

VANCOUVER  
ISLAND.

The constitution of the Legislative Assembly of this Colony, whether as regards character or capacity, is I think very unfortunate, and I fear that few persons possessing any self-respect will be found willing at any time to undergo the ordeal necessary to an election to a seat in the House.

I will not further occupy your time than by begging you to believe that I have exercised my best judgment and endeavoured to pursue an impartial course in this matter, and by expressing a hope that the course I have adopted will meet your approval.

I have, &amp;c.

Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.  
&c.                      &c.                      &c.

(Signed)

A. E. KENNEDY,  
Governor.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 4.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

## RESOLUTIONS passed the Legislative Assembly 15th June 1866.

The House of Assembly of Vancouver Island, having considered the condition of the Colony, is of opinion,—

1st. That the country suffers intensely from causes in a great measure attributable to the continued separation of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, and to the very expensive and irresponsible character of the government of both colonies.

2nd. That the population of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, which, exclusive of Indians, does not exceed 10,000 persons, and cannot, with its other weighty liabilities, afford more than a salary of 2,000/. for a Governor, with proportionate salaries for necessary heads of departments.

3rd. In view of the above facts, the house is of opinion that nothing short of immediate union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, under a constitution apportioning representation according to population, and giving to the people's representatives control over the mode and amount of taxation and expenditure, can stay the rapid decline of both countries, and restore the confidence of the public.

4th. The House, in transmitting the above to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, feeling deeply the injury which both Vancouver Island and British Columbia are sustaining from the present state of uncertainty and suspense on the question of union, would respectfully ask for a reply by telegraph as to the intentions of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the matter during the present session of the Imperial Parliament.

Ordered, That the above resolutions be transmitted to his Excellency the Governor, praying that he will cause the same to be telegraphed forthwith to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

R. W. Torrens,  
Clerk of the House.

(Signed) J. S. HELMCKEN,  
Speaker.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

(No. 24.)

Vancouver's Island, Government House,  
Victoria, 18th June 1866.

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of four Resolutions on the "state of the Colony" which passed the Legislative Assembly on the 15th June 1866, accompanied by a request that I would cause the same to be telegraphed forthwith to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I apprehend that any Resolutions of one branch of the Legislature, having for their object a change in the form of government, and union of this Colony with British Columbia, would be valueless without the concurrence of the other branches of the Legislature, and that I should render myself responsible for the establishment of an irregular and inexpedient precedent if I transmitted these Resolutions (passed, as I understand, in secret session) without affording the Legislative Council an opportunity of expressing an opinion upon them.

I am directed by the instructions laid down for my guidance to accompany all communications entrusted to me for transmission to Her Majesty's Government by such report as their contents may appear to require. This manifestly cannot be done by telegram.

I have now submitted these Resolutions to the Legislative Council, and on receiving the opinion of that body will lose no time in transmitting them, with my report thereon, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, Governor.