

REPORT

Of Resolutions adopted at a 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.

The best interests and present and future prosperity of British North America will be promoted by a Federal Union under the Crown of Great Britain, provided such

Union can be effected on principles just to the several Provinces. 2. In the Federation of the British North American Provinces, the system of Government best adapted, under existing circumstances, to protect the diversified interests of the several Provinces, and secure efficiency, harmony, and permanency in the working of the Union, would be a General Government charged with matters of common interest to the whole Country, and Local Governments for each of the Canadas and for the Provinces of Nova Scotian New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island) charged with the -provision being made for the admission

into the Union, on equitable terms, of Newfoundland, the North-West Territory British Columbia, and Vancouver. 3. In framing a Constitution for the General Government, the Conference, with a view to the perpetuation of our connection with the Mother Country, and to the promotion of the best interests of the people of these Provinces, desire to follow the model of

control of local natters in their respective sections,

the British Constitution, so far as our circumstances will permit. The Executive Authority or Government shall be vested in the Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and be administered according to the well understood principles of the British Constitution, by the Sovereign personally, or by the

Representative of the Sovereign, duly authorized.

5. The Sovereign, or Representative of the Sovereign, shall be Commander in Chief of the Land and Naval Militia Forces.

6. There shall be a General Legislature, or Parliament, for the Federated Provinces, composed of a Legislative Council and a House of Commons.

7. For the purpose of forming the Legislative Council, the Federated Provinces shall be considered as consisting of three divisions: 1st-Upper Canada; 2nd-Lower Canada; 3rd—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island—each division with an equal representation in the Legislative Council.

8. Upper Canada shall be represented in the Legislative Council by 24 Members, Lower Canada by 24 Members, and the Maritime Provinces by 24 Members, of which Nova Scotia shall have ten, New Brunswick ten, and Prince Edward Island four Members.

Members.

9. The Colony of Newfoundland shall be entitled to enter the proposed Union with a representation in the Legislative Council of four members. 10. The North-West Territory, British Columbia, and Vancouver, shall be admitted into the Union on such terms and conditions as the Parliament of the Federated Provinces shall deem equitable, and as shall receive the assent of Her Majesty; and in the case of the Province of British Columbia or Vancouver, as shall be agreed to by the Legisla-

ture of such Province.

11. The Members of the Legislative Council shall be appointed by the Crown under the Great Seal of the General Government and shall hold office during Life. If any Legislative Councillor shall, for two consecutive Sessions of Parliament, fail to give his attendance in the said Council, his seat shall thereby become vacant. What where the legislative Council shall be British Subjects by Birth or Naturalization, of the full age of Thirty Years, shall possess a continuous real property qualification of four thousand dollars over and above all incumbrances, and shall be and continue worth that sum over and above their deltas and dishilities; but in the case of Newture of such Province.

continue worth that sum over and above their debts and liabilities; out in the case of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island the property may be either real or tersonal 13. If any question shall arise as to the qualification of a Legislative Councillor,

the same shall be determined by the Council.

The first selection of the Members of the Legislative Council shall be made, except as regards Prince Edward Island) from the Legislative Councils of the various sog far as a sufficient number be found qualified and willing to serve; such

Members shall be appointed by the Crown at the recommendation of the General Executive Government, upon the nomination of the respective Local Governments,—and in such nomination, due regard shall be had to the claims of the Members of the Legislative Council of the Opposition in each Province, so that all political parties may, as nearly as

possible, be fairly represented.

15. The Speaker of the Legislative Council (unless otherwise provided by Parliament) shall be appointed by the Crown from among the Members of the Legislative Council, and shall hold office during pleasure, and shall only be entitled to a casting

vote on an equality of votes.

Each of the twenty-four Legislative Councillors representing Lower Canada in the Legislative Council of the General Legislature, shall be appointed to represent one of the twenty-four Electoral Divisions mentioned in Schedule A of Chapter First of the Conselidated Statutes of Canada, and such Councillor shall reside or possess his qualification in the Division he is appointed to represent,

17. The Basis of Representation in the House of Commons shall be Population, as determined by the Official Census every ten years; and the number of Members at first shall be 191, distributed as follows:—

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Upper Canada		82
Lower 'Canada		65
Nova Scotia		19
Newfoundland		8
and Prince Edward Island	1	5
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Until the Official Census of 1871 has been made up, there shall be no change in the number of Representatives from the several sections.

19. Immediately after the completion of the Census of 1871, and immediately after and every Decennial Census thereafter, the Representation from each section in the House of

Commons shall be re-adjusted on the basis of Population.

20. For the purpose of such re-adjustments, Lower Canada shall always be assigned sixty-five Members, and each of the other sections shall at each re-adjustment receive, for the ten years then next succeeding, the number of Members to which it will be entitled on the same ratio of Representation to Population as Lower Canada will enjoy according to the Census last taken by having sixty-five members.

21. No reduction shall be made in the number of Members returned by any section, unless its population shall have decreased relatively to the population of the whole Union,

to the extent of five per centum.

22. In computing at each decennial period, the number of Members to which each section is entitled, no fractional parts shall be considered, unless when exceeding one-half the number entitling to a Member, in which case a Member shall be given for each such fractional part.

23. The Legislature of each Province shall divide such Province into the proper number of constituencies and define the boundaries of each of them.

24. The Issail Legislature of each Province may from time to time after the Electoral Districts for the purposes of Representation in the Royal of Company, and distribute the representatives to which the Province is entitled in any manner such Legislature may think of think fit

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25. The number of Members may at any time be increased by the General Parliament, regard being had to the proportionate rights then existing.

26. Until provisions are made by the General Parliament, all the Laws which, at the date of the Proclamation constituting the Union, are in force in the Provinces respectively, relating to the qualification and disqualification of any person to be elected or to sit or vote as a Member of the Assembly in the said Provinces respectively, and relating to the qualification or disqualification of voters, and to the oaths to be taken by voters and to Returning Officers and their powers and dation and relating to the proceedvoters, and to Returning Officers and their powers and duties, and relating to the proceedings at Elections, and to the period during which such Elections may be continued, and relating to the Trial of Controverted Elections, and the proceedings incident thereto, and relating to the vacating of seats of Members, and to the issuing and execution of new Writs in case of any seat being vacated otherwise than by a dissolution,—shall respectively apply to Elections of Members to serve in the House of Commons for places situate in those Provinces respectively.

Every House of Commons shall continue for five years from the day of the return of the Writs choosing the same, and no longer,—subject, nevertheless, to be sooner prorogued or dissolved by the Governor.

28. There shall be a Session of the General Parliament once at least in every year, that a period of welve calendar months shall not intervene between the last sitting of the General Parliament in one Session and the first sitting thereof in the next Session.

The General Parliament shall have power to make laws for the peace; welfare, and good Government of the Federated Provinces (saving the Sovereignty of England), and especially Laws respecting the following subjects:-

The Public Debt and Property.

The Regulation of Trade and Commerce.

The Imposition or regulation of Duties of Customs on Imports and Exports except on Exports of Timber, Logs, Masts, Spars, Deals, and Sawn Lumber, and of Coal and other Minerals.

The imposition or regulation of Excise Duties. 4.

The raising of Money by all or any other modes or systems of Taxation. 5.

The Borrowing of Money on the Public Credit. 6.

Postal Service.

8. Lines of Steam or other Ships, Railways, Canals, and other works, connecting any two or more of the Provinces together, or extending beyond the limits of any Province.

Lines of Steamships between the Federated Provinces and other Countries. a. 10. Telegraphic Communication and the incorporation of Telegraph Companies.

11. All such works as shall, although lying wholly within any Province, be specially declared by the Acts authorizing them to be for the general advantage.

12. The Census.

13. Militia-Military and Naval Service and Defence.

14. Beacons, Buoys, and Light Houses.

Navigation and Shipping. 15.

16. Quarantine.

17. Sea Coast and Inland Fisheries.

Ferries between any Province and a Foreign Country, or between any two Provinces

19. Currency and Coinage.

Banking-Incorporation of Banks and the issue of Paper Money. 20

21. Savings Banks.

.).) Weights and Measures.

23. Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. 24.

Interest. 25. Legal Tender.

26. Bankruptcy and Insolvency.

27. Patents of Invention and Discovery.

28 Copy Rights.

29. Indians and Lands reserved for the Indians.

30. Naturalization and Aliens.

31. Marriage and Divorce.

32. The Criminal Law, excepting the Constitution of Courts of Criminal Jurisdiction, but including the procedure on Criminal matters. 33.

Rendering uniform all or any of the laws relative to property and civil rights in Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island, and rendering uniform the procedure of all or any of the Courts in these Provinces; but any Statute for this purpose shall have no force or authority in any Province until sanctioned by the Legislature thereof.

The Establishment of a General Court of Appeal for the Federated Provinces.

35. Immigration.

Agriculture.

And Generally respecting all matters of a general character, not specially and exclusively reserved for the Local Governments and Legislatures.

30. The General Government and Parliament shall have all powers necessary or proper for performing the obligations of the Federated Provinces, as part of the British Empire, to Foreign Countries, arising under Treaties between Great Britain and such Countries.

The General Parliament may also, from time to time, establish additional Courts, and the General Government may appoint Judges and Officers thereof when the same shall appear necessary or for the public advantage, in order to the due execution of the law of Parliament. Which is a several Provinces shall aid, assist, and

obey the General Government in the exercise of its rights and powers, and for such purposes shall be held to be Courts, Judges, and Officers of the General Government.

33. The General Government shall appoint and pay the Judges of the Superior Courts in each Province, and of the County Courts of Upper Canada, and Parliament

shall fix their salaries

34. Until the Consolidation of the Laws of Upper Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island, the Judges of these Provinces appointed by the General Government shall be selected from their respective Bars

35. The Judges of the Courts of Lower Canada shall be selected from the Bar of

Lower Canada.

The Judges of the Court of Admiralty new receiving salaries shall be paid by the 36. General Government. The Judges of the Superior Courts shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall be removable only on the Address of both Houses of Parliament.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

For each of the Provinces there shall be an Executive Officer, styled the Lieu-38. fement Governor, who shall be appointed by the Governor General in Council, under the Great Seal of the Federated Provinces, during pleasure,—such pleasure not to be exercised before the expiration of the first five years, except for cause; such cause to be communicated in writing to the Lieutenest Governor immediately after the exercise of the pleasure as aforesaid, and also by message to both Houses of Parliament within the first week of the first Session afterwards.

eutenant Governor of each Province shall be paid by the General 39. The L

Government.

40. In undertaking to pay the salaries of the Lieutenant Governors, the Conference does not desire to prejudice the claim of Prince Edward Island upon the Imperial Government for the amount now paid for the salary of the Lieutenant Governor thereof.

41. The Local Government and Legislature of the Conference shall be constructed in such manner as the existing Legislature of the Conference shall be constructed in the Conference shall be constructed in such manner as the existing Legislature of the Conference shall be constructed in the Conference shall be conference to the Conference shall be constructed in the Conference shall be conference shall be constructed in the Conf

42. The Local Legislatures shall have power to alter or amend their constitution from time to time.

The Local Legislatures shall have power to make laws respecting the following 43. subjects:

1. Direct Taxation and imposition of Duties on the Export of Timber, Logs. Masts, Spars, Deals, and Sawn Lumber, and of Coals and other Minerals.

Borrowing Money on the credit of the Province.

The establishment and tenure of Local Offices, and the appointment and payment of local Officers.

Agriculture.

Immigration.

Saving the rights and privileges which the Protestant or Catholic Education—saving the rights and privileges which the Protestant or Catholic minority is both Canadas may possess as to their Denominational Schools, at the time when the Union goes into operation.

The sale and management of Public Lands, excepting Lands belonging to the General Government.

Coast and Inland Fisheries.

The establishment, maintenance, and management of Penitentiaries, Public and Reformatory Prisons.

The establishment, maintenance, and management of Hospitals, Asylums, 10. Charities, and Eleemosynary Institutions.

Municipal Institutions:

Shop, Saloon, Tavern, Auctioneer, and other Licenses. Local Works. 12.

13.

The incorporation of private or local Companies, except such as relate to matters assigned to the General Parliament.

Property and civil rights, excepting those portions thereof assigned to the 15. General Parliament.

Inflicting punish rent by fine, penalties, imprisonment, or otherwise for the breach of laws passed in relation to any subject within their jurisdiction.

Administration of Justice, including the Constitution, maintenance, 17. and organization of the Courts-both of Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction, and including also the Procedure in Civil Matters.

And generally all matters of a private or local nature, not assigned to the 18. General Parliament.

44. The power of respiting, reprieving, and pardoning prisoners convicted of crimes, and of commuting and remitting of sentences in whole or in part, which belongs of right





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to the Crown, shall be administered by the Lieutenant Governor of each Province in Council, subject to any instructions he may from time to time receive from the General Government, and subject to any provisions that may be made in this behalf by the General Parliament/

MISCELLANEOUS.

45. In regard to all subjects over which jurisdiction belongs to both the General and Local Legislatures, the laws of the General Parliament shall control and supersede those made by the Local Legislature, and the latter shall be void so far as they are repuguant to or inconsistent with the former.

46. Both the English and French languages may be employed in the General Parliament and in its proceedings, and in the Local Legislature of Lower Canada, and

also in the Federal Courts and in the Courts of Lower Canada.

47. No lands or property belonging to the General or Local Government shall be liable to taxation.

48. All Bills for appropriating any part of the Public Revenue, or for imposing any Tax or Impost, shall originate in the House of Commons or the House of Assembly,

as the case may be.

49. The House of Commons or House of Assembly shall not originate or pass any Vote, Resolution, Address, or Bill, for the appropriation of any part of the Public Revenue, or of any Tax or Impost to any purpose, not first recommended by Message of the Governor General or the Lientenant Governor, as the case may be, during the Session in which such Vote, Resolution, Address or Bill is passed.

50. Any Bill of the General Parliament may be reserved in the usual manner for Her Majesty's Assent, and any Bill of the Local Legislatures may in like manner be reserved for the consideration of the Governor General.

51. Any Bill passed by the General Parliament shall be subject to disallowance by Her Majesty within two years, as in the case of Bills passed by the Legislatures of the said Provinces hitherto; and in like manner any Bill passed by a Local Legislature shall be subject to disallowance by the Governor General within one year after the passing thereof.

52. The Seat of Government of the Federated Provinces shall be Ottawa, subject to

the Royal Prerogative.

53. Subject to any future action of the respective Local Governments, the Seat of the Local Government in Upper Canada shall be Toronto; of Lower Canada, Quebec; and the Seats of the Local Governments in the other Provinces shall be as at present.

PROPERTY AND LIABILITIES.

54. All Stocks, Cash, Bankers' Balances and Securities for Money belonging to each Province, at the time of the Union, except as hereinafter mentioned, shall belong to the General Government.

The following Public Works and Property of each Province shall belong to the General Government, to wit:

Public Harbours.

Light Houses and Piers. Steamboats, Dredges, and Public Vessels.

River and Lake Improvements.

Railway and Railway Stocks, Mortgages and other Debts due by Railway Companies.

Military Roads.

Custom Houses, Post Offices, and other Public Buildings, except such as may be set aside by the General Government for the use of the Local Legislatures and Governments. Property transferred by the Imperial Government and known as Ordnance

Property.

Armories, Drill Sheds, Military Clothing, and Munitions of War, and Lands set apart for Public purposes.

All Lands, Mines, Minerals, and Royalties vested in Her Majesty in the Provinces of Upper Canada, Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, for the use of such Provinces, shall belong to the Local Government of the territory in which the same are so situate; subject to any trusts that may exist in respect to any of such Lands, or to any interest of other persons in respect of the same.

57. All sums due from purchasers or lessees of such Lands, Mines, or Minerals, at

the time of the Union, shall also belong to the Local Governments.

58. All assets connected with such portions of the Public Debt of any Province as are assumed by the Local Government, shall also belong to those Governments respectively.

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59. The several Provinces shall retain all other Public Property therein, subject to the right of the General Government to assume any Lands or Public Property required for Fortifications or the Defence of the Country.

60. The General Government shall assume all the Debts and Liabilities of each

Province.

62. In case Nova Scotia or New Brunswick do not incur liabilities beyond those for which their Governments are now bound, and which shall make their debts, at the date of Union, large than \$8,000,000 and \$7,000,000 respectively, they shall be entitled to interest at 5 per cent. on the amount not so incurred in like manner as is hereinafter provided for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island; the foregoing resolution being in no respect intended to limit the powers given to the respective Governments of those Provinces by Legislative authority, but only to limit the maximum amount of charge to be assumed by the General Government. Provided always, that the powers so conferred by the respective Legislatures shall be exercised within five years from this date, or the same shall then lapse.

63. Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island not having incurred Debts equal to those of the other Previness, shall be entitled to receive, by half-yearly payments in advance from the General Government, the interest at five per cent. on the difference between the actual amount of their respective Debts at the time of the Union, and the average amount of indebtedness per head of the Population of Canada, Nova Scotia, and

New Brunswick.

64. In consideration of the transfer to the General Parliament of the powers of Taxation, an annual grant in aid of each Province shall be made, equal to 80 cents perhead of the Population, as established by the Census of 1861, the population of Newfoundland being estimated at 130,000. Such aid shall be in full settlement of all future demands upon the General Government for local purposes, and shall be paid half-yearly in advance to each Province.

65. The position of New Brunswick being such as to entail large immediate charges upon her local revenues, it is agreed that for the period of ten years from the time when the Union takes effect, an additional allovance of \$63,000 per annum shall be made to that Province. But that so long as the liability of that Province remains under \$7,000,000, a deduction equal to the interest on such deficiency shall be made from the \$63,000.

66. In consideration of the surrender to the General Government by Newfoundland of all its rights in Mines and Minerals, and of all the ungranted and unoccupied Lands of the Crown, it is agreed that the sum of \$150,000 shall each year be paid to that Province by semi-annual payments. Provided that that Colony shall retain the right of opening, constructing, and controlling Roads and Bridges through any of the said Lands, subject to any Laws which the General Parliament may pass in respect of the same.

67. All engagements that may, before the Union, be entered into with the Imperial Government for the Defence of the Country shall be assumed by the General Government.

Government for the Defence of the Country shall be assumed by the General Government.
68. The General Government shall secure, without delay, the completion of the Intercolonial Railway from Rivière-du-Loup, through New Brunswick, to Truro in Nova Scotia.

69. The communications with the North-Western Territory, and the improvements required for the development of the Trade of the Great West with the Seaboard, are regarded by this Conference as subjects of the highest importance to the Federated Provinces, and shall be prosecuted at the earliest possible period that the state of the Finances will permit.

Finances will permit.

70. The Sanction of the Imperial and Local Parliaments shall be sought for the Union of the Provinces, or the principles adopted by the Conference.

71. That Her Majesty the Queen be solicited to determine the rank and name of the Bederated Provinces.

72. The proceedings of the Conference shall be authenticated by the signatures

A 72. The proceedings of the Conference shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Delegates, and submitted by each Delegation to its own Government, and the Chairman is authorized to submit a copy to the Governor-General for transmission to the

















