

of this Colony with British Columbia, under such Constitution as Her Majesty's Government may be pleased to grant, is the means best adapted to prevent permanent causes of depression, as well as to stimulate trade, foster industry, develop our resources, augment our population, and ensure our permanent prosperity; and this House pledges itself, in case Her Majesty's Government shall grant such union, to ratify the same by legislative enactment, if required.

BRITISH
COLUMBIA
AND
VANCOUVER
ISLAND.

Resolved,—

That the above resolution be transmitted to his Excellency the Governor, with the respectful request that he may take the same into his earnest and immediate consideration.

(Signed)

R. W. TORRENS,

Clerk of the House.

Enclosure 2 in No. 6.

Enc. 2 in No. 6.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

EXTRACT from the MINUTES of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 2nd March 1865.

Mr. Finlayson, pursuant to notice, introduced the following resolutions, which were seconded by the Hon. Henry Rhodes:—

1. That Her most Gracious Majesty may be requested to annex the Colony of Vancouver Island to the Colony of British Columbia.

2. That Her most Gracious Majesty may be pleased to direct the passage of an Act of the Imperial Parliament to provide a constitutional mode of Government, with representation on the basis of population to the British possessions in the North Pacific.

The Treasurer handed in the following amendment to the proposed resolutions of the Hon. R. Finlayson:—

"That this Council regards it as undesirable to express an opinion as to the expediency or otherwise of uniting the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia."

The chairman having put the amendment of the Treasurer, the following were the Ayes and Noes:—
For the amendment—The Acting Colonial Secretary, the Acting Attorney General, the Treasurer, the Acting Surveyor General. Against the amendment—The Hon. R. Finlayson, the Hon. Henry Rhodes.

Amendment carried.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes gave notice that he would hand in a protest against the resolution.

Enclosure 3 in No. 6.

Enc. 3 in No. 6.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

EXTRACT from the MINUTES of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 6th March 1865.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes handed in the following protest, which was ordered to be placed on the minutes:—

To the Honourable the President of the Legislative Council.

We, the undersigned, being the only unofficial members of the Legislative Council present at the meeting on the 2nd instant, and being merchants in the city of Victoria, do protest against the resolution of the Legislative Council in regard to the union resolutions which then came up for discussion.

Because,

1st. The resolution—"That the Council regard it as undesirable to express an opinion as to the expediency or otherwise of uniting the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia" was carried by the official members of the Council only, who are at all times the majority of the said Council.

2nd. We consider it unwise and impolitic to postpone indefinitely the consideration of the subject, for the reason that we know the feeling of the Colony to be in favour of union of the Colonies, and that since the question has been so thoroughly considered recently and the entire community agitated upon the subject, the present is the most desirable time for decisive action in the matter.

That the postponement of the settlement of the question will greatly disturb commerce, prevent enterprise, and do much injury to both Colonies, while on the other hand the sooner the question is settled the better it must be for all the interests of both Colonies.

(Signed)

HENRY RHODES,
ROD. FINLAYSON.