

We should obtain from an impartial tribunal a deliberate opinion on any question which might disturb the peace of the world. And we should have the moral weight of the civilized world brought to bear against the nation which, whether as the aggressor or the aggrieved, refuses to abide by its formal agreement, or to comply with the deliberate award of the International Council. I am not proposing, that in case of such refusal all the States should join with the other powers in enforcing the award. We must not fall into the blunders of another Holy Alliance. We must not, with a view, or in the hope of promoting peace, extend the range of quarrels and wars. Moral reforms can only be achieved by moral means. But I do attach the greatest possible weight to an arrangement which might relieve many States from pursuing a course of hostility to a point where it becomes almost impossible to retract. We must count on the moral feeling, on the honour, on the good sense of nations, and we must strive to put some barrier to the first outburst of passions, by retarding the steps which might otherwise inevitably end in open war.

Too long have we seen, with seeming indifference, this grossest outrage against all that is sacred and humane. Too long have we sat with folded arms, witnessing the fatal course which brought one power after another towards a certain ruin. The suggestion I have the honour of making has already received a certain amount of diplomatic sanction. Let it be matured, developed, and strengthened. But, whether by this or by any other means, let us devote our highest effort to remove for ever from the bounds of the civilized world the demon of war. By all that is sacred in the human breast, by all that is noble, enlightening, and elevating in our advancing civilization, by all that animates us to sentiments of affection and amity towards our brother man, all the world over, let us put an end to this grossest and blackest of all crimes, the one of war. The natural state of man in society is peace, and not war. Let us ask this noblest of all services from International Law, that it may provide means by which nations may live in peace and concord among themselves.—*Law Magazine.*

It is the business of a lawyer to be ready-witted; and it may be that he whose wit is sharpened in daily encounters deserves little credit for readiness. This does not detract, however, from the merit of such as this passage of Jekyll. Lord Ellenborough, who was a severe judge, was one day at an assize dinner, when some one offered to "help him to some fowl." "No; I thank you," said his lordship, "I mean to try that beef."

"If you do, my lord," said Jekyll instantly, "it will be hung beef."

CANADA REPORTS.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

GENERAL SESSIONS OF THE PEACE, COUNTY OF SIMCOE.

Before J. A. ARDAGH, Esq., Deputy Judge, Chairman.

IN RE CHARLES C. WEBSTER AND OTHERS.

31 Vic. cap. 66—Affidavit of residence—Certificate of Justices—Oath of allegiance.

[Barrie, Dec. 19, 1870.]

This was an application to prevent certificates of naturalization being issued by the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Simcoe, to Charles C. Webster, John W. Fisher and B. F. Kendall, under the provisions of the Dominion Act 31 Vic. cap. 66.

The grounds of opposition were—

1. That the time of residence is not stated in the affidavit of residence.
2. That the certificates of the justices of the peace, read on the first day of the Court, do not show that the requisite oaths of allegiance have been taken by the applicants.
3. That initial letters only are used in the headings of the affidavits, and not the full names of the applicants.

ARDAGH, D. J.—As to the first ground, the contestant insists that affidavits of residence having been filed with the Clerk of the Peace, they must be considered as open to objection by any person contesting the granting of the certificates.

The act requires (by section 3) that every alien now residing in any part of this Dominion, and who, after a continued residence therein for a period of three years or upwards, has taken the oaths of residence and allegiance, and procured the same to be filed of record as thereafter prescribed, so as to entitle him to a certificate of naturalization as thereafter provided, shall thenceforth enjoy the rights of a natural-born subject.

Now, it will be noticed that no provision is made for filing of record the affidavits of residence and allegiance; the only thing required to be filed of record is the certificate of residence. Section 5 provides that this certificate shall be presented to the court on the first day of some general sittings thereof, and shall be read in open court; and that if the facts mentioned therein are not controverted, nor any other valid objection made to the naturalization, such certificate shall be filed of record on the last day of such general sittings. Here it will be seen that the mere lodging of the certificate is not to be considered as a filing thereof, such filing taking place only upon the order of the court on the last day of its sitting.

Again, the only certificate spoken of is one of residence alone (except, indeed, that mentioned in section 6, to which allusion will be made presently); and this appears from section 4, subsection 3, which provides that a justice of the peace, on being satisfied by evidence produced that the alien has been a resident of Canada for a continuous period of three years or upwards, and is a person of good character, shall grant to