

be jeopardized. But if the law gives to marriage a dissoluble character then the restraints which a Christian marriage imposes are to some extent removed, and the wider the grounds for divorce are made, the easier it becomes for one or both of the parties desirous of terminating the marriage tie to perform the acts which the law regards as justifying its dissolution.

The best interests of the State demand that the marriage tie shall not be broken. To facilitate families being broken up and children brought up without that parental control and discipline which are so necessary for their well being, and for their development into good and law-abiding citizens, is a menace to the stability of the State. The early years are the most impressionable, and one can hardly believe that the children of divorcees can ever have a fair chance of making reputable citizens; for they will almost necessarily have failed to learn by example the duty and self-restraint which Christian marriage is designed to foster; or the respect and affection which children owe to their parents.

By some persons it is not considered to be a reasonable or just state of the law which permits divorces to be obtained in the civil Courts of some Provinces of Canada, but denies that relief to the inhabitants of the leading Provinces of Quebec and Ontario? Though perhaps this is hardly true of Quebec where the civil Courts have a convenient method of dissolving marriages for no other cause than that they were not solemnized by some particular priest! One of two things they think should be done, either all divorces should be prohibited in Canada, or a uniform law of divorce for the whole Dominion should be enacted restricting the grounds of divorce in all Provinces within the same limits, and enabling such relief to be granted by local Courts in each Province. From a popular point of view this may seem to be the right method to take, and it has, at all events, the support of the Bar Association of Ontario.

It must be admitted that the exercise by the Dominion Parliament of its legislative power to annul lawful marriages, is really an intrusion of Parliament into the judicial domain; an intrusion for which it has no proper machinery, and it is to be feared, it is a jurisdiction which is often exercised in a way that,