

were made the law of that Province; and by the Proclamation having the force of law the Supreme Court of that Province was constituted and given complete cognizance of all pleas whatever, and jurisdiction in all cases civil as well as criminal, which has had the effect, according to a recent decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, of vesting in the Supreme Court of British Columbia the like jurisdiction as was possessed by the English Probate and Divorce Court on 19 November, 1858: see *Watts v. Watts* (1908), A.C. 573; C.R. [1908] A.C. 511, and has in effect made the law of England as it stood on 19th Nov., 1858, the marriage law of British Columbia.

In Ontario the laws of England as to property and civil rights as they existed in 1792, were made the law of that Province. This would have the effect *inter alia* of introducing the English marriage law as it stood in that year.

On the subsequent institution of the Courts of Common Law and Chancery in that Province, their jurisdiction was limited to that possessed by the English Courts of Queen's Bench and Chancery, and as neither of these courts then exercised any matrimonial or divorce jurisdiction it has been generally considered that the Provincial Courts of Common Law and Chancery, and their statutory heir the Supreme Court of Judicature for Ontario, had not, nor has any matrimonial or divorce jurisdiction; and for upwards of a hundred years the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec have been destitute of any matrimonial or divorce tribunals whatever; and the only forum to which citizens of those Provinces could look