

RESOLUTIONS

ON THE PROPOSED CONFEDERATION OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES.

Printed by Order of the House of Assembly.

(Moved by the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, 24th March, 1865.)

1. *Resolved*, That the best interests, and present and future prosperity of British North America, would be promoted by a Federal Union, under the Crown of Great Britain, provided such Union could be effected on principles just to the several Provinces and Colonies.

2. *Resolved*, That the existence of immense Military and Naval forces in the neighboring Republic, renders it specially incumbent on the people of British North America to take the most efficient precautionary measures by which their independence against Foreign aggression may be secured.

3. *Resolved*, That a Union, such as in times of extraordinary danger would place the Militia, the Revenues, and the Resources of the several Provinces, at the disposal of a General Parliament, is necessary, in order to maintain the independence of British North America against foreign aggression, and to perpetuate our connection with the Mother Country.

4. *Resolved*, That a Federal Union of British North America, based upon the Resolutions adopted at the Conference of Delegates from the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and the Colonies of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, held at the City of Quebec, 10th October, 1864, as the basis of a proposed Confederation of those Provinces and Colonies, would, among other advantages, promote the developement of the Trade and Manufacturing capabilities of these Provinces and Colonies, and advance the General Prosperity, by inducing the substitution

of a Customs Tariff, uniform and common to the Confederation; in lieu of the various Tariffs now in force in the several Provinces and Colonies.

5. *Resolved*, That the Report of the Conference of Delegates from the British North American Provinces and Colonies held at Quebec in October last, taken as a whole, contains a declaration of principles—as the basis of a Federal Union—which this House considers just to the several Provinces and Colonies.

6. *Resolved*, That this House, believing it is only by mutual concessions and compromises the several British North American Provinces and Colonies can ever agree upon those principles which shall form the basis of a Union, orders that the report of the Conference of Delegates from these several Provinces and Colonies held at Quebec in October last, be published throughout this Colony for the deliberate consideration of the people, on whom will devolve the acceptance or rejection of the proposed Union.

7. *Resolved*, That until the larger Maritime Provinces and Canada shall have mutually agreed upon terms of Union, it is inexpedient that the People of Prince Edward Island should be called upon to decide on the question.

8. *Resolved*, That in case the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Canada, should at any time mutually agree upon the basis of a Union, the question be then forthwith submitted to the decision of the People of this Island.