

TO THE HONORABLE THE JUDGES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF BEAVER COUNTY.

THE PETITION of *John Bensing* a native of *Hesse Cassel* respectfully showeth: That he declared on *oath*, before the *Prothonotary* of *Beaver County* on the *13<sup>th</sup>* day of *September* 18*60* that it was *bona fide* his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the *King* of *Hesse Cassel* of whom he was at that time a *subject*.

*Eighteen years of age; that he has continued to reside in the U.S. since that period that for three years previous to his arrival at full age it was and still is his intent in Bona fide his intention to become a citizen of the U.S. and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the King of Hesse Cassel of whom he was at the time a subject*

that your petitioner has resided within the United States upwards of five years, and in the State of Pennsylvania one year, both periods immediately preceding this his application to become a citizen of the United States; and that he has never borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the orders of nobility in his own or any other country.

He therefore prays that, on his making the proof and taking the oath prescribed by law, he may be admitted a citizen of the United States of America. And he will ever pray, &c.

*John Bensing*

*Matthew Goodman* a citizen of the United States, being duly *Sworn* according to law, saith that he knows and is well acquainted with *John Bensing* the petitioner; that to his knowledge he has resided in the United States five years, and in the State of Pennsylvania one year, both periods immediately preceding his application to become a citizen; that during the said period of five years, he has behaved as a person of good moral character, attached to principles of the constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same.

*Sworn* in open Court.

*Walter G. G. G.*

*W. M. Deary*

Prothonotary.

*John Bensing*

I, *Matthew Goodman* do *swear* that the contents of my petition are true; that I will support the constitution of the United States; and I now renounce and relinquish any title or order of nobility to which am now or hereafter may be entitled; and I do absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the *King* of *Hesse Cassel* of whom I was before a *subject*.

Sworn in open court this *13* day of *Sept* 18*60*

*W. M. Deary* Prothonotary.