

would have taken place had he remained in his insular home. Ditto as to Kaulani. No injustice to the Islanders or any other people is contemplated or will occur except through indifference. If, upon a careful canvass among the Hawaiians it shall prove to be the fact that a majority of them really desire annexation they can have it. But if it be shown that they would rather not have it, we are too modest a people to insist upon the matter, however much we may be disposed to think it to their interest to make the islands a part of Uncle Sam's domain.

THE ATTACK ON THE GOVERNOR.

It is a matter of history that as early as July 21, 1890, Governor Thomas wrote to the judiciary committee of the Senate urging the passage of a bill granting two additional judges to Utah. In his letter he set forth the need of more judges, and suggested that the law should authorize the legislative assembly to create two additional districts. This, he said, was necessary to relieve the Salt Lake and Ogden districts, and would grant relief to the other districts. The governor further said that, in his opinion, six judges were needed to meet the public demands. The matter was fully discussed in the public press at the time. The bar association of Salt Lake City interested itself in the matter, and prepared the draft of a bill which embraced other subjects than the granting of additional judges. It is probable that but for such complication the relief asked for would have been granted.

The attempt to saddle the blame for the second district's dilemma upon Governor Thomas, in the light of all the facts, would seem to be inspired by ignorance or malice, perhaps both in some cases. Not only has he, as shown, used his official and personal influence to enlarge the Supreme bench here, but he has recently been deprived of the power to assign judges, by act of Congress. The act providing for the creation of a fourth district here (approved February 11, 1892) says among other things that "as soon as may be after the execution of the power conferred by section one of this act, the Supreme court of said Territory shall assign one judge to each of said districts, and shall have power from time to time to change such assignment and to provide for occasions of disability or absence in such cases according to the practice now authorized by law." It is thus shown that for more than a year he has had nothing to do with the matter at all.

It is further charged that he was responsible to a great extent if not wholly, for the loose and negligent manner in which the business of that district has been carried on. This is also wholly untrue. It was represented and certified to the governor by Judge Anderson on each occasion when it was sought to hold court at Milford that there was nothing to do in the district, that therefore all the court had to do was to convene and adjourn and this could as well be performed at Milford as at Beaver. It would have been a very ungraceful performance for the executive to have

ignored the certificate of one of the judiciary as to matters peculiarly within the purview of the latter; it might have been something considerably worse than that. Anyway, the Governor did not do so, and in doing as he did was clearly not to blame. In the midst of partisanship let us at least be truthful even if we cannot always be friendly.

The controversy that has grown out of the recent costly experience of litigants, witnesses, etc., in the Beaver district will not have utterly failed in benefit if it shall be successful in establishing, what the law clearly intends and commonsense indicates, that the judge shall reside in his district.

A RISKY PERFORMANCE.

Secretary Carlisle, as we are informed by a special dispatch a day or two since, came very nearly vacating his high office in a very unusual manner; also winding up life's bobbin in a manner not so unusual, though both exigencies grew out of the same transaction. He was slowly walking across the track of a cable car line in a state of mental abstraction near a corner around which, as is customary, the car comes "full tilt;" it did so this time and but for the prompt action of a passer-by he would have been killed; as it was, the car brushed his clothing as it swept by him. This might be called the narrowest escape of the season, and we hope it may prove a beneficial warning to the secretary and all others.

It reminds us that there is a good deal of that kind of thing engaged in in this city and the wonder is that fatalities are not more numerous than they are. It ought to be, if it is not, understood that silence and destruction keep each other close company right along; that in a certain sense any increase in the rate of speed at which one is transported from point to point means a corresponding increase in the risk involved in the trip. Understanding this, we should act upon the lesson which the old adage (paraphrased) imparts—too much familiarity breeds danger.

Hence this advice: Do not attempt to be too familiar with anything you cannot control; if you have some doubt about your ability to cross a track in front of a coming car and miss it, give yourself the benefit of such doubt every time and let the car have the right of way undisputed. Even if you are tolerably sure of getting over under ordinary circumstances, the unlooked-for might happen; our tracks are—thanks to the disposition of winter to linger in the lap of spring—constantly covered with more or less snow in its original or subsequent condition, and are thus very slippery; great haste has a tendency to increase the chances of slipping, and if you go down when an electric car going at its customary speed is within twenty or thirty feet of you, the chance is that, like Lucifer, you fall to rise no more. Though you may save your life, it is still a fact that sound limbs and unbroken bones are better than a judgment no matter how big, even when you are sure of getting it.

On First street this morning, as a lot

of boys were going to school, two of them, to "show off" before their comrades of course, dashed across the track ahead of a flying car, and a hindrance of any conceivable part of a second to the hindmost boy would have been the means of an accident. It was a really close call, for the motorman could have done absolutely nothing to save them at such a time. Boys and girls as a rule are more active than grown people, but they are not as active as an electric car, at least they are not so powerful, and such pranks as that spoken of should be stopped instanter.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS OF CRIME.

The South has always been the home of sentiment and romance; where the atmosphere is colder and the snows and frosts come in seasons nearer together, the people have more practical things to think of and do. All the emotions and developments thereof are more strictly Southern than otherwise, this meaning that Southerners are apt to fight fiercer, love harder and be more keenly jealous than those people who have to keep fuel ahead and a certain quantity of clothing, wraps and provisions on hand in order to be comfortable.

The Southern states have lately been undergoing a wave of double killings wherein lovers have leaped into the dark abyss clasped in each others' arms. Georgia gave us the first example, followed closely by Tennessee, and the awful deed at Pass Christian, Mississippi, closes the record up to the present writing so far as reported. Parental opposition was the cause assigned in each case.

It is argued that such crimes are due to psychological influences which move in waves, or that some other equally occult and subtle agency is at work; but in this connection a contemporary asks a plain question:

Did crime move in such circles before the telegraph and the printing press disseminated the news of it so rapidly and so broadly? Instances are known where a suicide has jumped to death from some tower and been so imitated by other persons sick of life that access to the place has been denied to all visitors. This was clearly imitation, and the question may be asked: Did the principals in the Tennessee and Mississippi tragedies know the circumstances of the Georgia horror?

This furnishes an interesting theme for investigation and study; there can be no doubt that whatever other causes there may be, imitation and the force of example play a conspicuous part in the matter.

Another point raised by the same authority we find ourselves compelled to agree with. This is the assertion that bad literature has done much to poison the minds of the young people of America. At no time are these young minds more susceptible to its influences than when blinded by an infatuation, often wrongly termed love. The most melodramatic and impossible situations in fiction become parts of their fanciful lives; and if an impossible hero and heroine choose to die at the end of a last chapter, it must necessarily have been an admirable thing to do. One curse of society today is the prevalence of an unnatural,