

Flotsam and Jetsam.

This is an old story, but may be told again. Four Hindus, partners in business, bought some cotton bales. That the rats might not destroy the cotton, they purchased a cat. They agreed that each of the four should own a particular leg of the cat, and each adorned with beads and other ornaments the leg thus apportioned to him. The cat, by an accident injured one of its legs. The owner of that member wound around it a rag soaked in oil. The cat, on going too near the hearth, set this rag on fire, and being in great pain rushed in among the cotton bales, where she was accustomed to hunt rats. The cotton thereupon took fire and was burned.

The three other partners brought suit to recover the value of the cotton against the fourth partner, who owned this particular leg of the cat. The native judge examined the case.

"The leg that had the oiled rag on it was hurt; the cat could not use that leg; in fact, it held up that leg and ran with the other three legs. The three unhurt legs, therefore, carried the fire to the cotton, and are alone culpable. The injured leg is not to be blamed. The three partners who owned the three legs with which the cat ran to the cotton will pay one-quarter of the value of the bales to the partner who was the proprietor of the injured leg."—*Green Bag*.

A famous Chicago lawyer once had a singular case to settle. A physician came to him in great distress. Two sisters, living in the same house, had babies of equal age, who so resembled each other that their own mothers were unable to distinguish them when they were together. Now it happened that by the carelessness of the nurse the children had become mixed, and how were the mothers to make sure that they received back their own infants?

"But, perhaps," said the lawyer, "the children weren't changed at all."

"Oh, but there's no doubt that they were changed," said the physician.

"Are you sure of it?"

"Perfectly."

"Well, if that's the case, why don't you change them back again; I don't see any difficulty in the case."—*San Francisco Argonaut*.