

ACTS OF LAST SESSION.—NATURALIZATION.

pendant; and the said court shall have power, if necessary, from time to time, by order endorsed on the conviction or order, to adjourn the hearing of the appeal from one sittings to another, or others, of the said court;

"In every case where any conviction or order is quashed on appeal as aforesaid, the Clerk of the Peace or other proper officer shall forthwith endorse on the conviction or order a memorandum that the same has been quashed; and whenever any copy or certificate of such conviction or order is made, a copy of such memorandum shall be added thereto, and shall, when certified under the hand of the Clerk of the Peace, or of the proper officer having the custody of the same, be sufficient evidence in all Courts and for all purposes, that the conviction or order has been quashed."

2. Section seventy-one of the said Act is repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

"71. No conviction or order affirmed, or affirmed and amended in appeal, shall be quashed for want of form, or be removed by certiorari into any of Her Majesty's Superior Courts of Record; and no warrant or commitment shall be held void by reason of any defect therein, provided it be therein alleged that the party has been convicted, and there be a good and valid conviction to sustain the same."

3. And whereas, in some of the Provinces of Canada, the terms or sittings of the General Sessions of the Peace or other Courts to which under section seventy-six of the said Act, Justices of the Peace are required to make Returns of convictions had before them, may not be held as often as once in every three months; and it is desirable that such Returns should not be made less frequently: Therefore it is further enacted, that the Returns required by the said seventy-sixth section of the Act hereinbefore cited shall be made by every Justice of the Peace quarterly, on or before the second Tuesday in each of the months of March, June, September and December in each year, to the Clerk of the Peace or other proper officer for receiving the same under the said Act, notwithstanding the General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace of the County in which such conviction was had may not be held in the months or at the times aforesaid; and every such Return shall include all convictions and other matters mentioned in the said section seventy-six, and not included in some previous Return, and shall, by the Clerk of the Peace or other proper officer receiving it, be fixed up and published; and a copy thereof shall be transmitted to the Minister of Finance in the manner required by the eighthieth and eighty-first sections of the said Act; and the penalties thereby imposed, and all the other provisions of the said Act, shall hereafter apply to the Returns hereby required and to any offence or neglect committed with respect to the making thereof, as if the periods hereby appointed for making the said Returns

had been mentioned in the said Act instead of the periods thereby appointed for the same.

4. The form following shall be substituted for the form of Notice of Appeal against a conviction or order contained in the Schedule to the said Act.

GENERAL FORM OF NOTICE OF APPEAL AGAINST A CONVICTION OR ORDER.

To C. D. of, &c., and ——— (the names and additions of the parties to whom the notice of appeal is required to be given).

Take notice, that I, the undersigned A. B., of ———, do intend to enter and prosecute an appeal at the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace (or other Court, as the case may be), to be holden at ———, in and for the District (or County, United Counties, or as the case may be) of ———, against a certain conviction (or order) bearing date on or about the ——— day of ——— instant, and made by (you) C. D., Esquire, (one) of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said District (or County, United Counties, or as the case may be) of ———, whereby the said A. B. was convicted of having or was ordered to pay ———, (here state the offence as in the conviction, information, or summons, or the amount adjudged to be paid, as in the order, as correctly as possible).

Dated this ——— day of ———, one thousand eight hundred and ——— A. B.

MEMORANDUM.—If this notice be given by several Defendants, or by an Attorney, it can easily be adapted.

SELECTIONS.

NATURALIZATION.

The Royal Commission which reported on the laws of naturalization and allegiance on February 20, 1869, with greater fortune than some Royal Commissions which we could name, is likely to see its labours bear legislative fruit within a reasonable time. The bill introduced by the Lord Chancellor to amend the existing laws on this subject was read a second time in the House of Lords last week. No opposition was offered to the measure, and no real dissent from its principles or even details was expressed. Yet, after all, it is the play without Hamlet. We impute no fault to the bill on this head, but confessedly it abstains from any attempt to deal with the most fundamental point in the whole question—namely, what is to be the test of nationality? Let us see how this matter stands. At common law the place of birth is the only test of allegiance. All persons born within the dominions of the Crown are natural-born British subjects, and all persons born beyond the dominions are aliens. By statute British nationality extends to the second generation, so that the grandchildren of a British subject, wherever they or their fathers were born, are held within the allegiance of the Crown. We need not recapitulate the grounds upon which such a state of the law