

Hon. MR. HUMPHREYS—I rise to support the motion. I cannot understand the opposition. [Hon. Attorney-General—I don't oppose; divide, divide, divide.] I desire to show the necessity for a Geological Survey. We are now eleven years old as a Colony, and nothing is hardly known of the country. We are behind our neighbours of the United States. In California there is a Geological Surveyor, who has to explore and publish the result of his survey. We should have something of the sort here, and, in addition, a record of the number of available acres of land in the Colony. If 25 or 30 farmers arrived here I would undertake to affirm they could not get any information from the Land Office as to where they could settle down.

Hon. DR. HELMCKEN—I should not like that statement to get abroad uncontradicted. I think these assertions should not be made; they are likely to do much harm. I should like to see the 25 or 30 farmers come; let them go to the mouth of the Fraser. There may be some difficulty in getting land in any part or locality, but it is absurd to bring up this fuss about the Land Office.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

Hon. DR. HELMCKEN moved, "That it is desirable that the Dominion Government shall maintain telegraphic communication with this Colony."

Hon. DR. HELMCKEN—It is absolutely necessary that there should be some telegraphic communication with the outer world. It is palpable that we must have it with the seat of Government.

Hon. MR. DECOSMOS—It will be in the recollection of some of the Hon. Members that, some years ago, a question was sent out for discussion from the Secretary of State as to the payment by Vancouver Island of a subsidy towards the Trans-Continental Line of Telegraph. She could not afford it. Canada has the wire now taken over from the Hudson Bay Company. I shall support the resolution. I do not regard it as a *sine qua non*, but very essential. I have no doubt Canada will do it.

Hon. MR. ROBSON—I understood the Hon. Member for Victoria City intended to ask the Canadian Government to maintain the existing telegraph line, which runs through a foreign country.

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—From the general wording of the resolution I am at a loss to know what is meant. I think this is a matter which had best be left out, or we shall be overloading the terms. If I vote against it, it is because we have fully too much on the terms.

Hon. MR. DECOSMOS—Why did not the terms come down to us more perfect?

Hon. DR. CARRALL—I am sorry the resolutions did not come down more perfect, but if they had been ever so perfect Hon. Members would have found fault. I look upon the conduct of Hon. Members in bringing forward the additional resolutions as being inimical to Confederation.

Hon. MR. RING—I shall support the resolution. I think our care will enhance our value in the estimation of Canada.

Hon. DR. HELMCKEN—It is admitted that if we are to have union we must have telegraphic communication. Why it was left out I don't know. It must have slipped out, for it was before the Executive. Surely Hon. Members will not have the idea that \$3,000 or \$4,000 inserted here will stop Confederation.

Hon. MR. DECOSMOS—3,000 or 4,000 dollars?

Hon. DR. HELMCKEN—At present, yes. The only means of communication is through America.

Hon. MR. DECOSMOS—I thought this was a trans-continental telegraph. I am sorry I said anything about it.

The Chairman then put the motion, which, on division, was lost.

Hon. MR. DECOSMOS—When I first rose to address this House on the question of Confederation, I made some passing allusions to nation-making. Now, Sir, I believe we are engaged in that great work. Our posterity will, I believe, control the northern end of this continent for a thousand generations. We find the American continent in the possession of two nations. The northern part in the possession of the Anglo-Saxon race, and the southern part in the possession of the Spanish race. Then again we find the Anglo-Saxon race in the north divided into two nations, with a great mission before them. The first object of the great nation to the south of us may, perhaps, be said to be the acquisition of territory, and they have a