

THE
CAMPBELL DIVORCE BILL.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS IN ONTARIO.

Parliament as a Court of Justice.

Speech of the Hon. Wm. MacDougall, Counsel for Mrs. Campbell, before
the Committee of the Senate; taken in Short Hand.

The resistance of an intelligent, brave and virtuous woman—as all those best qualified to judge believe her to be—against the persecution and ill-treatment of a coarse, ill-natured, penurious and unprincipled husband, has made the CAMPBELL DIVORCE CASE not only a *cause celebre*, but has conclusively established the fact that in Ontario, as the law now stands, *a married woman has few rights which a husband is bound to respect*. If a husband wish to put away his wife, he need only provide himself with two witnesses to watch at her window when some neighbor is paying her a visit, to report a conversation implying criminal intercourse, supplemented by a statement that the visitor confessed the crime—which neither he nor the accused wife is permitted

to contradict in the witness box—and he may then kick her into the street and leave her there to starve, unless some charitable stranger or relative shall come to her relief!

If he should desire to marry a rich widow, whom he had met in his travels, he must, indeed, come to Parliament for a divorce. And if the discarded wife, broken in spirit and without means, is unable to follow him, or willing to be free from a legal tie which has ceased to be of any use to her, decline to contest his application, he will secure his Bill as a matter of course.

Mr. Campbell having, by the evidence of his brother and brother-in-law, obtained a verdict against the *alleged seducer*,