

enemies of the cause rushing in resolutions calculated to raise extravagant hopes, and so produce disappointment and fatal reaction, but not friends of the cause. In recommending alterations to Government our reason and judgment should be fairly and calmly exercised.

Clause 5 was put to the Committee by the Chairman, and passed as read.

The Chairman read Clause 6:—

"6. Suitable Pensions, such as shall be approved of by Her Majesty's Government, shall be provided by the Government of the Dominion for those of Her Majesty's Servants in the Colony, whose position and emoluments derived therefrom would be affected by political changes on the admission of this Colony into the Dominion of Canada."

The Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL said:—In proposing the adoption of this clause, it is only necessary for me to state to the House that it is inserted in accordance with Lord Granville's despatch. Confederation will, in all probability, affect the positions of certain officials, and the despatch advises that provision should be made, hence this clause.

Hon. Mr. HUMPHREYS—I do not approve of the principle of pensions, and I cannot understand why pensions should be given to men who came out to this Colony, as I came out, as needy adventurers. The people of this country do not approve of pensions. If Hon. Members had been induced to come out from England to assume positions under Government for life, I could understand their being provided for with pensions on the positions being abolished. I was once a Government Officer in this Colony myself, and should of course have liked to get a pension; but in my opinion the present Government officials have drawn very good pay for doing very little work, for long enough; and before a pension is given, it should be shown that the person to whom it is given has done the State some service.

Hon. Mr. DECOSMOS—We have now, Sir, arrived at the Government's "wisdom" in delaying Confederation in 1868, and subsequently, and of which we heard from the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works. The Hon. gentlemen who own this Colony—for the Governor and Executive virtually own the country—are now ready to execute a quit claim deed of this Colony to Canada, for a pension to each, and it may be the cheapest mode of getting rid of them. Pensions are a modern discovery. The Romans granted triumphal entries as a reward to their most distinguished citizens; and the Greeks crowned those whom they would honour with laurels; but now pensions are the fashion. How much more substantial! The whole secret of the opposition of the Government to Confederation lay in the question of pensions. ["No, no."] ["Yes, yes."] Still I shall vote for the clause, as I believe this to be the cheapest way of buying out the present possessors, the virtual owners of the Colony. I think it ought to be pensions or compensation, but I will move no amendment.

Hon. Mr. HOLBROOK—I am prepared to support this clause. It shows that Great Britain does not forget her public servants. It is a good and proper clause, and a usual one. This is following out what is done in every other British Colony. I shall support the clause.

Hon. Mr. WOOD—I shall support this clause. It stands out in strong contrast to the action of the Imperial Government, in their treatment of public officers upon the occasion of another union. I am glad to see this clause inserted, as representing a principle that ought always to be recognized.

Hon. Dr. HELMCKEN—The Hon. Member for Victoria District is attributing motives again. If he throws dirt on others, he must expect to have it thrown back on himself, and it might as well be said that Hon. Representative Members who vote for Confederation only vote for it for the sake of the loaves and fishes. ["No, no," from Mr. DeCosmos.] This is a question for the Canadian Government, not for us. Government officials are entitled to some compensation for loss of offices, and the Canadian Government will think so too. To them I leave it. They will, I believe, settle the question honourably.

Hon. Mr. DECOSMOS—I challenge any man to say that I ever asked to have any Government post or appointment. I have lived half a century, and three-fourths of that time I have earned my own bread and spent my own money.

Hon. Dr. HELMCKEN—I don't accuse the Hon. Member of seeking office. I say the argument might be used; and if gentlemen will throw dirt, they must expect to get it thrown on them.

Hon. Mr. DECOSMOS—The remarks I made were as to times past. As to dirt, I never use it. I deal in facts. I know men, however, who have for themselves and friends stuck closely to the loaves and fishes; and I could name some public men who did their best and succeeded in