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 favor of responsible government can I ever return here, the utmost that the hon. gentleman for New Westminster has proved is, that under consideration it would take a great deal of time and much agitation to get responsible government, a minimum of five years 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 it on propositions to correct the other hons 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 favor 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 in the name of responsibility of the Executive that has rendered them responsible, but the people have never been asked to contrast the present form of government with that shadowy out by his Excellency, and I say that heads of Departments under that system will be as a certain extent responsible. The present system is bad, but the others 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 honorable 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 if Jamaica thought not were 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 his honorable 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 this people was to be one of the champions of confederation; I hope we shall get a people's government before it. The present Executive formed in one third modified, the work they have done has brought a shipless, homless population into the harmonious work, and they propose to provide consideration with a form of government which will enable the people to decide what form of government they will have. I concede with the Hon 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 Mr Humphreys—Sir, I wish to say in reply to the remarks of the honorable member for New Westminster, that I support the government from conviction. I do not shirk my responsibility. I said that there is great fear that the supporters of responsible government are afraid of it, that it should be set alongside of representative government. If a couple members may find when the resolutions return from Canada that I have still something to say upon the a.

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

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

Clause fifteen then passed as read.

The Hon 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 applicable to and only affect one and not the whole of the provinces now comprising the Dominion, and except so far as the same may be varied by this resolution) be applicable to British Columbia in the same way and to the like extent as they apply to the other provinces of the Dominion, and as to the Colony of British Columbia shall be one of the provinces originally united by the said act.

Hon Mr Helmcken and Hon Mr Drake objected to this clause on the ground that its passing would kill the minutes already on our paper.

The Hon Attorney General gave an assurance that the resolutions of which notice had been given should be discharged, and the opposition was withdrawn.

Clause sixteen passed as read.

With reference to clause :—

a That it could be an understanding with the Dominion, that their influence will be used to the fullest extent to procure the continued maintenance of the Naval Station at Esquimalt.

b Encouragement to be given to develop the efficiency and organization of the Volunteer force in British Columbia.

On clause b being read by the Chairman, Hon Mr Robinson objected to Esquimalt being named on the ground that it was only fair to New Westminster that one gunboat should be stationed there.

Hon Attorney General—I should have been very sorry to have this clause inserted if I thought it would give us only two or three gunboats.

Hon Colonial Secretary (Mr Hankin)—Because the Naval Station is at Esquimalt, it does not follow that every ship will remain there. The commanding officer can send ships where he pleases.

Clause passed as read.

Hon Mr Humphreys asked what "encouragement" meant in clause a.

Hon Attorney General—At present there is no means of ascertaining what encouragement can be given. I suppose arms and money.

Clause passed as read.

Hon Mr Drake—Mr Chairman, I gave notice of my intention to bring up a clause with regard to provision being made to protect the agricultural produce of this colony. It has been said by the hon Executive member for Victoria City that this protectional tariff is quite a new thing to me. If he will take the trouble to refer to the Colonist of the 15th May, 1868, he will find that an article written by myself, I claime on this matter; it is not new to me. I am thoroughly persuaded that the District which I represent will be a unit against Confederation unless we can get a Keep up protection. From Comox to Stikine the opinion on this point is as that of one man, and I believe I may say that it is the same thing as regards the whole of the agricultural districts on the Mainland, from Soda Creek to Kamloops. I hold with respect to protection that when farmers shall be able to produce farm produce in sufficient quantity to enable them to reduce their prices as low as the prices obtained by the farmers of Oregon and Washington Territory, then protection is not essential, for this great and sufficient reason that it we can produce as good an article at home as we can get it abroad, which we can put down at the same price, the cost of transport will be a sufficient protection. Our farmers will have a natural protection. With regard to manufactures, I am one of those who believe that our manufactures ought to be protected. If we go into pulp works we must have wagons and machinery, and the wagon builders should have protection then again. Farming implements should be made in the colony, and encouragement should be given to the manufacture of these things. Again there are the boatmaker and tailor, and the soap maker and others, given the lumber, for whom we require protection. I ask from the Executive the insertion of this principle: "That British Columbia shall be entitled to levy and collect any tax or taxes on the sales of foreign produce and manufactures entered for home consumption, equal in amount to the duties of Customs now levied and collected on the same under the Customs ordinance, 1867," provided, always, that British Columbia shall not be entitled to levy and collect any such tax or taxes as aforesaid, if the duties of Customs of Canada extended and applied to British Columbia at the time of such collection, on such foreign produce and manufactures shall be as high as the duties of Customs now levied and collected on the same under the Customs ordinance, 1867," and provided, always, that such foreign produce and manufactures shall be construed to mean no more and none other than such foreign produce and manufactures as may enter into competition with the produce and manufactures of British Columbia. I don't ask for a tax on pulp, our manufacturers would come into competition with goods from Canada. That is a natural evil which we cannot avoid. There will be other advantages arising out of Confederation which will counterbalance this.

Hon Mr Helmcken—I have nothing to do with the hon gentleman's new paper articles. I can only say that differential duties are contrary to the views of her Majesty's Government.

Hon Mr Drake—The hon member's explanation is different from the clause itself. I suppose from the explanation that it is intended to apply to a foreign produce and manufacture imported. I think it will be better that I shall move my motion as an amendm ut to his, so as to confine the protection to agricultural produce.

Hon Mr Robinson—I don't expect any resolution of mine to pass. It it should pass I shall be quite surprised; but as I hold this to be the very key-stone, and of more consequence than a majority of governments, I beg to move that the clause be so altered as to confine the protection to agricultural produce which not reach the issue. It would not touch our rule in manufactures.

Hon Dr Helmcken—this is left an open question by the Government. I wish it to be distinctly understood that the question of the agriculture of the country is an open question. I think I shall be found on the side of those hon gentlemen. I think with the hon member for Victoria District that this is the most important question on completing the union of interests. If the terms do not contain a clause giving protection to agricultural interests, I will answer for it there will be no Confederation.

Hon Chief Commissioner—I would ask my hon member to define how far this is an open question?

Hon Dr Helmcken—I mean that every member of the Government is free to vote as he pleases upon this question of encouragement to the agricultural interests of the Colony.

Hon Mr Wood—Then it is free for other members to vote their recommendation?

Hon Dr Helmcken—Certainly it is, and it is right that it should be so; for I consider sir, that we have come to a most important question, that of the interests of our own country. Confederation in its proper sense, if it means anything, it must not produce a darkness and have leave to remove. I say that if the sections are left to pass as they stand and return from Canada, and are passed by the people, they will produce great ills. I say that the agricultural interests are most important; when we come to manufacturing interests it is different, they have made but little progress. Manufactures will not be in connection from Canada and the Dominion would not be satisfied, we cannot have protection for manufactures, but with regard to farm produce it is different. I say that the farmers could not exist without protection; you will depopulate the country by bringing Confederation without protection. I have stated that the Colony offers more inducements to people to settle than any other colony I know of, yet we do not find a sufficient store for our wives. Look at the statistics, $111,447 is the value of agricultural produce—barley, flour, meals, wheat and oats—imported. Of barley alone there is nearly one million pounds imported, and that would take about 450 acres to grow it; of malt about 4000 bushels, which would require ninety acres to grown it; of flour and wheat about 87,0 0 bushels which would require about 2500 acres; to grow it; of oats about 12,000 bushels, which would require about sixty acres to grow it; altogether about 3,000 acres. More land must be in cultivation to produce the quantity of cereals which I have enumerated as being imported annually, and this number of acres, supposing a man to cultivate fifty acres, would give employment to 125 men, and at 125 men with wives in colony $111,447, or $900 each, besides growing want they would for their own consumption. In relation to this it must be considered that this wind would work to grind, machinery would be required, and labor of other kinds would be required, such, for instance, as brewers. In addition to this comes in pigs there were 508 of these animals imported last year less by 24 than in the preceding year. This is an important element, we can measure that the amount of bacon and ham in northern 1,741,740 pounds less than last year. To make this bacon about 500 hogs are required; so you will see that nearly the whole amount of bacon is made by and from foreign hogs. Take butter—$2,000 pounds of butter last year were imported last year. It will take 400 more cows yielding 200 pounds each per annum to produce this amount, and it would save the colony $11,538 per annum. One thousand seven hundred and of neat cattle would save annually $99,049, but it presupposes 0,800 more cows at least. Now then to supply ourselves with beef and mutton, and cheese, 3,000 more cows are required, but it takes four years to produce one. We import 7,000 sheep. Surely, no one will tell us that we have no room for 7,000 sheep or 3,000 cows. Why, it may mean 20,000 acres, or thirty six miles of land; six miles will supply the cereals, thirty-six miles in all. Why, the flats at the Fraser would yield it all. The cattle business certainly requires capital, but the capital will produce great results, and recollect the good it would do the country, the amount of labor employed and land cultivated for the purpose; wool hides and hides for home use or export. What I wish to impress upon you, sir, is the profit that might be derived from the introduction of a couple hundred families. What an immense loss the colony would sustain if this were thrown open to the Americans. What a magnificent field for immigration, particularly when we consider how much more of agriculture produce will be required when public works are carried on. The market is good now, how much better it would be then. I think it would be doing