

struction of the precept cited above, or else that a divorce bill containing permission to both, or to either of the parties, to re-marry whilst both are alive, is a proceeding in direct contravention of a divine command."

The note was written in 1840, before the establishment of the present English Divorce Court in 1858, but it correctly states what is still the law of Ontario on the subject.

With regard to the comment of the reporter on the permission granted by divorce bills to re-marry, there is this point to be noted: such Acts do not in any way require or command anyone to whom they apply to re-marry, they merely in effect remove the legal disability or punishment for their so doing. They leave it to the conscience of the party whether or not he or she will avail himself or herself of the permission; and as a rule people who exercise the statutory privilege are either ill-instructed on the subject or are not troubled with any qualms of conscience in such matters, and they have less regard for the laws of God than they have for the laws of man.

In Canada it is well for all classes to remember that the granting of divorces, and the annulling of marriages is not a matter within the competence of any religious organization.

ONTARIO LEGISLATION.

In our issue of July, 1911, Mr. W. J. Gorman, K.C., drew attention, in an article entitled "Stare decisis," to the unsatisfactory condition in the Province of Ontario as to the principles which govern where Divisional Courts and County Courts, respectively, differ on the same question. We note that this article has produced the desired result, for, by sec. 12 of the statute law Amendment Act, 1912, which has just become law, sec. 81 is repealed and the following substituted therefor:—

(2) It shall not be competent for any judge of the High Court in any case before him to disregard or depart from a prior known decision of any other judge of co-ordinate authority on any question of law or practice without the concurrence of the judge who gave the decision.