

An Act for the Amendment of an Act intituled,  
*An Act concerning Marriages and Divorce,*  
*and for punishing Incest and Adultery, and de-*  
*claring Polygamy to be Felony.*

**W**HEREAS by a Clause in an Act made and passed in the  
 Thirty second Year of His late Majesty's Reign, intituled  
*An Act concerning Marriages and Divorce, and for punishing*  
*Incest and Adultery, and declaring Polygamy to be Felony,*  
 it is Enacted, " That no Marriage shall be declared null and void, ex-  
 " cept for the Cause of Impotence, or of Kindred within the Degrees  
 " prohibited in an Act made in the Thirty second Year of King Henry  
 " the Eighth intituled, An Act concerning Precontracts, and touching  
 " Degrees of Consanguinity; and that no Decree for Divorce shall be  
 " granted for any other than the two foregoing and the two following  
 " Causes, viz. That of Adultery, and that of wilful Desertion and  
 " withholding necessary Maintenance for three Years together; in any of  
 " which Cases every Person suing for a Divorce, shall be intituled to a  
 " Decree for that purpose, to be obtained from the Governor, or  
 " Commander in Chief for the Time being, and His Majesty's Council  
 " who shall have full Power and Authority to grant the same." Which  
 Clause has been found to be inconsistent with the Laws of England.

*Be it therefore Enacted by the Honourable the Commander in Chief,*  
*the Council, and Assembly,* That the Causes for which Marriages shall be  
 declared null and void, shall be in all Causes of Impotence, of Precon-  
 tract and Kindred within the Degrees prohibited in an Act made in the  
 Thirty second Year of King HENRY the Eighth, intituled, *An Act concerning*  
*Precontracts, and touching Degrees of Consanguinity, of Adultery, and*  
*of Cruelty, and for none other Causes whatsoever.*

Provided that nothing herein contained, shall be of any Force or  
 Effect untill His Majesty's pleasure shall be further known herein.