

PUNCTUATION IN ITS LEGAL ASPECT—LAW SOCIETY, EASTER TERM.

their attention to the probate, but might as he had known Lord Eldon repeatedly do, look at the original will in the testator's handwriting with a view to see whether anything there appearing, as for instance, the mode in which it was written, how "dashed and stopped," could guide them in the true construction to be put upon it. (S. P. but not so fully given in 7 De G. M. & G. 55.)

Punctuation is not allowed to throw light on the printed statutes in England as pointed out by Romilly, M.R., in *Borrow v. Wadkin*, 24 Beav. 330, where the question was whether a comma was to be placed at the top of the word "aliens" so as to mark a genitive, or between it and the next word; because in the Rolls of Parliament the words are never punctuated, and accordingly, said the Judge, very little is to be learned from the original statute, and he had to gather the meaning from the context. In the case already cited from 25 Barb., Roosevelt, J. refers to an extraordinary case where the powers of the Federal Government depended on a comma and parties divided on a semi-colon. One side read in the Constitution that Congress should have power "to lay taxes to pay (*i. e.* in order to pay) the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare; the other that the powers given were independent, 'to lay taxes,' 'to provide for the general welfare,'" &c. The semi-colon interpretation was finally withdrawn and the written words and natural sense prevailed over "stops."

LAW SOCIETY.

EASTER TERM, 43RD VICTORIA.

The following is the resumé of the proceedings of the Benchers during this Term, published by order of Convocation:—

MONDAY, May 17th, 1880.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The report of the Examiners on the examinations for call to the Bar was received, read, and approved.

The report of the Secretary as to the papers of the candidates was read.

Messrs. Delahay, Stewart, Gundry, Shannon, Deacon, Brophy, Carey, Walkem, and Muir were called to the Bar.

The report of the Examiners on the examinations for admission as Attorneys was received, read, and approved.

The report of the Secretary as to the papers and service of the candidates was read.

Ordered, that Messrs. Deacon, Delahay, Stewart, Morphy, Radcliffe, Waddell, Kerr, Hatton, Orr, and Case do receive their certificates of Fitness.

Ordered, that the cases of Messrs. Carey, Proudfoot, Hewson, Curran, Boulton, Brophy, McMahon, Munro, and Eakins be referred to the Committee on Legal Education for report.

The report of the Examiners on the Intermediate Examinations was received and read.

Ordered, that the examinations of Messrs. Riddell, Cassels, Gausby, McCaul, McAdams, Kean, Dickinson, McKenzie, McDonald, Leeming, Robertson, Mabee, Land, Delaney, Carroll, McLean, Wilson, Mills, Cameron, Foy, Davis, Beardmore, Drought, Haight, Cameron, E. R. Taylor, McLean, Cavell, and Williams be allowed them as their first intermediate examination.

Ordered, that the examinations of Messrs. Campbell, Jones, Johnston, Hastings, Nelson, McBeth, Marsh, Macdonald, W. A. Bitzer Hough, Matheson, Ritchie, Mowat, Brouse, Scholefield, Macdonald, George Henderson, Luscombe, Graydon, Masson, Sanderson, Justin Dexter, Sherry, McMeans, Armstrong, Cahill, Lane, Morphy, H. B. McLaurin, and Spotton, be allowed them at their second intermediate examinations.

The report of the Committee on Discipline on the cases of Messrs. Hastings, Porter and Hooper was received, read and adopted.

The petition of J. Boulton in reference to his examination for call was refused.

The petition of J. J. Stephens in refer-