

ity in the status of naturalized subjects within the British Empire is the fact that the conditions of naturalization vary in the Dominions themselves: **Canada** requires residence for three years, Australia and South Africa for two, and New Zealand for no period at all. As the doctrine, "once a British subject always a British subject," does not hold with regard to persons naturalized under colonial laws, it follows that a foreigner naturalized in, say, **Canada** ceases to be a British subject when he returns to his own country. Immigrants from the United States become naturalized in great numbers in **Canada**, but as soon as they change their domicile back to the United States their original American citizenship revives ipso facto.

The appointment of Hon. George Perley as High Commissioner, if it takes place, will create a curious anomaly. Mr. Perley was born in New Hampshire, and he is a British subject in this Dominion by naturalization. If he becomes a resident of Great Britain he ceases to be a British subject, though he will represent **Canada** diplomatically at the capital of the Empire. Clearly some disentangling legislation should be enacted to put the whole question of naturalization on a more satisfactory footing, and from a recent discussion at the Royal Colonial Institute this seems likely to be secured. In the course of a discussion on a paper by Mr. J. Saxon Mills on the subject, the Chairman, Sir Gilbert Parker, who has been for many years a member of the British House of Commons, intimated that a bill prepared in consultation with the Dominion Governments will soon be dealt with and probably be passed by the British Parliament.

METHODS OF NATURALIZATION.

It has long been a subject of regret and complaint that there is great lack of uniformity among the methods by which a foreigner may become a British subject in different self-governing portions of the Empire. Under the British law enacted in 1870 residence for five years in the United Kingdom is made a condition of naturalization, and it seems to be accepted by experts that when a person has become a subject under this law he is a British subject everywhere, both within and without the Empire. Ever since the time of Charles II. Legislatures in the British colonies of America have been passing laws for the naturalization of **foreigners**, and in 1847 an Imperial Act was passed making such laws valid, but only within the particular colonies in which they are respectively enacted. The Act of 1870, following that of 1847, recognizes the right of the colonies to regulate naturalization within their own territories, but such naturalization does not enable those who obtain it to pass as "British subjects" throughout the Empire.

One obstacle in the way of securing uniform