

That several of your memorialists wishing to avail themselves of the benefit of your Majesty's gracious intentions expressed in the said Proclamation, did resort to and have resided in this Province for many years.

That the memorialists have conducted themselves as dutiful and loyal subjects, and as useful and industrious citizens from the time of their settling in the Province to this day, and have a firm and unflinching attachment to and veneration for the King and nation of Great-Britain and its government.

That the 22d article of the act of the British parliament granting the new constitution to this colony provides and enacts, "That no person shall be capable of voting at any Election of a member to serve in the assembly, or of being elected at any such Election, who shall not be a natural born subject of your Majesty, or a subject of your Majesty naturalized by an act of the British parliament, or a subject of your Majesty having become such by the conquest and cession of Canada."

That the memorialists are informed doubts have arisen, whether under the clause of the new constitution natives of Europe born without the dominions of your Britannic Majesty, who have resorted to and settled in this Province since the conquest and cession of it, are capable of voting at an Election of a member to serve in the assembly, or of being elected at any such Election.

That the number of citizens in the Province falling within the description of the 22d clause of the act of the British parliament, and in the same situation with the memorialists, are apprehensive that if the doubts which have arisen and been circulated be well founded, they will be deprived of the rights of citizens; namely, the right of electing or of being elected to serve in the assembly.

That the memorialists are induced to believe the British parliament is too just and wise to deprive a very numerous description of laborious, active and industrious men and loyal subjects of the rights of citizenship; and that though the memorialists and others who reside in the Province under a similar situation are not expressly mentioned or named in the said 22d clause, yet they humbly hope and believe that your Majesty and Parliament of Great-Britain did mean and intend, that every resident of the Province, from whatever country or climate possessing the qualifications as enacted in the 20th clause, and not falling under the exceptions of the 21st clause of the British act, should enjoy all the rights and privileges of natural born subjects of your Majesty's or subjects of your Majesty by naturalization, or by conquest and cession.

That such reasonable hope of the memorialists is founded on the known and invariable justice of the British legislature, and on the statute of parliament passed in the Thirteenth year of the reign of his late Majesty Geo. II. chap. 7. section 122, which enacts, "That Foreigners who have resided or shall reside seven years or more in any of his Majesty's colonies in America, and shall not have been absent more than two months at any one time during the said seven years, and shall take and subscribe the oaths, and make repeat and subscribe the declaration appointed by 1st, Geo I. chap. 13. and make and subscribe the profession of the Christian belief, appointed by 1st of William and Mary, chap. 13. before a judge of the colony, and receive the sacrament in some Protestant congregation in Great-Britain,