

FRANK JAMES, SOUL SAVER

AMBITION OF THE FORMER BANDIT IS TO SET YOUNG MEN RIGHT.

Scriptural Quotations Part of the Conversation of the Man Who in Youth Held Up Trains—Condemns Sensational Motion Pictures.

Frank James, former outlaw, 70 years old, stood in the lobby of the Blossom House last night, his white Stetson hat careening far over on one side of his head, smoking a cigar.

"Well, I'm just the plain Frank James of old—with the bad part taken out," he said. "Of course, most people won't believe that, but remember 'lie that is without sin let him first cast a stone.' Look at my hair, young man. Look at my old, wrinkled hands. You'd never know they were once the most hated pair of hands in the country, would you? I believe as every man gets along so far, he begins to realize and wonder at the great hereafter, and to remember that familiar line, 'Forgive us our trespasses.' He begins to say to himself: 'Look here, old man, this business of being crooked isn't paying. You've got to get right.'

HIS PRESENT AMBITION.

"I've seen the light. My greatest ambition now is to set some young man aright in this world—to see one more soul find the light that may not have done so had I not influenced it. Every man should be his brother's keeper to that extent."

He walked over to the edge of the room, flicked the ashes from his cigar, shook hands with an old man whom he explained afterward he had not seen for twenty years and returned.

"The greatest menace to the young men of today is this motion picture craze. I would like to be censor of these pictures. All of the Wild West, robbery, burglary pictures shown would go. I'd cut them out, if I had the power, if it cost me a million dollars.

YELLOW BACK NOVELS AND MOVIES.

"Moving pictures teach robbery in its worst form; they depict actions of daring holdup men which look easy. It should be cut out, every bit of it."

"But moving pictures were not in existence when you were a boy," was suggested.

"Do you think I can't answer that? I can.

"Moving pictures are taking the place of yellow back literature. The Frank Merriwell and Diamond Dick books have gone into the discard and our boys of today are studying the crooked work through the movies."

Mr. James was on his way from his home near Kearney, Mo., to visit friends in Wharton and El Paso, Tex. After that he will return to his farm.