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CURRENT TOPICS AND CASES.

The Queen's Bench Division, Ontario, in R. v. Plowman. 19 November, 1894, quashed a conviction for bigamy where the second marriage took place in a foreign country, and there was evidence that the defendant, who was a British subject, resident in Canada, left Canada with the intent to commit the offence. The provisions of sect. 275 of the Criminal Code make such a marriage an offence, the first clause reading as follows:--" Bigamy is (a) the act of a person who, being married, goes through a form of marriage with any other person in any part of the world." This is modified by Sub-sect. 4: "No person shall be liable to be convicted of bigamy in respect of having gone through a form of marriage in a place not in Canada, unless such person, being a British subject resident in Canada, leaves Canada with intent to go through such form of marriage." The Court held that the provisions of the Code are ultra vires of the Parliament of Canada. The case of Macleod v. Atty. General for New South Wales [1891] A. C. 455; 14 L. N. 402, was followed. See also the authorities cited in Taschereau on the Criminal Code, p. 280; Crankshaw, p. 211.