

the last war, never dreaming, that, as aliens to Great Britain, and citizens of America, the Americans might hang them for treason. An act was passed in 1814, entitled "an act to declare certain persons therein described, aliens, and to invest their estates in his majesty" and it recited that "many persons, inhabitants of the United States of America, claiming to be subjects of his Majesty, and renewing their allegiance as such by oath, had solicited and received tracts of land from his majesty, or become seized of lands by inheritance, or otherwise, in the province, &c." From this act they could not doubt their right to leave the United States, claim to be subjects of His Majesty, renew their allegiance, if it had been suspended, hold lands and exercise the rights of subjects. They were, therefore, thunder struck, when, in 1825, they were pronounced aliens; that, as such they *could not hold lands*, and that all titles obtained by sales through them were so tainted as to be absolutely null and void; and also that, as aliens they could not exercise the elective franchise, or sit in the House of Assembly, although they had exercised those rights undisputed for thirty years. They were thrown into consternation; the province was up in arms, and nothing but the fear of their enemies and the patriotism of some of their public men, saved them from disfranchisement, and the country from ruin. This strange treatment, of inviting them there as subjects using them as such in war, and in peace making the great discovery that they were aliens, and calling into wanton dispute their political and civil rights, was rather cold evidence of their "endeared relations." Had they not much to envy in the country they left? Who can blame them for rising in arms? What rendered their circumstances the more keenly felt, was the reflection, that after all their personal efforts and sacrifices, during two wars, to maintain British supremacy; their acknowledged "endeared relations" to that supremacy, had no other effect, than finally in making them *aliens*. It was mortifying. And they felt it in the extreme. They could not, as one of them said, "look upon the morning sun, or follow its glorious course through the sky, without looking towards that prosperous family of republics, whom they, in the folly of their pride