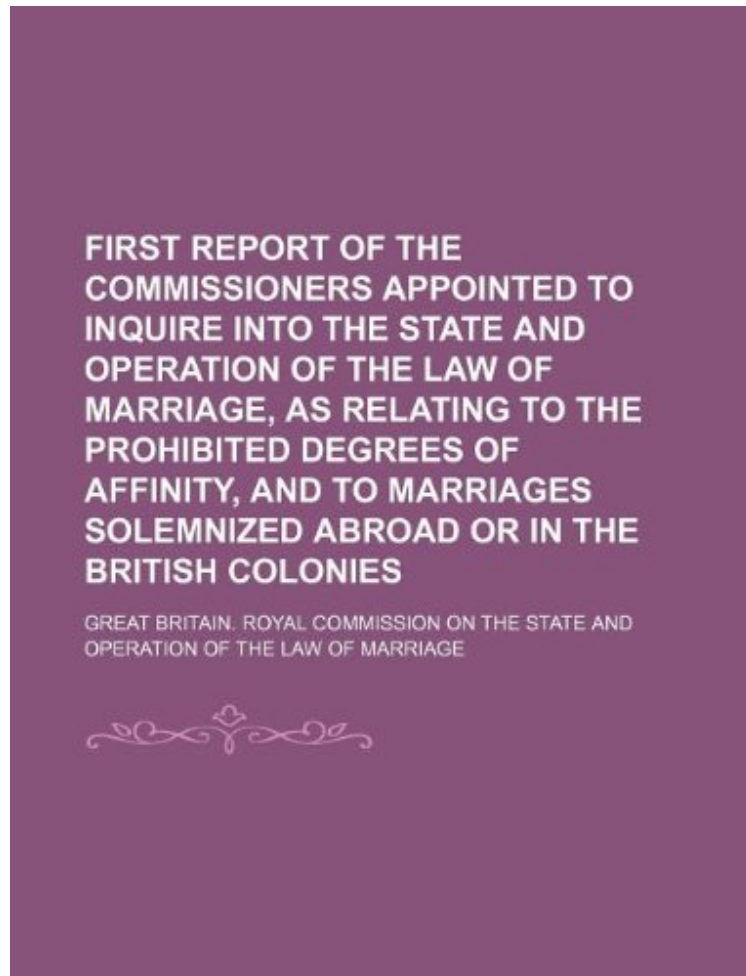


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## First report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the state and operation of the law of marriage, as relating to the prohibited degrees of ... solemnized abroad or in the British colonies

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1848 Excerpt: ... the care and education of his children. On the contrary; I should think that there is a shield which is thrown over a wife's sister, which is not thrown over another person. A widower might have a lady to live as a companion, a governess, or an associate, in loco parent is, of the mother, and that widower would be placed in very much greater temptation with a stranger than he would be with a wife's sister. I am speaking of the question morally. 518. Then are the Commissioners to understand your opinion to be, that, entertaining no objection to these marriages, either theologically or morally, you think the marriage of the wife's sister perfectly innocent, and, consequently, that a relaxation of the law would be preferable to its present state, where the sister does continue to reside with the husband, and they might unfortunately fall into sin, without the possibility of contracting a lawful union?--I decidedly think so. 519. Do you also think it is possible that, though not falling into actual sin, a brother and sister-in-law living together might find themselves in a position of great distress and pain, from an attachment which could not be rendered happy by a legitimate union?--I think so, decidedly. Perhaps I may be allowed to say, with reference to the question of morality, that if my view of the question, theologically, is wrong, of course the moral part of it falls to the ground. 520. Have you been able to perceive that, in consequence of Lord Lyndhurst's Act, the public feeling in any degree, as against these marriages, has increased. No; I cannot say that my attention was much directed to the consideration of Lord Lyndhurst's Act, except just as a mere passing event at the time, until I was called upon by a gentleman who was seeking information up...