

new country, to which they desired to attract emigrants or strangers, difficulties should be placed in the way of Frenchmen, Germans or Americans entering it and making it their home. (Hear, hear.) In Nova Scotia, he believed, the period of qualification for citizenship was limited to one year's residence. They had a very simple process of naturalization. By making an affidavit of allegiance and filing it in the office of the Clerk of the Peace, who was a county officer, and a duplicate in the Provincial Secretary's office, a person became a British subject. Thus there was a duplicate record of the transaction. They found no difficulty in the practical operation of that act. He hoped this point would be considered, and that a County Officer might be directed to keep the record so that a party might not have to travel fifty, one hundred, or five hundred miles to qualify himself for a British subject. He thought it absurd and foolish to require a three years' residence at this era. He thought one year's residence should suffice for the whole Dominion.

Hon. Mr. CARRALL suggested such amendments as might enable any person, at any time, to become naturalized. He thought we should learn from the Americans, who gave every encouragement to aliens in this matter.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said they required three years residence. An alien, after a very short time, by a declaration of his intention to become a citizen was immediately clothed with all the attributes of citizenship, though perhaps he was not eligible for office. The Americans were somewhat in advance of us in this respect. He would be happy to confer with the hon. gentleman with a view to any desirable amendments. The subject of the value to be given an alien's declaration of intention to become a citizen of the Empire, and the point of the proper period of residence had been considered by the Government before, and with reference to Manitoba also. His own opinion had been that one year was enough, but his colleagues thought three years was required. It was suggested that as we were acquiring a very large territory in the Northwest, the qualification of one year's residence might attract many persons from other places, who might abuse the privilege and strive to make another Texas of the country for the benefit of foreigners; and that intending citizens could not feel it a hardship to be required to reside three years in the country. Parliament held the same opinion. He quite agreed that all reasonable facilities should

be granted those desirous of becoming subjects of the Crown, and that if this could be achieved by the use of additional Courts for the administration of the oath, with the view to the securing proper evidence, for the purpose of the descent of property, this means should be turned to advantage. He was in favor of all possible improvement in this respect and would receive the assistance of the Senator from British Columbia with a great deal of pleasure.

Hon. Mr. CARRALL said he would be happy to give it.

After some further remarks by the Hon. Mr. DICKNEY in explanation of the knowing origin of the three years condition in the United States law, and in favor of the amendment, the motion was carried.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS moved the consideration and adoption of the amendments made by the Commons to the Department of the Interior Establishment Bill. Carried.

THE COTEAU CANAL.

Hon. Mr. WILSON presented a petition from the Town of St. Johns, C. E., praying for the construction of a canal on the north side of the St. Lawrence, from the Cascades to Coteau Landing.

On motion of Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, the House then adjourned till Thursday.

THURSDAY, April 24.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After routine,

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said he had considered the second enquiry made by Hon. Mr. Dickey, with reference to the telegraph line along the Intercolonial Railway, between Truro and Amherst, and the cost of its erection, and, as all the information required by both questions was contained in the contract entered into, he had ordered a copy to be laid on the table of the House.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL gave notice that he would move at the next sitting, that when the House adjourned it should stand adjourned till Monday at half-past seven p.m.

THE PACIFIC RAILWAY CONTRACT.

Hon. Mr. CHRISTIE said he regretted that in consequence of the illness and absence of his hon. friend, the Senator for Grandville, (Hon. Mr. Letellier) he would have to postpone the consideration of his motion till Tuesday next.