

Resolved, that a committee of this council consisting of Messrs. J. B. L. Houde, the Batonnier-General, Bossé, Irvine and the secretary-treasurer, be appointed to carry out the objects of this resolution, and to revise the phraseology of such bill as may be prepared with the view above stated.

RECENT ENGLISH DECISIONS.

Criminal Law—Larceny.—The prisoner and another person went to an inn. The prisoner asked the barmaid for whiskey. He put down half a sovereign, and received 9s. 6d. in silver in change. He then asked for the half-sovereign back, saying he thought he had change. She gave it back. His companion then asked for a cigar. She served him with it. The prisoner then put down 10s. in silver and a half-sovereign, asking the barmaid to give him a sovereign for it, which she did. His companion kept on engaging the barmaid's attention. The prisoner never returned the 9s. 6d which the barmaid gave him in the first instance. The barmaid never intended to part with her master's money except for full consideration. The prisoner having been convicted on an indictment for larceny of the money, the court sustained the conviction. *Crown Cases Reserved*, Nov. 21, 1883. *Regina v. Hollis*. Opinion by Lord Coleridge, C.J. (49 L. T. Rep. 572.)

Agency—When agent to sell may warrant.—A servant intrusted by his master with the sale of a horse at a fair may have an implied authority to give a warranty to the purchaser. *Brady v. Todd*, 9 C.B. (N.S.) 592, commented on and distinguished. Q. D. Div., December 4, 1883. *Brooks v. Hassell*. Opinions by Lord Coleridge, C.J., and Stephen, J. (49 L. T. Rep. [N. S.] 569.)

Suretyship—Discharge of surety by dealings with principal.—The rule that a surety is discharged by the creditor dealing with the principal, or with a co-surety, in a manner at variance with the contract, does not apply to the case of co-sureties who have contracted severally. The appellant agreed to guarantee advances made by the respondent bank to one K. to the amount of £1,000; M. had previously guaranteed advances to K. to the amount of £600. The bank afterward re-

leased M. from his liability in consideration of a new guaranty given by him. *Held*, that such release constituted no defence in an action by the bank against the appellant on his guaranty, it not being averred that his right of contribution against M., if any, was injuriously affected. Privy Council, July 11, 1883. *Ward v. National Bank of New Zealand*. (49 L. T. Rep. [N.S.] 315.)

GENERAL NOTES.

In the session of the parliament of Canada which closed on Saturday, the 19th inst., one hundred and five acts were passed, of which forty were government measures, thirty-five related to railways, nine to insurance companies and five to banks.

Did any one ever think how much space it required to bury the dead? If one would be content with a grave two feet by six, 3,630 bodies could be interred in one acre, allowing nothing for walks, roads or monuments. On this crowded theory London's annual dead, numbering 81,120, would fill twenty-three and one-half acres.

Speaking of the evasion of law (says the *Albany Law Journal*) some governor, forbidden by law to commute, has respited a murderer for fifty years. Of course we know nothing of the particular hardships of the case in question, but the act looks like an unhandsome evasion of the law. It is such acts that inspire if they do not excuse lynching.

Judge Turner, of the original court of Franklin County, Va., directed the following order to be entered on record at the recent sitting:—"It appearing to the court from the testimony of medical experts that the applicant is of the male sex, and that his present name is inappropriate, it is ordered that his present name of Lydia Rebecca Payne, be changed to that of Lawrence Register Payne, which shall henceforth be his lawful name."

From the edition of Messrs. Geo. P. Rowell & Co's American Newspaper Directory for 1884, now in press, it appears that the newspapers and periodicals of all kinds at present issued in the United States and Canada reach a grand total of 13,402. This is a net gain of precisely 1,600 during the last twelve months, and exhibits an increase of 5,618 over the total number published ten years since. The increase in 1874 over the total for 1873 was 493. During the past year the dailies have increased from 1,138 to 1,254; the weeklies from 9,062 to 10,023; and the monthlies from 1,091 to 1,499. The greatest increase is in the Western States. Illinois, for instance, now shows 1,009 papers in place of last year's total of 904, while Missouri issues 604 instead of 523 reported in 1883. Other leading Western States also exhibit a great percentage of increase. The total number of papers in New York State is 1,533, against 1,399 in 1883. Canada has shared in the general increase,