

fectly honest men and women took the witness stand and swore against each other. So great was the puzzle that jury after jury was unable to agree, and no man knows to this day whether there were two spotted calves that looked just alike, or whether one man tried to steal the other's calf. After they had spent all their money in litigation the rival owners met one day and tossed a coin to settle the case.

One of the celebrated French cases was over a two-cent toy balloon, and the litigants were Baron de Sibert and the Paris Metropolitan Railway. The balloon belonged to the baron's little girl, and the railway employees, on account of some rule they felt obliged to enforce, would not permit it to be brought into the passenger car. The baron stormed and threatened, but the guard was obdurate, and the toy was left behind while the child wept. The next day the nobleman sued the company for the two cents.

Some of the smartest lawyers in Paris were engaged in the case. It was proved that the balloon was filled with gas, and that it was likely to explode at any time, and the wise court held that even if its explosion could not possibly be attended by danger, it might "create a panic among the passengers," and the decision was against the baron. He spent hundreds of dollars trying to get even with the company, and the more he lost the less satisfaction he obtained.

The most expensive lawsuit in the world is said to have been that over the will of Antonio Traversa, a merchant who lived in Milan. He left a fortune of \$3,000,000, and there were a large number of heirs with conflicting interests. The case was in the different courts of Italy for years and the 105 lawyers engaged in it ran up costs aggregating more than \$2,000,000. The estate lost in value, too, during the contest; so that the winning heirs found themselves with a small sum to their share when the final decision was rendered.

One of the most persistent complainants on record was an aged Belgian lawyer, who once tried to ride in an Antwerp street car, or tramway, on a ticket which he maintained was