

## APPENDIX No. 24.

### MARITIME PROVINCES.

(COPY.)

*Government House, Halifax, N. S.,  
5th February, 1864.*

SIR,—

I have the honor to bring under the notice of your Excellency the following extract from the speech addressed to the Legislature of this Province, on the 4th instant, relating to the proposed union of the three maritime Provinces, in the hope that corresponding action may be taken by the government of New Brunswick.

“The importance of consolidating the influence and advancing the common progress of the three maritime Provinces, whose interests are so closely identified, has for some time attracted a large share of public attention; and I propose to submit, for your consideration, a proposition, in which the co-operation of the Government of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island will be invited, with a view to the union of the three Provinces under one Government and Legislature.”

In accordance with the announcement thus made, the Government propose to submit to the Legislature a resolution authorizing the appointment of delegates, to confer with delegates who may be appointed by the Government of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, for the purpose of arranging such preliminaries as may be considered necessary for the union of the three Provinces under one Government and Legislature, such action to take effect only when confirmed by the Legislatures of the three Provinces, and approved by her Majesty the Queen.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HASTINGS DOYLE.

His Excellency the  
HON. A. GORDON, C. M. G.

A similar despatch was transmitted to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor of Prince Edward Island.

(COPY.)

*Fredericton, N. B., 17th February, 1864.*

SIR,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 5th inst., and beg to assure your Excellency that the important subject to which it relates will receive the best attention of my responsible advisers. I may venture to suggest to your Excellency that it would be desirable that the words of the resolutions referred to in your Excellency's despatch should be agreed upon, in common by the governments interested, previously to their introduction, in order that they may be presented in precisely the same form to each of the three Legislatures

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) ARTHUR H. GORDON.

His Excellency the Administrator of the  
Government of Nova Scotia.