

atmosphere above him, no other man has a right to cross it with aeroplane or dirigible balloon without his consent. It would be trespass. Such machines are now very few in number, and are quite welcome to go where their owners will, but in time they may become numerous and develop unsuspected dangers. One a year flying over a man's house might be a negligible menace, but forty or fifty a day, with ropes dangling, ballast falling, anchors hanging, motors in danger of exploding, and the whole machine liable to drop and set fire to or smash crops or dwellings,—would be an entirely different matter.

Justice Baldwin thinks that a landowner's control of the air above his property must be limited to the exclusion only of that which may be a danger to him or an injury to his property. In a word, he cannot stop the flying machines, but if they should damage his trees, inconvenience or sicken his family by the smoke or smell, imperil his safety, or injure him, he would have cause for action and would be able to get redress. Existing laws would probably uphold claims for injuries thus inflicted, but the conditions of aero-navigation are so unstable and uncertain that very carefully prepared laws will be needed to define the rights and privileges of all parties.—*Case and Comment.*

HUMOUR OF THE LAW.

The late Judge Hamlin, former Attorney-General of Illinois, was once engaged in the trial of a cause before a judge who was not inclined to tolerate tardiness on the part of attorneys. When he adjourned court at noon, he took occasion to impress upon the lawyers that court would reconvene at 1.30 o'clock exactly. He was almost speechless with rage when Mr. Hamlin walked into the court room shortly after 2 o'clock, apparently oblivious of any offence.

"Judge Hamlin," exploded the indignant and outraged court, "your violation of the instructions of this court is most reprehensible. Orders issued from this bench must be obeyed. What do you suppose the people elected me for?"

"Well, judge," drawled Hamlin, his eyes twinkling with merriment, "that matter always has been a mystery to me."