

PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE CIVIL LAW OF MARRIAGE.

We copy the following from the *Christian Statesman* of 25th Nov. :—
 “The Bishop of Lincoln in opening a Diocesan Conference a fortnight ago, read an address on the law of marriage and divorce, in which he strongly argued against the bill for legalizing marriage with a deceased wife’s sister, and declared his conviction that England would before long, unless the clergy and laity awoke to their duty in reference to the question, take her place in degradation by the side of America and other countries where the proportion of divorce cases was so high. * * * It would be an evil day for England when, by the change of the law of the land, the clergy of the National Church were compelled to choose between loyalty and obedience to man on the one hand, and the law of God on the other. The Canada Presbyterian Church had this subject before them at the last meeting of their Assembly and took strong action against such marriages. The position of the Presbyterian Church in the United States on this subject is frequently misunderstood. While such marriages have been tolerated, they have never been expressly sanctioned, and the whole weight of the Church’s deliverances has been against them.”

At a meeting of the Reformed Presbytery of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, held in St. John, N. B., on the 2nd November, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

I. That marriage with a deceased wife’s sister, or a deceased husband’s brother is at variance with the law of marriage revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and should not be practised or countenanced, in any community favoured with the light of Divine Revelation.

II. That inasmuch as it has been publicly intimated, that a measure to remove all legal hindrances to such marriages, throughout the Dominion of Canada, similar to the one defeated last Session, will be introduced at the approaching meeting of the Legislature: we hereby, in our constituted capacity, express our strong condemnation of such a measure, as dishonouring to the law of God—subversive of that righteousness that “exalteth a nation,” and fraught with manifold social and moral evils.

III. That in our different spheres of labour and influence, we shall endeavour to diffuse sound, scriptural views and sentiments on the subject, and thus aid in the creation of such a wholesome public opinion as, by the blessing of Him who has all hearts in his hand, will again defeat a measure, the adoption of which would bring a heavy burden of guilt upon our beloved country.

Signed by order.

ROBERT STEWART, *Moderator.*

SENSIBLE ADMONITIONS.

- Don’t buy a piano for your daughter while your sons need a plow.
- Don’t let your horses be seen standing at the beer saloon; it doesn’t look right.
- Don’t give the merchant or printer a chance to dun you; prompt payment makes independent men.
- Don’t leave to memory what should be written; it makes lawsuits.
- Don’t become security for him who waits for the sheriff.