

Philad^a Oct 24th 1840

Doct P. Cullen

My Dear Sir

In obedience to your request I have this day made very minute inquiry relative to the paper required by your brother, to enable him to complete the process of naturalization. It appears that no "declaration book" was kept in the office at the time your brother filed his intentions of becoming a citizen of these U States - and consequently, if he did make oath, there is no record of it. No other document except the one inclosed in your fav: of 21st can therefore be given - and it is herewith returned, to be used hereafter in some other manner - or in accordance with the following suggestion

Being very earnest in my exertions, I asked Judge King (Presiding Judge) what could be done. His reply was rather too professional to be accurately understood by me - but if I am not much mistaken, he stated that if Doct: S^r Cullen were personally present, his oath of naturalization could now be taken and the whole routine completed, on his swearing that he then (in 1817) did swear as required by law. He used the words "pro tunc" and seemed to intimate that if by any mistake of the clerk the declaration had been omitted, it could be supplied "as if then" recorded in due form

Now it strikes me that if my friend Doct. John is very earnest in his desire to become a citizen, he might do so by coming on here at once. Let him leave politics behind him, for nearly all our Judges are Administration men - and as it will only cost three days absence from Richmond, I think the sacrifice would not be a great one. It will give me pleasure to do all I can, in aid of his views. I cannot say positively whether the whole process may not be required to be gone through "de novo" but even in that case it may be as well to do it here, as in Richmond.

I beg you will say all manner of kind things to him & to all friends around you

Very truly Y^r friend

Henry Campbell

John Buller's report of him=
=self as an alien.

1840. Nov: 2^o admits a citizen.