

The other I wet at the Cliff House
In an extra-vagant wave.

Two entirely different grandchildren
Got me into my double adventure.
But when they grow up and can read this
I hope they won't take it for censure.

I touch my tongue to the shoes now
And unless my sense is at fault,
On one I can taste Atlantic,
On the other Pacific, salt.

One foot in each great ocean
Is a record stride or stretch.
The authentic shoes it was made in
I should sell for what they would fetch.

But instead I proudly devote them
To my museum and muse;
So the thick-skins needn't act thin-skinned
About being past-active shoes.

And I ask all to try to forgive me
For being as over-elated
As if I had measured the country
And got the United States stated.

1936 "A Further Range".

Примечания.

***Montauk - Монток** - живописная местность на восточной оконечности острова Лонг-Айленд, штат Нью-Йорк.

****Cliff House** - название нескольких приморских гостиниц и ресторанов в разных районах США, в том числе на тихоокеанском побережье.

