

inion are without Courts of Divorce, and the application for relief must be made to Parliament, both bodies having to pronounce the dissolution of the marriage obligation, which is done by a hearing of witnesses before a Senate Committee and if a proper case is made out, this is followed by a private Act of the House of Commons. It is certainly one of the most remarkable anomalies in the history of Constitutions. The exclusive right to legislate on marriage and divorce is given by the British North America Act, 1867, to the Parliament of Canada, and yet notwithstanding the British North America Act, there is no uniformity of the law, and the right is, as I have stated, exercised under a saving clause by several of the Provinces to the exclusion of Dominion authority. Quebec, then Lower Canada, a Province opposed to divorce laws, was the cause of this anomalous condition of things, although, I have no doubt, Upper Canada was, as a whole, disinclined at that time to deal with the question of establishing Courts of Divorce in this country. Owing to the state of the law now in force here, a grave injustice is experienced. There is in respect of divorce, one law for the rich and another for the poor. This may be said to be inaccurate. It is so theoretically, but in practice, it is undoubtedly true. In ordinary litigation, care has been taken to bring the place of trial of both civil and criminal cases to the doors of the litigants. Judges travel from one end of each province to the other twice a year and more often in some localities, in order that the poor man may have justice on the same terms as his richer neighbour enjoys. A ten-dollar Division Court case takes a County Judge thirty miles from the county town, in order that a trumpery dispute may be settled according to law. Actions within the jurisdiction of the County Court, and larger issues requiring the aid of High Court Judges, are disposed of at the county towns in almost every county in the Dominion. Magistrates are provided in every school section to dispose of troubles of a petty character. And yet with all this expense and care in matters largely of a monetary and temporary nature, the unfortunate woman who is grossly wronged, and is being slowly yet surely