Anno ſecundo

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XXV.

An Act for Naturalizing ſuch Foreign Proteſtants as have ſerved, or ſhall ſerve for the Time therein mentioned, as Officers or Soldiers in His Majeſty's Royal *American* Regiment, or as Engineers in *America*.



WHEREAS by an Act made in the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Second, intituled, An Act for Naturalizing ſuch Foreign Proteſtants, and others therein mentioned, as are ſettled, or ſhall ſettle, in any of His Majeſty's Colonies in *America*; all Perſons born out of the Legiance of His Majeſty, His Heirs, or Succeſſors, who ſhall have inhabited and reſided, or ſhall inhabit or reſide, for the Space of Seven Years, or more, in any of His Majeſty's Colonies in America, or ſhall not have been abſent out

Preamble, reciting Acts 13 *Geo.* II,

out of the ſaid Colonies, for a longer Space than Two Months at any One Time during the ſaid Seven Years, are, upon the Conditions preſcribed by the ſaid Act, Naturalized and made Partakers of all the Benefits and Privileges which the natural-born Subjects of this Realm do enjoy, other than ſuch as are ſpecified in a Proviſo in the ſaid Act contained: And whereas Commiſſions have been granted to a certain Number of Foreign Proteſtants in America, in purſuance of a Power given by a ſubſequent Act of the Twenty ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Second, intituled, An Act to enable His Majeſty to grant Commiſſions to a certain Number of Foreign Proteſtants, who have ſerved abroad as Officers or Engineers, to act and rank as Officers or Engineers in *America* only, under certain Reſtrictions and Qualifications; which ſaid Officers have been very uſeful to His Majeſty's Service, by the Raiſing of a great Number of Men, and training them to Diſcipline as Soldiers: And whereas ſeveral of the ſaid Officers, ſince the paſſing of the above recited Acts, have purchaſed Eſtates in America, by which, as well as by their faithful Services, they have given the ſtrongeſt Aſſurances of their Attachment and Fidelity to His Majeſty's Government: And whereas it is juſt to reward the paſt Services of the ſaid Officers and Soldiers, and to give Encouragement for their future good Conduct; and it is likewiſe expedient to add Inducements to ſuch Foreign Proteſtants as have ſettled, or may hereafter ſettle, in America, to engage in His Majeſty's Service; be it therefore enacted by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the ſame, That all ſuch Foreign Proteſtants, as well Officers as Soldiers, who have ſerved, or ſhall hereafter ſerve, in the Royal American Regiment, or as Engineers in America, for the Space of Two Years, and ſhall take and ſubſcribe the Oaths, and make, repeat, and ſubſcribe the Declaration appointed by an Act made in the Firſt Year of the Reign of

and 29 *Geo.* II.

Foreign Proteſtants ſerving in the Royal *American* Regiment, or as Engineers in *America*, for the Space of 2 Years, and qualifying themſelves as the Act 1 *Geo.* I. directs,

of His Majeſty King George the Firſt, intituled, An Act for the further Security of His Majeſty's Perſon and Government, and the Succeſſion of the Crown in the Heirs of the late Princeſs *Sophia*, being Proteſtants; and for extinguiſhing the Hopes of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, his open and ſecret Abettors; and ſhall, at the Time of ſubſcribing the ſaid Oaths, and making, repeating, and ſubſcribing the ſaid Declaration, produce Certificates, ſigned in Manner directed by the above recited Act of the Thirteenth of His late Majeſty, of their having received the Sacrament in ſome Proteſtant and Reformed Congregation within the Kingdom of Great Britain, or within ſome of the ſaid Colonies in America, within Six Months before that Time, ſhall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be, His Majeſty's natural-born Subjects of this Kingdom, to all Intents, Conſtructions, and Purpoſes, as if they, and every of them, had been or were born within this Kingdom; and that no Eſtates, of what Nature or Kind ſoever, purchaſed by them, or any of them, in any of His Majeſty's Colonies in America, ſince the paſſing of the above recited Act of the Twenty ninth Year of the Reign of His ſaid late Majeſty, ſhall be liable to Seizure into the Hands of His Majeſty, His Heirs, or Succeſſors, or their Titles thereto be otherwiſe impeached by reaſon of their having been Aliens at the Time of their making the ſaid Purchaſes; the above recited Acts, or any other Statute, Law, or Thing whatſoever to the contrary notwithſtanding.

and producing Certificates of their having received the Sacrament in ſome Proteſtant Church,

to be deemed natural-born Subjects;

and all Purchaſes made by them ſince the paſſing Act 29 *Geo.* II. declared to be valid.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend, to naturalize any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, who, by virtue of an Act made in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King George the Firſt (intituled, An Act to explain a Clauſe in an Act made in the Seventh Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, for Naturalizing Foreign Proteſtants, which relates to the Children of natural-born Subjects of the Crown of *England*, or of *Great Britain*) are declared and enacted not to be intitled to the Benefit of the ſaid Act of the Seventh Year of Her ſaid Majeſty's

None are to be deemed naturalized by this Act, who, by Act 4 *Geo.* I. are declared not to be intitled to the Benefit of the Act of 7 *Annæ*.

Reign; but that all ſuch Perſons ſhall be and remain in the ſame State, Plight, and Condition, to all Intents, Conſtructions, and Purpoſes whatſoever, as they would have been in if this Act had never been made; any thing herein contained to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

Perſons naturalized by this Act, not thereby capable of being Privy Counſellors, or Members of either Houſe of Parliament, or of holding Offices of Truſt, in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*.

Provided alſo, and be it further enacted, That no Perſon who ſhall become a natural-born Subject of this Kingdom by virtue of this Act, ſhall be thereby enabled to be of the Privy Council, or a Member of either Houſe of Parliament, or to be capable of taking, having, or enjoying, any Office or Place of Truſt within the Kingdoms of Great Britain or Ireland, either Civil or Military; or of having, accepting, or taking any Grant from the Crown to himſelf, or to any other in Truſt for him, of any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, within the Kingdoms aforeſaid; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding. 7

FINIS.