

depriving the Colony of Vancouver Island of half a million of dollars, that the Duke of Newcastle, as Colonial Secretary, said belonged to it. [Hon. Mr. Helmcken—"Name."] No, I will not mention names. I say, again, that the chief reason for this question not being taken up in 1868, was because pensions were not provided. Now, Sir, I am glad the Hon. senior Member for Victoria City has afforded me an opportunity to explain the part that I took in pressing Confederation on the Council in 1868. I first endeavoured, with the Hon. Member for New Westminster, to enlist Governor Seymour in the matter,—get him to take it up as a Government measure,—and open negotiations with the Canadian Government. But he refused to interfere in it, and said the Council might deal with it. Without the support of the Governor, in a Council so constituted, there was no hope for the measure. It then became a question whether any Resolution on it ought to be brought forward in the Council. Some Confederates urged that it would not do to have a Resolution defeated. On the other hand, I thought it best to make some proposition, merely to elicit an expression of the Council's opinion, and show the country its attitude on the question. For in agitating the question, unless it could be proved incontestably that the Council and Executive were opposed, the people could not be aroused to take action. I, therefore, brought it up in a series of Resolutions before the House, and not in Committee of the Whole. If I had had the least hope that it would have passed, I would have had it considered in Committee of the Whole,—the proper place to settle such an important matter, after the terms had been settled between the two Governments. As a matter of course, the Resolutions were defeated. But subsequently, when it was urged upon the Governor, at the instance of the Collector of Customs, that the Council be allowed to take action, he said "No; let the people act."

Hon. MR. CARRALL—I shall vote in favour of this clause, and I only desire to offer three remarks. The Council have had two objects mainly in view: first, to bring in a scheme which should bring general prosperity; and, secondly, that no vested interests should be affected by the act of Confederation. The positions held by official gentlemen are, I contend, vested interests, and as such, entitled to protection. As regards the way in which members have been treated in other Colonies, there are numbers who are now receiving pensions. I may instance two notable members of the Imperial Government—the Right Hons. Robert Lowe and H. C. E. Childers. I desire to put it upon record that I vote for this clause with as much pleasure as I support any clause of the Resolutions.

Clause 6 was then read by the Chairman, and passed as read.

The Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the adoption of Clause 7:—

"7. The Dominion Government shall supply an efficient and regular fortnightly steam communication between Victoria and San Francisco, by steamers adapted and giving facilities "for the conveyance of passengers and cargo."

This clause speaks for itself, and it is unnecessary for me to say anything in support of it.

Hon. MR. DECOSMOS—I regard this paragraph of the Resolutions as a make-weight, nothing more nor less. It is a mistake to make it one of the essential conditions. The time may come when we don't want this steam communication. The Railway may come to Puget Sound, and then this clause will be unnecessary. People will say, at first, that this is a splendid thing; but it is all included in the British North America Act.

Hon. CHIEF COMMISSIONER—The Hon. Member refers, I suppose, to clause (b) of Section 92, which excepts "Lines of steamships between the Province and any British or foreign country" from the "Local works and undertakings" which are declared to be subjects of exclusive Provincial legislation. The Dominion Government would have to make provision for mail steamers. This clause provides for regular communication. When we have communication with Canada by railway, such a clause as this would be unnecessary; but now, if confederated, we shall need, more than ever, regular and more frequent communication with San Francisco, which is the chain of communication with Canada.

Hon. MR. DECOSMOS—There seems to be a spirit of distrust in this and other clauses of these Resolutions, a desire to have everything in writing. I believe that we should have a steamship line without this clause.

Hon. DR. HELMCKEN—The Hon. Member says it is of no use. If the clause was not there, the Dominion Government need not give us this communication. Postal communication it must give; but that means only communication with Olympia.

Hon. MR. ROBSON—I do not think that this implies distrust, any more than asking a man to give a note for a debt implies distrust. In the conditions framed on the admission into the