

"being heretofore settled in Canada, are declared by the judgement of the courts of law, in England, and by the opinion of the law officers, to be aliens," without any reference to, or exception of, those who may have been "traitors to the king's government," or "the destroyers of the parents and friends" of these honorable legislative councillors, "during the American revolution."

This idea seems to be strengthened by the following passage in the same Report, in which the Legislative Council distinctly admit that this legislature has not the power to confer the civil rights, pretended to be conferred by the bill which was passed by them, and sent down to the Assembly for concurrence :—

"It is quite evident that this legislature has not power to enact laws repugnant to the constitution conferred upon us by the 31st of the late king. In cases not provided for by that law, we are at liberty to act, but no further. *In as far, therefore, as rights of property are concerned*, we may proceed in affording ample security and protection. *But, as respects civil rights, we can do nothing*, but in accordance with the constitutional statute. Now by this law, no persons are capable of voting at any election for a member to serve in the House of Assembly, in either of the provinces, or of being elected at any election, who shall not be of the full age of twenty-one years, and a natural born subject of His Majesty, or a subject of His Majesty naturalized by Act of the British parliament, &c."

It must appear surprising to any person possessed of common sense, how, with such sentiments, the Legislative Council could presume to pass a bill pretending to confer civil rights. Or, could any one imagine, after such an acknowledgement, that they would censure the Assembly for rejecting such a bill? Because, if any person, who is not a natural born subject, can alone be "*naturalized by Act of the British parliament*," how could a provincial act be turned into an "act of the British parliament," by a despatch from Earl Bathurst—or by the mere *ipse dixit* of the King himself? Impossible. It is therefore to be inferred, that neither the legal advisers of the crown, nor the Legislative Council, had any intention of conferring the rights of elective franchise. They are by no means backward, however, in joining in the general endeavour of the disappointed advocates of this measure, to cast unjust odium on the House of Assembly, as will appear from the following passages in their Report :—

"The other branch of the legislature has thought fit to stand between the Royal Grace and those it was intended to benefit, and to propose measures subversive of every law that connects society together."

Again, speaking of the amendments to their alien bill, or the declaratory bill passed by the Assembly, they say :—"These amendments attempt to sap the foundation of society, and to consider the duty of allegiance as a relic of tyranny." That these are the foulest aspersions ever thrown out by one branch of any civilized legislature against another, must appear evident to any unbiassed person, who will take the trouble of reading these amendments, inserted in this sheet.

The session having now come to a close, His Excellency, in proroguing the parliament, chimes in with the general delusion of the ministerialists, and their unjust censure of the House of Assembly, in the following passage in his speech :

"I regret that the gracious recommendation of His Majesty in behalf of certain individuals of this province, whose civil rights are liable to question, has not been met in all the branches of the legislature, with the feeling it might have been expected to call forth; and that its object should have been defeated in any quarter, by a want of confidence, so difficult to reconcile with those unvarying expressions of gratitude to a most munificent government, which I have ever witnessed with the greatest satisfaction, from my knowledge of the paternal care and protection by which they were so abundantly deserved. I am unwilling to entertain the belief, that any considerable number of the people of this province can have been insensible to the kindness and protection which they have uniformly received from His Majesty's government; and I have, therefore, entire confidence that the good sense and good

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