

gating any sentence, decree or judgment purporting to annul or dissolve any *de facto* marriage of any person in Canada made, or purporting to be made, by any person whomsoever, without due authority of law. Because if such sentences have no legal effect the public should be protected from the annoyance of any such usurped and unlawful exercise of jurisdiction.

Furthermore, some restraint is necessary to be imposed on all persons authorized to solemnize matrimony from directly or indirectly making use of their office for ulterior purposes.

*Suggestion for Dominion Legislation.*

1. Whereas doubts have arisen as to the law governing impediments to matrimony in Canada it is hereby declared that those referred to in the statute passed in the 32nd year of His late Majesty King Henry VIII. are the only impediments or prohibitions in force in this Dominion of Canada.

2. It is further declared that the prohibitions or impediments to matrimony referred to in the said last mentioned statute are those which were specifically set forth in a certain statute passed in the 27th year of His said late Majesty, Chapter 7, as modified by the Statute of the Parliament of the United Kingdom passed in the seventh year of His late Majesty King Edward the Seventh, Chapter 47, and no others, that is to say (*specifying them*).

3. No marriage which has been duly solemnized according to law shall be impeachable by reason of the existence of any pre-contract of marriage which was not duly solemnized according to law.