

Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory.

Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the Governor General of Canada, under date of 23rd of April, 1868, signified Her willingness to comply with the prayer of the said Address; but She was advised that the requisite powers of government and legislation could not, consistently with the existing charter of the Hudson's Bay Company, be transferred to Canada without an Act of Parliament, which Act was subsequently passed by the Imperial Parliament, and received Her Majesty's Assent on the 31st July, 1868.

Resolved,—That by despatch dated 8th August, 1868, from the Honorable 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 Her 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 October, 1868, the Honorable Sir George Et. Cartier, Baronet, and the Honorable William MacDougall, 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.

Resolved,—That the Delegates proceeded on their mission to England and entered into negotiations with his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, the 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's 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 in Council, on the 14th day of the same month.

Resolved,—That the Senate will be prepared to concur in accepting the transfer of the territorial and other rights of the Hudson's 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 Hon. Sir George Et. Cartier, Baronet, and the Hon. William MacDougall, C.B., and on behalf of the Hudson's 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 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 March, 1869

"1. The Hudson's Bay Company to surrender to Her Majesty all the rights of Government, property, &c., in Rupert's Land which are specified in 31 & 32
Vict.,