

legislation should be passed both by the Dominion and Provincial legislatures. Whilst we are not prepared to say that all the defects can be cured and the difficulties overcome without resorting to a change in the British North America Act, we give our readers the benefit of his suggestions.

His suggestion for Dominion legislation is the draft of an Act which would read as follows:—

“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.

4. It is further declared that no spiritual court, or Court Christian, has any jurisdiction, power or authority to annul any de facto marriage, or to grant a divorce, in the Dominion of Canada.

5. Any person hereafter publishing any sentence, judgment or decree purporting to annul the marriage of any persons in Canada, or to grant any divorce to any person or persons resident in Canada, which shall have been made, or purported to be made, by any person, power, or authority whatsoever not having lawful jurisdiction to make such sentence, judgment or decree, shall on conviction be subject to a penalty of \$. which shall be recoverable by anyone who shall sue for the same.

6. All marriages which shall hereafter be celebrated between persons within the prohibited degrees of consanguinity or affin-