

THREAT—ACTIONABILITY.

To render actionable a threat causing fear, it must be of such a nature and made under such circumstances as to affect the mind of a person of ordinary reason and firmness so as to influence his conduct, or it must appear that the person against whom it was made was peculiarly susceptible to fear, and that the person making the threat knew and took advantage of the fact that he could not stand as much as an ordinary person.

Brooker v. Silverthorne, 99 S. E. 350.

Flotsam and Jetsam.

A will was recently filed for probate in the County of Simcoe. One of the provisions is so quaint and unusual that we record it. It reads as follows:

"I also give to my said brother all of my office furniture and appliances including my iron safe, typewriter, cabinets, stamp, and other appliances and law books. I also give him all boats or canoes, and all scrap books and all manuscript or printed speeches, addresses and compositions of a literary nature on condition that he shall on each twenty-fourth day of May at noon in each and every year stand out on the front platform or walk of his place of residence and shout out loud the words 'Hurrah for Laurier and Reciprocity' unless he shall be incapacitated therefor by ill-health or feebleness, notice thereof to be posted the day previous in the Post Office where he lives."

We understand that the death of the brother before the will came into force mercifully relieved him from the strange obligation.

CHANGE OF NAME.

At common law a man could change his name at will, and in but few American States has any statutory restriction been imposed on the right. A writer in the *Canada Law Journal* (January, 1920), writing from a Province wherein the common law obtains, makes a forcible argument for restriction. He fails, however, to distinguish clearly between two entirely distinct things, the taking of one or more assumed names as an aid to the concealment of identity and a permanent change of name by a person maintaining a fixed residence. The former is, as he says, the common