dan Morton would shoot him on sight. Cummins thought so, too, but he had come back to try and settle the thing peaceably if he could, otherwise if it had to be. The two met in the natural course of events, and both started to reach for their guns. Cummins said his say, though, before the other got the cinch on him.

"Dan," he said, "this thing's gone far enough, an' I reckon we might as well quit. There's only me left, an' you too. Now what's the use of it, anyway?"

It struck Dan sort of reasonably, and he put up his gun.

"Believe ye're about right," he said. With that the two went into the Red Front saloon, and in another ten minutes the two were patting each other on the back, and telling each other what a pity it was they hadn't known before what good fellows they both were. They kept feeling better and better.

"An' none of it need hev happened," said Morton. "ef your Tom hadn't shot Morton."

"He didn't do it," said Cummins. "He did."

The denial was too much for Cummins.

"You lie!" he hissed, and then in a minute all the sworn friendship of the last half hour went to the four winds and forgetfulness, and those two closed in a deadly struggle. Each was trying to reach for the other's gun. They surged all over the saloon. No one interfered for a while.

Then the other Morton, who had not trusted the newly made reconciliation, and had kept close by, stepped up to the two, and putting his pistol to Cummins' head, literally shot his head all to pieces.

And that ended the feud. The other Morton was killed shortly afterward in an ordinary quarrel, and Dan is now the only one left.—Chicago Tribune.

A Curious Fact About Nickel and Iron.

In the interesting process which has lately come into vogue of plating iron with nickel by pressure between rolls at a welding heat, the nickel is ingeniously recovered from the clippings and shearings of the plate, simply by the action of dilute sulphuric acid at a temperature of 55 degs., Cent.; that is, the iron is dissolved, and the nickel is obtained in the form of thin sheets as it was melted upon the iron, the operation being complete when the evolution of hydrogen ceases; even fresh acid at the same temperature has practically no effect.

But though the separation of the two metals is thus apparently perfectly made, a curious fact is remarked, namely, that when the residual nickel is chemically examined it is found to differ from its original composition, the amount of iron present being notably increased. An example of this is noted in the case of a nickel containing originally .09 per cent. of iron, 2 per cent. more being found when it was recovered from the plate cuttings, and even by a long continued treatment with dilute acid the iron could not be sensibly reduced.

This peculiar behavior points, it is believed, to the possibility of positive chemical combination taking place between the metals, and that alloys of iron and nickel are produced in the process of welding, it being a fact well known to chemists and metallurgists that iron, with but even a small proportion of nickel, resists the action of acids much more than the pure metal.—New York Sun.

Making the Best of It.

"Go into the room and bring that cake on the table," said an Austin mother to her son.

"It's too dark; I'm afraid to go into the room."

"Go right into that room this instant or I'll go in and bring out the strap."

"If you—bring—out—the—strap," replied the boy sobbing, "bring—the—cake—along too."—Texas Siftings.

Suspicious Treatment.

"I believe that young man who comes see you is not above deceit, Mar-aret."

"Nonsense! Why should you think that?"

"Well, he treats Johnny as if he s'posed he loved him, and you know Johnny is not the best little brother in the world."—Life.

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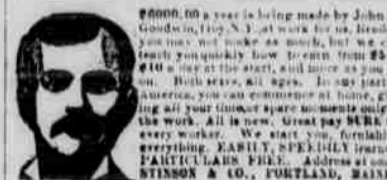
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