

one of Clarke's Patent Slips. We shall, before long, have plenty of ships at Burrard Inlet, and when the community requires it we shall have plenty of private parties ready to come forward to construct them. Both at Burrard Inlet and New Westminster there is so great a rise and fall in the tide that they would be good places. I have been asked to support the substitution of Burrard Inlet for Esquimalt in the terms, but I will not do so; I would prefer striking out the name altogether. We ought, I say, to let go sectional ideas, and go in for the public good.

Hon. Mr. HUMPHREYS said:—Sir, I am at a loss to understand any opposition to this clause. Any such guarantee, if it lead to the expenditure of so much money in any part of the Colony, will be an advantage to the whole community. It is an easily understood benefit. It will not, in my opinion, make much difference where it is built; perhaps it would be better to leave the selection of the locality to a Committee, who might indicate to the Canadian Government the best locality. I am of opinion that we want a Graving Dock; we don't want ships to go to San Francisco.

Hon. Mr. ROBSON, Member for New Westminster, said:—I may, perhaps, be expected to oppose this clause, and ask for New Westminster to be inserted, but I shall not do so. I have no sectional feelings in supporting Confederation. I think the word Esquimalt is perfectly harmless, although, like my Hon. friend (Mr. Holbrook), I should have preferred that no locality had been named. I do not think that naming the spot will, of itself, decide the question. The Dock will, no doubt, be built in the most suitable place. As the word is in, let it remain.

Hon. Mr. WOOD said:—Sir, I agree with what has fallen from Hon. Members who object to the naming of the locality, and I shall move that the word "Esquimalt" be struck out, and the words "such place as the Dominion Government shall appoint" be inserted. I desire, if we are to have this organic change, that we should be free of sectional and local feelings of irritation. The naming of Esquimalt as the locality for the Dock seems to me to be an endeavour to purchase the good-will of Victoria, whose population is known to be anti-confederate ["No, no," from Mr. DeCosmos]—of Victoria, which stood the test of Confederation at the last election, and whose Members sit here pledged against Confederation. This is bidding for the favour of the Victoria constituency. ["No, no," from Hons. Attorney-General and Chief Commissioner.] I judge of the effect which it is likely to have upon others by the effect it has upon me. I own some small portion of land at Esquimalt, at Constance Cove, near the probable site of the Docks, and that, I confess, has a softening effect upon me; and though I do not allow it to influence my vote, it does influence my mind. [Laughter.] Confederation, as the Hon. Member for Victoria (Mr. Helmcken) has said, means a Railway, Docks, and money; it means to each person the possibility of getting \$1,000 at the end of two years, or \$100 a month in rents. I do not believe that these terms will be submitted to, and if the inducements are taken away, I say the people will not have Confederation. If they do accept it under the inducement of material benefits, I fear that we shall very shortly see a strong feeling of reaction. Why should we name Esquimalt? What right have we to do so, if it is not intended to have effect on the Victorian interest? Why not leave it open? If Esquimalt is named, it seems to me to tie down the Dominion Government to a locality of which they may not approve, and may be disadvantageous to the negotiation. The more that is left to the Dominion Government, the better is the chance of carrying out the negotiations successfully.

Hon. Mr. DECOSMOS—What is the estimated cost of constructing the Docks?

Hon. ATTORNEY-GENERAL—£100,000.

Hon. CHIEF COMMISSIONER—I think, Mr. Chairman, that it is much to be regretted that the Hon. Mr. Wood has attributed not very creditable motives to the Government. ["Hear, hear."] I am sorry to have to say so. I am sorry I cannot congratulate him on statesmanlike qualities when he says he might have been influenced. I have never taken this view. I believe the influence of a vote never occurred to any Member of the Executive Council. I protest against such insinuations. I congratulate the Hon. Member for New Westminster upon the course he has taken, and on his support of the Government without reference to any sectional views. I feel bound to explain why Esquimalt has been named by the Government. The main object in asking for a Graving Dock there is to secure the headquarters of the Navy on the Pacific Coast within the Colony. When you come to remember that Esquimalt is the Naval Station, and has been for years, and when you come to consider