

SUPPLEMENT TO THE  
**Victoria Prices Current & Shipping List.**

RESOLUTIONS & EXPLANATORY REPORT OF THE  
**VICTORIA, V. I., CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.**

The following resolutions with an annexed explanatory report have been recently handed to His Excellency the Governor for transmission to the Home Government

Chamber of Commerce, }  
Victoria, V. I., 9th March, 1865. }

HENRY WAKEFIELD, Esq.  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Sir:—Herewith I have the honor to hand you a series of resolutions and a report relative thereto, passed unanimously at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 6th instant, and signed by the members.

On behalf of the Chamber I have to beg that you will be kind enough to lay these resolutions before His Excellency the Governor with the request that His Excellency will be pleased to comply with the prayer therein contained, and to transmit the documents to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Signed)

JULIUS DAVID  
*President of the Chamber of Commerce.*  
A. F. MAIN,  
*Secretary.*

Victoria, V. I., }  
March 6th, 1865. }

The committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce to draft a series of resolutions on the subject of union with British Columbia as viewed in connection with the new tariff, respectfully submit the following resolutions and report for the consideration of the Chamber.

*Resolved.* 1. That an equitable union of the Colonies of British Columbia and Vancouver Island at as early a date as possible is essential to the maintenance of Imperial and local interest in the British Possessions on the North Pacific.

2. That the Chamber of Commerce adheres nevertheless to its Resolutions on the subject of the free Port lately adopted, believing the interests of the two colonies whether united or separate will be best maintained by the preservation in its integrity in this Island of the Free Trade policy hitherto pursued.

3. That these resolutions with the annexed report be signed by the whole of the members of the Chamber of Commerce and transmitted by the President to His Excellency the Governor with the prayer

that they may be forwarded for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the resolutions of the House of Assembly on the same subject.

JAMES LOWE.

Vice Pres't & Chairman of the Committee  
Passed unanimously at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 6th March, 1865.

In adopting the foregoing resolutions, the Members of the Chamber of Commerce of Victoria, V. I., representing as they do the chief part of the capital that has been invested in the joint development of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, deem it proper to place on record the facts and circumstances that necessitate their present expression of opinion.

Prior to the year 1858 the British possessions in the North Pacific attracted but slight attention; the trading posts and forts of the Hudson Bay Company, and a few farming establishments on Vancouver Island under their control, being the only inducements for commerce, which therefore remained entirely in the hands of the Company, by whom Vancouver Island was then held under a charter from the Crown.

The discovery of gold on the river Fraser in 1858, and the large floating population it attracted chiefly from California and Oregon, gave an entirely new impetus to commerce. Merchants and traders followed the new community, with capital and enterprise, to supply its requirements in the quickest manner and form the most convenient point.

The action of the Hudson Bay company in its corporate capacity, as well as of the several members in their individual interests, proves conclusively that from the first the Mainland and Vancouver Island were regarded as identical, and their separation as a temporary condition of Imperial policy, arising out of the grant of the Island to the Company.

Victoria, as early as 1818, was selected by the Hudson Bay Company as the most eligible spot for carrying on business in North West America to the best advantage, and the merchants who followed them in 1858 ratified the wisdom of that choice.

It should be borne in mind that there were many reasons why American merchants should have settled by preference