

SERIES OF RESOLUTIONS

Respecting the Admission of British Columbia into Union with Canada, to be proposed by Sir George Et. Cartier.

Resolved :—1. That by a despatch from the Governor of British Columbia, dated 23rd January, 1871, with other papers laid before this House by message from His Excellency the Governor General, of the 27th February last, this House learns that the Legislative Council of that Colony, in Council assembled, adopted in January last an Address representing to Her Majesty that British Columbia was prepared to enter into union with the Dominion of Canada, upon the terms and conditions mentioned in the said address, which is as follows :—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN :

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Members of the Legislative Council of British Columbia in Council assembled, humbly approach Your Majesty for the purpose of representing :—

That, during the last Session of the late Legislative Council, the subject of the admission of the Colony of British Columbia into the Union or Dominion of Canada was taken into consideration, and a Resolution on the subject was agreed to, embodying the terms upon which it was proposed that this Colony should enter the Union ;

That, after the close of the Session, Delegates were sent by the Government of this Colony to Canada, to confer with the Government of the Dominion with respect to the admission of British Columbia into the Union upon the terms proposed ;

That, after considerable discussion by the Delegates with the Members of the Government of the Dominion of Canada, the Terms and Conditions hereinafter specified were adopted by a Committee of the Privy Council of Canada, and were by them reported to the Governor General for his approval ;

That such Terms were communicated to the Government of this Colony by the Governor General of Canada, in a Despatch dated July 7th, 1870, and are as follows :—

1. Canada shall be liable for the Debts and Liabilities of British Columbia existing at the time of the Union.

2. British Columbia not having incurred debts equal to those of the other Provinces now constituting the Dominion, shall be entitled to receive, by half-yearly payments in advance from the General Government, Interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum on the difference between the actual amount of its indebtedness at the date of the Union, and the indebtedness per head of the population of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick (\$27.77), the population of British Columbia being taken at 60,000.

3. The following sums shall be paid by Canada to British Columbia for the support of its Government and Legislature, to wit, an Annual Subsidy of \$85,000 and an Annual Grant equal to 80 cents per head of the said population of 60,000, both half-yearly in advance, such Grant of 80 cents per head to be augmented in proportion to the increase of population, as may be shewn by each subsequent decennial census, until the population amounts to 400,000, at which rate such Grant shall thereafter remain, it being understood that the first census be taken in the year 1881.

4. The Dominion will provide an efficient Mail Service, fortnightly, by steam communication between Victoria and San Francisco, and twice a week between Victoria and Olympia ; the Vessels to be adapted for the conveyance of freight and passengers.

5. Canada will assume and defray the charges for the following Services :—