

sessed several wives ; so that if the mother be regarded as a relative of the child Christ might be considered illegitimate in his royal descent from David. This accounts for the fact that the sons of Jacob by his women who were not his wives, Bilhah and Zilpah, inhabited the land of Canaan equally with the children of his wives, Leah and Rachel.—(Gen. xxxv, 25.) Through the influence of Pagan and Jewish priests in the Church of England this doctrine has been incorporated into British law and the statutes of the Dominion. In England it was decided in the courts that the Duke of Suffolk's wife was not of kin to her son, and for this reason the mother is not in law permitted to be the guardian of her own children, a statute of which Senator Trudel, one of the opponents of the Bill to legalize marriage with a deceased wife's sister, naturally enough took advantage a few months ago at Montreal.* It is a matter of no difficulty to count the domestic tyrants that sit in the Canadian Senate.

The evident object of all this was to accumulate endless wealth into the hands of the priests, and to put woman completely into their power. Cyrus the Great and the greater Alexander, each of whom had conquered a world, were deified after death—a courtesy to which Your Lordship is in no way liable—on account of their sympathy and gallantry to woman.

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay ;
Princes and lords may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them, as a breath has made,
But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroyed can never be supplied."

GUNHILDA.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

A LADY'S LETTERS TO THE BISHOP OF ONTARIO.

"To alienate even our own rights would be a crime as much more enormous than suicide as a life of civil security and freedom is superior to a bare existence. And if life be the bounty of heaven we scornfully reject the noblest part of the gift if we consent to surrender that certain rule of living without which the condition of human nature is not only miserable but contemptible."
—*Letters of Junius.*

LETTER II.

MY LORD BISHOP,—How sad the consequences arising from the first step into evil ! No sooner had the bishops of the first and second centuries arrogated to themselves the powers heretofore enjoyed by the Levitical priesthood than they ran into excesses so shocking in their nature as to demand the most vigorous efforts to successfully conceal them, except, indeed, from the penetrating eye of the historian ; and when it is considered that the history of the Christian church in those days was in a great measure shaped by the clergy themselves it is perhaps matter for surprise that any evidence whatever

*The action brought by Mrs. Trudel against her husband, Hon. Mr. Trudel, for separation, has been dismissed by Mr. Justice Papineau. Her petition to be allowed to raise money on her own property and to visit her children was also rejected.—*Quebec Chronicle, January 1st, 1881.*