

will possess no constitutional power to grant us political relief until asked to do so by our Local Government; and it is the hesitation, the disinclination of the Local Government to move in that direction which I dread. I would again warn the Government against endangering the whole scheme by having it submitted to the people unaccompanied by "Responsible Government."

Hon. DR. CARRALL—Sir, on Friday last the honourable member for New Westminster spoke at some length upon this subject, and I replied as best I could, and it is in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that I should make a very few remarks. It is one of those happy things in nature that where the poison is there is the antidote always near. (Laughter.) I propose to give the antidote. I laid down two principles: First, that the Government did not believe that Responsible Government, as it is maintained in England, was applicable to this Colony. I hold to that. I maintain that no one has controverted this proposition; no one has proved that it could be adapted to the requirements of this Colony; there has been burning eloquence and all that sort of thing, but no proof. But I say, Sir, that even now there is a measure of responsibility in this Government. I am responsible to my constituents, and if there is such an overwhelming force in favour of Responsible Government can I ever return here. The utmost that the honourable member for New Westminster has proved is, that under Confederation it would take a great deal of time and much agitation to get Responsible Government, a minimum of five years and a maximum of ten years, and that as it would take that time it was better that we should have it at once. I say if one proposition is correct the other must be incorrect. If there is such an overwhelming desire on the part of the people for it, they will get it. If the majority even are in favour of Responsible Government there is no constitutional power to prevent their getting it. There is no desire on the part of the Government to withhold it. I say it is a want of responsibility of the Executive that has rendered them unpopular; but the people have never been asked to contrast the present form of Government with that shadowed out by His Excellency; and I say that heads of Departments under that system will be, to a certain extent, responsible. The present system is bad, but the officers are good. I say that the requirements of the Colony will be met by the system proposed by His Excellency. If it is not, then let the people say so, and get Responsible Government. The honourable member for New Westminster allows that it is only a question of time under the Organic Act. If it should take five years, then my point that there is not such a strong desire for it is proved. I said, and I say again, that in Jamaica they could not work Responsible Government, or even representative institutions, and in Victoria it remains to this day a monument of stupidity and mismanagement. With regard to the assertion of the honourable member for New Westminster, I say that if speaking and voting from conviction are false steps, and a bar to advancement in political life, then I don't want to advance a step further in that direction. I say that Responsible Government has not been made a distinct issue in elections. The Government of the people was to be one of the consequences of Confederation; I hope we shall get a people's Government before it. The present Executive Council is one-third unofficial; the work they have done has brought a shapeless, formless phantom into one harmonious whole, and they propose to precede Confederation with a form of Government which will enable the people to decide what form of Government they will have. I coincide with the Honourable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, that it was not necessary to introduce this subject into the Confederation Resolution. I am sorry that it was brought up at all in connection with our scheme.

Hon. DR. HELMCKEN—Sir, I wish to say in reply to the remarks of the honourable member for New Westminster, that I support the Government from conviction. I do not shirk my responsibility. I said that the one great thing the supporters of Responsible Government are afraid of is, that it shall be set alongside of Representative Government. Honourable members may find when the resolutions return from Canada that I have still something to say upon them.

The recommendation of the Honourable Mr. Humphreys was put by the Chair, and on division was lost.

The recommendation of Honourable Mr. Robson was put by the Chair, and on division was lost.

Clause fifteen then passed as read.

The Honourable ATTORNEY-GENERAL introduced clause sixteen:

"16. The provisions in 'The British North America Act, 1867,' shall (except those parts thereof which are in terms made, or by reasonable intendment may be held to be specially