

H. R. 754.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JULY 2, 1866.

Read twice, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BANKS, on leave, introduced the following bill:

A BILL

For the admission of the States of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada East, and Canada West, and for the organization of the Territories of Selkirk, Saskatchewan, and Columbia.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the President of the United States is hereby authorized
4 and directed, whenever notice shall be deposited in the De-
5 partment of State that the governments of Great Britain and
6 the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward
7 Island, Newfoundland, Canada, British Columbia, and Van-
8 couver's Island have accepted the proposition hereinafter
9 made by the United States, to publish by proclamation that,
10 from the date thereof, the States of Nova Scotia, New Bruns-
11 wick, Canada East, and Canada West, and the Territories of
12 Selkirk, Saskatchewan, and Columbia, with limits and rights

13 as by this act defined, are constituted and admitted as States
14 and Territories of the United States of America.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the following
2 articles are hereby proposed, and from the date of the procla-
3 mation of the President of the United States shall take effect,
4 as irrevocable conditions of the admission of the States of
5 Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada East, and Canada
6 West, and the future States of Selkirk, Saskatchewan, and
7 Columbia, to wit:

8 ARTICLE I.

9 All public lands not sold or granted; canals, public har-
10 bors, light-houses, and piers; river and lake improvements;
11 railway stocks, mortgages, and other debts due by railway
12 companies to the provinces; custom-houses and post offices,
13 shall vest in the United States; but all other public works
14 and property shall belong to the State governments respec-
15 tively, hereby constituted, together with all sums due from
16 purchasers or lessees of lands, mines, or minerals at the time
17 of the union.

18 ARTICLE II.

19 In consideration of the public lands, works, and prop-
20 erty vested as aforesaid in the United States, the United States
21 will assume and discharge the funded debt and contingent
22 liabilities of the late provinces, at rates of interest not exceed-
23 ing five per centum, to the amount of eighty-five million seven

24 hundred thousand dollars, apportioned as follows : To Can-
 25 ada West, thirty-six million five hundred thousand dollars;
 26 to Canada East, twenty-nine million dollars ; to Nova Scotia,
 27 eight million dollars; to New Brunswick, seven million dol-
 28 lars; to Newfoundland, three million two hundred thousand
 29 dollars ; and to Prince Edward Island, two million dollars ;
 30 and in further consideration of the transfer by said provinces
 31 to the United States of the power to levy import and export
 32 duties, the United States will make an annual grant of one
 33 million six hundred and forty-six thousand dollars in aid of
 34 local expenditures, to be apportioned as follows: To Canada
 35 West, seven hundred thousand dollars; to Canada East, five
 36 hundred and fifty thousand dollars ; to Nova Scotia, one hun-
 37 dred and sixty-five thousand dollars; to New Brunswick, one
 38 hundred and twenty-six thousand dollars ; to Newfoundland,
 39 sixty-five thousand dollars ; to Prince Edward Island, forty
 40 thousand dollars.

41 ARTICLE III.

42 For all purposes of State organization and representation
 43 in the Congress of the United States, Newfoundland shall be
 44 part of Canada East, and Prince Edward Island shall be part
 45 of Nova Scotia, except that each shall always be a separate
 46 representative district, and entitled to elect at least one mem-
 47 ber of the House of Representatives, and except, also, that
 48 the municipal authorities of Newfoundland and Prince Ed-

ward Island shall receive the indemnities agreed to be paid by the United States in Article II.

ARTICLE IV.

Territorial divisions are established as follows: (1,) New Brunswick, with its present limits; (2,) Nova Scotia, with the addition of Prince Edward Island; (3,) Canada East, with the addition of Newfoundland and all territory east of longitude eighty degrees and south of Hudson's strait; (4,) Canada West, with the addition of territory south of Hudson's bay and between longitude eighty degrees and ninety degrees; (5,) Selkirk Territory, bounded east by longitude ninety degrees, south by the late boundary of the United States, west by longitude one hundred and five degrees, and north by the Arctic circle; (6,) Saskatchewan Territory, bounded east by longitude one hundred and five degrees, south by latitude forty-nine degrees, west by the Rocky mountains, and north by latitude seventy degrees; (7,) Columbia Territory, including Vancouver's Island, and Queen Charlotte's island, and bounded east and north by the Rocky mountains, south by latitude forty-nine degrees, and west by the Pacific ocean and Russian America. But Congress reserves the right of changing the limits and subdividing the areas of the western territories at discretion.

ARTICLE V.

Until the next decennial revision, representation in the

74 House of Representatives shall be as follows: Canada West,
75 twelve members; Canada East, including Newfoundland,
76 eleven members; New Brunswick, two members; Nova
77 Scotia, including Prince Edward Island, four members.

78 ARTICLE VI.

79 The Congress of the United States shall enact, in favor
80 of the proposed Territories of Selkirk, Saskatchewan, and
81 Columbia, all the provisions of the act organizing the Terri-
82 tory of Montana, so far as they can be made applicable.

83 ARTICLE VII.

84 The United States, by the construction of new canals, or
85 the enlargement of existing canals, and by the improvement
86 of shoals, will so aid the navigation of the Saint Lawrence
87 river and the great lakes that vessels of fifteen hundred tons
88 burden shall pass from the Gulf of Saint Lawrence to Lakes
89 Superior and Michigan: *Provided*, That the expenditure un-
90 der this article shall not exceed fifty millions of dollars.

91 ARTICLE VIII.

92 The United States will appropriate and pay to "The
93 European and North American Railway Company of Maine"
94 the sum of two millions of dollars upon the construction of a
95 continuous line of railroad from Bangor, in Maine, to Saint
96 John's, in New Brunswick: *Provided*, That said "The Eu-
97 ropean and North American Railway Company of Maine"
98 shall release the government of the United States from all

99 claims held by it as assignee of the States of Maine and Mas-
 100 sachusetts.

101 ARTICLE IX.

102 To aid the construction of a railway from Truro, in
 103 Nova Scotia, to Riviere du Loup, in Canada East, and a
 104 railway from the city of Ottawa, by way of Sault Ste. Marie,
 105 Bayfield, and Superior, in Wisconsin, Pembina, and Fort
 106 Garry, on the Red River of the North, and the valley of
 107 the North Saskatchewan river to some point on the Pacific
 108 ocean north of latitude forty-nine degrees, the United States
 109 will grant lands along the lines of said roads to the amount
 110 of twenty sections, or twelve thousand eight hundred acres,
 111 per mile, to be selected and sold in the manner prescribed
 112 in the act to aid the construction of the Northern Pacific
 113 railroad, approved July two, eighteen hundred and sixty-
 114 two, and acts amendatory thereof; and in addition to said
 115 grants of lands, the United States will further guarantee divi-
 116 dends of five per centum upon the stock of the company or
 117 companies which may be authorized by Congress to under-
 118 take the construction of said railways: *Provided*, That such
 119 guarantee of stock shall not exceed the sum of thirty
 120 thousand dollars per mile, and Congress shall regulate the
 121 securities for advances on account thereof.

122 ARTICLE X.

123 The public lands in the late provinces, as far as practi-

124 cable, shall be surveyed according to the rectangular system
 125 of the General Land Office of the United States; and in the
 126 Territories west of longitude ninety degrees, or the western
 127 boundary of Canada West, sections sixteen and thirty-six
 128 shall be granted for the encouragement of schools, and after
 129 the organization of the Territories into States, five per cen-
 130 tum of the net proceeds of sales of public lands shall be paid
 131 into their treasuries as a fund for the improvement of roads
 132 and rivers.

133 ARTICLE XI.

134 The United States will pay ten millions of dollars to
 135 the Hudson Bay Company in full discharge of all claims
 136 to territory or jurisdiction in North America, whether
 137 founded on the charter of the company or any treaty, law,
 138 or usage.

139 ARTICLE XII.

140 It shall be devolved upon the legislatures of New Bruns-
 141 wick, Nova Scotia, Canada East, and Canada West, to con-
 142 form the tenure of office and the local institutions of said
 143 States to the Constitution and laws of the United States,
 144 subject to revision by Congress.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That if Prince Ed-
 2 ward Island and Newfoundland, or either of those provinces,
 3 shall decline union with the United States, and the remaining
 4 provinces, with the consent of Great Britain, shall accept the

5 proposition of the United States, the foregoing stipulations in
6 favor of Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, or either
7 of them, will be omitted ; but in all other respects the United
8 States will give full effect to the plan of union. If Prince
9 Edward Island, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and New Bruns-
10 wick shall decline the proposition, but Canada, British Co-
11 lumbia, and Vancouver island shall, with the consent of Great
12 Britain, accept the same, the construction of a railway from
13 Truro to Riviere du Loup, with all stipulations relating to the
14 maritime provinces, will form no part of the proposed plan
15 of union, but the same will be consummated in all other
16 respects. If Canada shall decline the proposition, then the
17 stipulations in regard to the Saint Lawrence canals and a rail-
18 way from Ottawa to Sault Ste. Marie, with the Canadian
19 clause of debt and revenue indemnity, will be relinquished.
20 If the plan of union shall only be accepted in regard to the
21 northwestern territory and the Pacific provinces, the United
22 States will aid the construction, on the terms named, of a rail-
23 way from the western extremity of Lake Superior, in the
24 State of Minnesota, by way of Pembina, Fort Garry, and the
25 valley of the Saskatchewan, to the Pacific coast, north of
26 latitude forty-nine degrees, besides securing all the rights and
27 privileges of an American territory to the proposed Terri-
28 tories of Selkirk, Saskatchewan, and Columbia.