

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

Punch is confidentially informed that the carters and cabmen of Montreal, and the members of the Legislative Council, in consequence of the serious interruption to their usual business, have petitioned Mr. Justice Smith, to be permitted to undergo an examination for admission to the learned profession of the law. His Honor has kindly consented to view the application favorably, and suggested the names of a Grocer's Clerk and the Book-keeper of a Tea Warehouse, as examiners. The place appointed for the examination, is M'Tavish's Barn, off Sherbrooke Street. A subscription has been opened to defray the expenses of the usual complimentary remarks in the Montreal papers, as to capacity and erudition. One of the Members of the Legislative Council, gave a draft upon the Inspector General for the amount of his subscription.

PUNCH'S MOURNING REGULATIONS.

IN consequence of the doubt and uncertainty which exist in the minds of numerous friends and relatives, respecting the time during which mourning ceremonies are to be observed, Punch is induced to publish the following hints, which, it is hoped, will be found serviceable to all interested.

FOR A DEARLY-BELOVED MOTHER.—Under these melancholy circumstances, the bereaved mourner should be seen for three days at least, in tears, with a white cambric handkerchief deeply edged with lace, in her hands. The hair should be slightly disordered, and an air of wildness is recommended in the manner. Frequent allusions may be made to "dear departed mama" and the "saint in heaven," and the sight of the "saints" picture ought to be conspicuously placed in the sitting room. At the end of a week, the tears may be discontinued, and the usual head-dress resumed. The ninth day, the portrait may be removed to the back-parlour or bed-room, on its way to the lumber closet. If black becomes the mourner, it may be worn for three months—if unbecoming, half that time is sufficient. Under very afflictive circumstances, as where an annuity expired with the deceased—six months is not unusual. During the whole of this period, it was formerly usual to suspend attendance at public amusements, but modern practice is against this. As a general rule, the custom now is, not to dance for a fortnight after a very valued relative has been put out of sight, and it would certainly excite attention to be seen at the theatre on the night of the funeral.

FOR A DEAR PAPA.—For a "dear, dear, kind, good papa," the observances may be the same as for a "dearly beloved mother." In the case of a "stingy papa," 25 per cent. discount is generally allowed. Where "papa" has been "extravagant" or "unfortunate in business," or has "spent nearly all dear mama's money," a larger reduction even, will be promptly allowed. If "papa" has been "nobody" all his life, as is often the case, no notice should be taken of his demise, as it is very provoking of him to die at all, and creates a great deal of confusion and unpleasantness in the family.

FOR AN AFFECTIONATE SISTER OR BROTHER.—If the deceased was young, no notice need be taken, but you may allude to the fact, by observing to your partner at the next ball, that "it was a great mercy" that James or Euphemia is "much better off," that you wish you "had died young," that "the world is full of vanities," and so on. If it is a married sister or brother in fashionable life, mourning should be worn for a month. For a poor sister who has made a bad match, it is generally considered sufficient, to send a few yards of black ribbon to the orphans, and a second-hand black coat, as a mark of sympathy to the bereaved husband.

For a grandmother or grandfather, (with a legacy) considerable attention to outward circumstances is required; without a legacy, a piece of black crape round the hat, or for a female, very slight half mourning is sufficient.

In the cases of aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, cousins, &c., no general rule seems to prevail. *Punch* once knew deep mourning to be worn for an uncle, but it was by a poor servant girl, and cannot be given as a precedent. At Slapem's funeral the other day, there were three strangers in black, but on enquiry, it turned out that it was the undertaker, his assistant, and the surgeon. It is usual to wear black crape round your hat, for a relative or friend,

when the latter article is getting shabby, but not otherwise. Black gloves, when given gratuitously, may be worn, but *Punch* has observed that the description of article so furnished, is always of the worst kind, doubtless to illustrate the melancholy truth of the speedy decay of all earthly things. In these cases, however, every thing must be left to the good taste and fancy of the mourner, who will bear in mind, that as it is not improbable that he may be some day buried himself. He should be careful not to introduce any vulgar or unfashionable practice.

LEGAL DANCING.

It is understood that Mr. Solicitor General Drummond has danced several hornpipes on his Commission since the burning of the Parliament Buildings. The last time he was seen performing this curious feat was at Tetu's Hotel, armed with a carving knife and an empty cider bottle. Mr. Solicitor General Blake, with great gravity remonstrated with his learned friend, reminding him that he was carrying the joke too far. Whereupon Mr. Drummond hoped the Company would consider what had there passed as strictly confidential, and begged them to believe that he never meant this dancing on his Commission, in any other than in a Pick-wickian and Parliamentary sense. (Hear, hear, from the Waiters.)

FIGS DO NOT GROW ON THISTLES.

It has just occurred to Punch, that there is something strangely and ominously coincident between a portion of the style and title of His Excellency the Governor General, and the circumstances in which he is now placed—for how remote, although obvious, is the association of ideas between a *Knight of the Thistle* and a *Bed of Roses*.

OUR MARBLES.

"Some men achieve greatness."—*Shakspeare.*

When the father, "canny mon,"
Plundered piece of sculptured stone
Little dreamed he, that his son
Would have a ruin of his own.

CUCKOO! CUCKOO!!

Another negative has been added to the cry of the Canuckian Cuckoos! it is now, "No lois; no institutions; no langue, et no Soldats."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A.S.S.—There is such a Journal as "Hogg's Weekly Instructor," but *Punch* will not take upon himself to affirm that it is edited by the Learned Pig.

PUNCH ON EVIDENCE.

In the Cavalry, at the Battle of Goojrat, was an officer who must be deemed for ever disqualified to give evidence in a British Court of Law. His name appears in the list as follows: "Cavalry.—Brigadier J. B. Hearsay, commanding." Every one knows that hearsay evidence is never received in well regulated Courts at home.

AMERICAN ORTHOGRAPHY.

A great spelling reform is now going on in the United States: Noah Webster's next edition of the *Yankee English Dictionary*, out of compliment to Canada and Lord Elgin, "its last Governor," will spell the significant word "Annexation," as follows:—
AN-EGGS-ATION,