

year were agreed to, must necessitate a supplementary vote for that service; and that the estimate for this purpose, which His Excellency may direct to be laid before us, shall receive our prompt attention.

9. That we are happy to learn that His Excellency finds himself in a position to inform us that the financial legislation of the last Session has been attended with beneficial results, and that the Revenue has largely increased, and there has been a contemporaneous extension of the trade of the Province.

10. That the Estimates for the next financial year which His Excellency has directed to be laid before us, shall receive our most careful consideration, and that we do not doubt that we shall find that they have been framed with a due attention to economy combined with efficiency.

11. That we have not ceased to bear in mind, that at the close of the last Session of Parliament His Excellency graciously informed us, that it was his intention, in conjunction with his Ministers, to prepare and submit to us a measure for the solution of the constitutional problem, the discussion of which has for some years agitated this Province.

12. That we receive from His Excellency, with the most profound attention, the announcement, that a careful consideration of the general position of *British North America* induced the conviction that the circumstances of the times afforded the opportunity, not merely for the settlement of a question of Provincial politics, but also for the simultaneous creation of a new Nationality;—that preliminary negotiations were opened by His Excellency with the Lieutenant Governors of the other Provinces of *British North America*, and that the result was that a meeting was held at *Quebec*, in the month of October last, composed of delegates from those Colonies, representing all shades of political party in their several communities, nominated by the Lieutenant Governors of their respective Provinces, who assembled here, with the sanction of the Crown, and at His Excellency's invitation, to confer with the members of the Canadian Ministry on the possibility of effecting a Union of all the Provinces of *British North America*;—that this Conference, after lengthened deliberations, arrived at the conclusion that a Federal Union of these Provinces was feasible and desirable, and the result of its labors is a plan of Constitution for the proposed Union, embodied in a series of resolutions, which, with other papers relating to the subject, His Excellency has directed to be laid before us;—and that the general design of a Union, and the particular plan by which it is proposed to carry that intention into effect, have both received the cordial approbation of the Imperial Government.

13. That inasmuch as an Imperial Act of Parliament will be necessary in order to give effect to the contemplated Union of the Colonies, we are gratified to learn from His Excellency, that he has been officially informed by the Secretary of State that Her Majesty's Ministers will be prepared to introduce a Bill for that purpose into the Imperial Parliament, so soon as they shall have been notified that the proposal has received the sanction of the Legislatures representing the several Provinces affected by it.

14. That His Excellency may rest assured that in giving our attention to this subject, the importance of which, to ourselves and to our descendants, it is impossible to exaggerate, we shall bestow upon it our calm, earnest and impartial consideration.

15. That we receive with deference the expression of His Excellency conviction, that with the public men of *British North America* it now rests to decide whether the vast tract of country which they inhabit shall be consolidated into a State, combining within its area all the elements of National greatness, providing for the security of its component parts, and contributing to the strength and stability of the Empire; or whether the several Provinces of which it is constituted shall remain in their present fragmentary and isolated condition, comparatively powerless for mutual aid, and incapable of undertaking their proper share of Imperial responsibility.

16. And that we unite with His Excellency in the fervent prayer, that in the discussion of an issue of such moment, our minds may be guided to conclusions which shall redound to the honor of our Sovereign, and to the welfare of Her subjects.

*Ordered*, That the Question be put upon each paragraph of the said motion.

And the first to the eleventh paragraphs inclusive, being again read, were agreed to.