

(APPENDIX H.) See Journal page 70.

The naturalization laws of the United States. (14th April, 1802.) requires of a Canadian, or any British subject, in order to become American citizens.

—:***:—

6thly.—A certificate of all this, must be exhibited to the court when application is made for naturalization.

7thly.—They must satisfy the court, that they have resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States *five years*, and prove by two witnesses, that they have behaved as persons of good moral character, are attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed towards the peace and good order of the same.

8thly.—Upon the proofs being made, the oaths of abjuration and allegiance shall be administered.

9thly.—In case they belong to any order of Nobility, they shall in addition to the above requisites, renounce under oath, in the open Court, their Title or Titles, which renunciation shall be recorded in the said court.

10thly.—Before they can sit in Congress, they must have been seven years a citizens, which with five naturalizing, make *twelve years*. A Senator must be *nine years* a citizen—add five during naturalizing—*fourteen* (double the time in this Province.)



The qualifications required under the British Acts, are easy, simple, and delicate. They offer no violence to early feelings and associations, nor do they extort from the applicant an oath, which honour and probity alike forbid. The only condition to which an objection has been raised, is, that of taking the Sacrament, but to those who are truly christians, it surely ought not to be considered objectionable, because they are only required to take it in their own churches, the words "in some protestant and reformed congregation," confine them not to one denomination.—The contrast in favour of British dignity and high mindedness, which these laws exhibit, is particularly striking. Before any emigrant can become a citizen of the United States, the law prescribes that he shall, upon oath, absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whereof he was born a citizen or subject. No condition could have been better imagined than this, for excluding the good and securing admission to the bad. Had the oath been intended for the express purpose of admitting the refuse of all other nations, and repelling the conscientious, it could not have been better framed. Is it possible to find a man of high feeling, who will come into open Court and solemnly abjure all fidelity to his lawful Sovereign and his native land? Two citizens come and swear, that the person wishing to become a citizen, is of a good moral character, and that he is attached to the constitution of the United States; and then the courts gravely administer an oath, which in spite of this evidence, proves him to be void of all proper feeling, and without attachment to any country or government on earth. The condition requiring a public renunciation of nobility requires no comment. Can any one with propriety, (after reading this naturalization law of the United States*) pretend to argue, that it is easy for emigrants to become

Laws of Great Britain on the subject of Naturalization.

* AND for the better encouraging of foreign mariners and seamen to come and serve on board ships belonging to the Kingdom of Great Britain;—Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every such foreign mariner or seaman who shall from and after the said 25th day of April, have faithfully served on board Her Majesty's ships of war, or any privateer or merchant, or trading ship or ships, vessel or vessels, which at the time of such service shall belong to any of Her Majesty's subjects of Great Britain, for the space of two years, shall to all intents and purposes be deemed and taken to be a natural born subject of Her Majesty's Kingdom of Great Britain, and have and enjoy all the privileges, powers, rights and capacities which such foreign mariner or seaman could, should, or ought to have had and enjoyed in case he had been a natural born subject of Her Majesty, and actually a native within the Kingdom of Great Britain—6 Anne, Chap. 37. Sec. 30.

By Statute 13 Geo. 2. Chap. 3. every foreign seaman who in time of war serves two years on board an English Ship by virtue of the King's proclamation, is ipso facto naturalized under the like restrictions as in 12 Wm. 3. Chap. 2. which Statute of Wm. merely prohibits such naturalized foreigner from being a member of the Privy Council or Parliament, and from having grant of lands from the Crown; and by Statutes 13 Geo. 2. Chap. 7—20 Geo. 2. Chap. 44.—22 Geo. 2. Chap. 45.—2 Geo. 3 Chap. 25. and 13 Geo. 3. Chap. 25, all foreign Protestants and Jews, upon their residing seven years in any of the American colonies without being absent above 2 months at a time, and all foreign Protestants serving two years in a Military capacity there, or being 3 years employed in the whole fishery without afterwards absenting themselves from the King's Dominions for more than one year, and none of them falling within the incapacities declared by a Statute 4 Geo. 2. Chap. 21, shall be, upon taking the oath of Allegiance and supremacy, or in some cases making an affirmation to the same effect, naturalized to all intents and purposes as if they had been born in this kingdom, except as to sitting in parliament or being of the Privy council, and holding offices and grants of land, &c. from the Crown, within the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.