

negligent as matter of law in firing at an object moving through bushes which conceal it, without taking time to discover what it is, which results in his hitting a member of the party. A discussion of the earlier cases on this subject may be found in a note accompanying the case of *Siefker v. Paysee*, 4 L.R.A. (N.S.) 119.

## Flotsam and Jetsam.

### THE SKY LAWYER.

In the development of the professions marching on with the progress of invention, the aeroplane lawyer is about to appear.

Men seeking mastery of the air are invading the United States Patent Office, and, at the present rate of productivity in aeronautic ideas, it is predicted that the volume of litigation which will soon follow will be incalculable. There are now more than 140 applicants for patents relating to the single point of automatic balance for air craft. In addition there are hundreds of applications for patents for motors, planes, propellers, skids, and other essentials in air navigation.

"From the present outlook," a patent lawyer said recently, "we will soon have in this country a new crop of aeroplane lawyers, men who have specialized in the law of the air, and who keep track of the hundreds of aeroplane patents that probably will be granted."

"Just as there are lawyers," says the *Lincoln Nebraska Journal*, "who become especially learned in the regulations governing the high seas, so there will be men before long making a specialty of the laws governing the skies. A conference of jurists from the various nations has been held at Paris at different times during the last six months, for the purpose of considering the rights of people who use the skies, and also the rights of people who own land under them. It will require a long time to work out an adequate system of international law governing such matters, but a start has been made by an agreement that 'the air over inhabited states, including the 3-mile limit of the sea, is free, subject to the right of the state over which the air space exists to take any proper and necessary steps for the national protection and for the protection of the private rights of its inhabitants.' An aviator flying over a foreign country would under this arrangement be subject to the laws of that