

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty :

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN.

We, Your Majesty's Most dutiful and loyal subjects, and Commons of the Dominion of *Canada*, in Parliament assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty for the purpose of representing;

That during the First Session of the First Parliament of this Dominion We adopted an Address to Your Majesty praying that Your Majesty would be graciously pleased by and with the advice of Your Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, under the provisions of the 146 section of "The *British North America Act, 1867*," and on the terms specified in that Address to unite *Rupert's Land* and the North-West Territory with this Dominion, and to grant to the Parliament of *Canada* authority to legislate for their future welfare and good government, and assuring Your Majesty of the willingness of the Parliament of *Canada* to assume the duties and obligations of Government and Legislation as regards those Territories.

That our Joint Address was duly laid at the foot of the Throne, and that Your Majesty, by despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor General of *Canada*, under date of 23rd of April, 1868, signified Your Majesty's willingness to comply with the prayer of the said Address, but that Your Majesty was advised that the requisite powers of Government and Legislation could not, consistently with the existing charter of the *Hudson Bay Company*, be transferred to *Canada* without an Act of Parliament, which Act was subsequently passed by the Imperial Parliament, and received Your Majesty's Assent on the 31st July, 1868.

That by a despatch, dated 8th August, 1868, from the Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Governor General was informed that, in pursuance of the powers conferred by the Act for the surrender of the *Hudson Bay Territories* to Your Majesty, he proposed to enter into negotiations with the Company as to the terms of such surrender, whereupon, under authority of an order of the Governor General in Council of the 1st Oct., 1868, the Honorable Sir *George Et. Cartier*, Baronet, and the Honorable *William McDougall*, C. B., were appointed a Delegation to *England*, to arrange the terms for the acquisition by *Canada* of *Rupert's Land*, and by another Order in Council of the same date, were authorized to arrange for the admission of the North-West Territory into Union with *Canada*, either with or without *Rupert's Land*, as it might be found practicable and expedient.

That the Delegates proceeded on their mission to *England* and entered into negotiations with His Grace the Duke of *Buckingham and Chandos*, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, and afterwards with the Right Honorable Earl *Granville*, his successor in office, for the acquisition by *Canada* of the territorial and other rights claimed by the *Hudson Bay Company* in *Rupert's Land* and in any other part of *British North America* not comprised in *Rupert's Land, Canada* or *British Columbia*. That terms of agreement were conditionally assented to by the Delegates on behalf of the Dominion, and on their return to *Canada*, were submitted with a report, dated 8th May, 1869, which was approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 14th day of the same month.

That we humbly deem it expedient to accept the transfer of the Territorial and other rights of the *Hudson Bay Company* in *Rupert's Land*, and in any other part of *British North America*, not comprised in *Rupert's Land, Canada*, or *British Columbia*, on the terms conditionally agreed to on behalf of the Government of *Canada*, by the Honorable Sir *George Et. Cartier*, Baronet, and the Honorable *William McDougall*, C. B., and on behalf of the *Hudson Bay Company*, by Sir *Stafford H. Northcote*, Governor of that Company, and approved by His Excellency in Council as aforesaid—which terms are set forth in a letter from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, of the 9th of March, 1869, communicated to the Delegates by direction of Earl *Granville*, and in two subsequent Memorandums, dated respectively 22nd and 29th March, 1869, containing a modification of such terms—and are in the words and figures following:

Terms, as stated in the Letter from Sir Frederic Rogers, of 9th March, 1869.

1. The *Hudson Bay Company* to surrender to Her Majesty all the rights of Government, property, &c., in *Rupert's Land*, which are specified in 31 and 32 *Vic.*, c. 105, sec. 4;