

own and which is manifestly not dead, may, under the genial influence of His Spirit, bring up and bring forth abundant fruit.]

CANADIAN MARRIAGE LAW.

HAVE THE CLERGY OF THE ROMAN AND ANGLICAN CHURCHES IN CANADA WEST ANY SPECIAL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES IN REFERENCE TO SOLEMNIZING MARRIAGE?—The Marriage Act, as we understand it, makes no exception in favour of the ministers of any denomination. Every person duly set apart or ordained a Minister according to the rites of his Church, is authorized to solemnize marriage in Canada West, upon condition of filing a certificate of his ministerial standing, with the Registrar of the County, and taking the oath of allegiance. And if Ministers of the Churches of England or Rome neglect or refuse to comply with this condition, they solemnize marriage in violation of the law. We are informed that the Ministers of these two Churches consider themselves as exempted from the obligation to observe this condition of the Marriage Act; but upon what ground we are not aware, nor can we ascertain it from the reading of the law. This is a subject which we think demands an investigation by legal authority. The day is past in Canada when Ministers of one Church will be allowed to assume a legal superiority over others, and claim an exemption from the operation of a common law which is obviously intended to apply equally to all. If Ministers of the Churches of England and Rome are permitted to set themselves above the authority of the law in this matter, we are certain that the Ministers of other denominations will not quietly acknowledge their legal inferiority by a compliance with its requirements. Or if the law in question does really make the exceptions which the conduct of the above-named parties implies, then an unequivocal demand should be forthwith urged for such a modification of the law as will place all Ministers on common ground with respect to their legal recognition.—We have no objections to the provisions of the existing Act if they are made to apply alike to all; otherwise we enter our solemn protest against the injustice of its partial application. And we here suggest whether this is not a subject of such importance as properly to claim the attention of the House of Assembly?—*Christian Guardian*.

If the law be as above stated, then it is obvious that the marriages solemnised in this province by the Roman and Anglican clergy are, in the eye of the law, null and void; and the rights of children springing from such marriages, as respects succession to property, must be seriously imperilled. We say nothing of the position occupied by females so mis-married. If, again, the law be not as above stated, but as assumed by the clergy referred to, then the ministers of all other denominations here, are held by the body politic, to be mere hewers of wood and drawers of water. How long is this to be endured? We submit that whichever horn of the dilemma be preferred there is something calling loudly for immediate rectification.]

THE BEST FOR BOTH WORLDS.

The family motto of the learned and pious Dr. Doddridge, was, *Pum vivimus vivamus, Let us live while we live*; and he founded on it the following, which is characterized by true wisdom as much as by poetical ingenuity:—

“Live while you live, the epicure would say,
And seize the pleasures of the present day;
Live while you live, the sacred preacher cries,
And give to God each moment as it flies;
Lord! in my views let both united be,
I live in pleasure, when I live to thee.”

RELIGION OF THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS.

The religious belief of the fourteen persons who have filled the Presidential chair in the United States, as indicated by their attendance upon public worship and the evidence afforded in their writings, may be summed up as follows: Washington, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, Tyler, and Taylor were Episcopalians; Jefferson, John Adams, John Quincy Adams, and Fillmore were Unitarians; Jackson and Polk were Presbyterians; Mr. Van Buren was of the Dutch Reformed Church; and President Pierce is a Trinitarian Congregationalist.—*Christian Inquirer*.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

The Undergraduates here are, by the rules, obliged to attend church on Sunday, and if the parents or guardians do not wish them to attend service at the College Chapel,