

For reasons which have been stated all of these sections are to be read subject to the provisions of the Imperial Statute, 32 Hen. 8, c. 38, which defines the prohibitions, and the only prohibitions, which can legally hinder or prevent lawful matrimony within the British Empire, and it is fortunate that it is so, for it is to be noted that the prohibitions purported to be made by section 124 are without any limit of degree, and all persons connected by alliance are forbidden to marry; and section 127 purports to give a legal sanction to impediments which any religious body had devised; which would be bringing into Canada the very troubles and difficulties which the Imperial Statute was passed to abolish, and which it has fortunately effectually abolished throughout the British Empire.

*Dispensation With Law.*

It will be noticed that s. 127 above referred to contains the provision.

"The right likewise of granting dispensations from such impediments appertains as heretofore to those who have hitherto enjoyed it."

This idea of granting dispensations to individuals from the observance of law has its foundation in a principle fundamentally opposed to English law, it sets up above the law some superior who is to have the privilege of saying whether or not a law shall be observed. It is derived from Imperial ideas of Government whose fundamental principle is "that what the Prince wills is law," and that besides making law, he may also dispense with it. But that principle is fundamentally opposed to