

BRITISH
COLUMBIA.

a guide to the decision on this point, persons having been convicted of treason, felony, rape, forgery, or any other infamous crime, should be disqualified from naturalization.

I am willing, however, to leave this question to your discretion and local knowledge, and I do not propose to interfere with the operation of the Act in its present form. I have accordingly submitted the Proclamation for the sanction of Her Majesty, and it has been laid before Parliament with the other Proclamations issued by you.

As a matter of language, the 4th clause should give the alien the rights of a British subject "within," not *while* "within," the said Colony of British Columbia. The effect of introducing the word "while" would be (if the provision were valid), (1), that the naturalized persons "while" within British Columbia would have the rights of a British subject elsewhere, (a privilege which the Colonial Legislature cannot confer; and (2), that while absent from the Colony his rights of holding property within it would be dormant (which is not intended). The word "while" therefore should be omitted.

Governor Douglas, C.B.
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NEWCASTLE

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