

ship in these Islands, it follows necessarily that his son, Jose, who like the former has ceased to be a Spaniard, has also become a citizen of the Islands:

*Held*, That the petitioner, Jose Arnaiz, is qualified to enter the examinations required for admission to the bar.

*Arellano, C. J., Torres, Mapa, Johnson, Carson, Willard, and Tracey, JJ.*

[706] In the matter of the application of JOSE VILLAPOL to enter the examinations for admission to the bar.

MANILA, March 7, 1908.

*Citizenship; Philippine Islands.*—The son of a Spaniard who while under parental authority preserved his parents' nationality and, on the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty of Paris between the United States and the Kingdom of Spain, was of age and lived aloof from his parents, was at liberty to abide by the law of the land; that is, in compliance with Article IX of said treaty, to recognize the new sovereignty of the Philippine Islands and to acquire the status of a person owing allegiance to the United States, and afterwards, according to the provisions of the act of Congress of July 1, 1902, to become a citizen of the Philippine Islands.

*Per Curiam:*

Whereas Jose Villapol, on the 5th instant, filed an application to enter the examinations for admission to the bar, alleging that, although he was born in Cuba, his parents were Spaniards, that while holding such status he came to these Islands, wherein he has resided ever since he was 12 years

old, that he has held positions under the Spanish Government and under the present Government, after having acquired the status of a Filipino citizen by virtue of the provisions of the treaty of Paris, which facts are supported by documents accompanying his application; and

Whereas, on the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty of Paris, the applicant was of age and was married, and furthermore said applicant, being a Spaniard who had not left the Islands and whose father departed in 1899, was capable of renouncing his nationality, of abiding by the law of the land and of acquiring afterwards the status of a Filipino citizen, because it has not been shown that said applicant, when he became of age, preferred his father's nationality, by making his declaration as a Spanish subject:

Therefore, he now has the status of a Filipino citizen, and in view of the fact that the applicant has the qualifications required by the rules, it is hereby held that he may enter the examinations provided for admission to the bar.

*Arellano, C. J., Torres, Mapa, Carson, Willard, and Tracey, JJ.*