

look more to Imperial policy than to the rights of the people, than they should have advised the Governor-General that this Bill should not become law; but they should have taken that stand on the floor of this House, and not have taken his place there and affirmed to this House that he believed this Bill was properly within the competence of this Legislature to pass. But it was a dastardly course—he hoped he was not using unparliamentary language in saying so—that the leader of the Government had pursued when, finding that his colleagues did not hold the same views as himself, he did not dismiss them and get men to aid him who would command the confidence of this House. Four of the members of the Government, because there was a large number of Catholics in the Province who exercised a very powerful influence in the elections, thought they would please the Catholics by opposing the Bill, while their leader would gain for them the support of the Orangemen by saying it was a proper measure; and then, when the backs of the members of the House were turned, this Government had said they would not give these men their rights, but would cast the onus of their refusal upon the Dominion Government. He contended that he and his friends in the House had supported the Orange Bills during the whole of last session, and contended that the action of the Government had been an attack upon the Constitution and the Sovereignty of the peoples' representatives, showing that the Government were not one among themselves, and therefore not competent to conduct the Government of the country. He contended that the purpose of the Government in proposing this general measure was to please the Catholics. He had been the friend of the Catholics when their rights were assailed, when the Orangemen had insulted and abused them on the streets, and at that time he also opposed the Orangemen; but since they had become a peaceable and law-abiding portion of the population, he did not see why their rights should be trampled upon to please the Catholics. The Government had found outside influence upon the question too strong to be resisted, and so they brought in a general measure, under which the Orange Association could be incorporated in the same manner as the Christian Brothers. But this was not a course befitting the leaders of public opinion in this Province. In regard to the proposal to extend the franchise, he said he did not fully understand the language of the paragraph, but presumed it meant an income franchise. To this he expressed himself as entirely opposed, and thought, as the body of men it was proposed to enfranchise had no stake in the country they were properly excluded from the right. It would be well that the honest yeomanry should fully understand the effect of this addition to the electoral voice of the country, which he declared would in effect swamp the influence of the landed portion of the population. After touching slightly upon the other two paragraphs of the address, he criticized that portion referring to the Municipal Loan Fund Distribution, which he characterized as a piece of blundering which in no way disappointed the expectations he had formed of any measures proposed by its authors. With regard to the boundary questions, both on the Quebec-side and in the North West, he assured the Government that they would receive no factions opposition; and he hoped that the former would not have to be submitted to the Privy Council. He was glad the expenditure was not quite so extravagant as the hon. gentlemen opposite had foreshadowed; and he hoped that the estimates for the next year would also be less extravagant than their former conduct would have led him to expect of the Government. With regard to the amendment to the election law, which was promised, he hoped that it would put an end to such acts as the "Proton outrage," which had never been explained yet, and the principal actor in which, he believed, had recently been rewarded by the Government. He thought a Committee of Investigation should be appointed to enquire into matters such as the conduct of the Government in regard to the Central Prison in the recent

West Toronto election, with power to take evidence in regard to all such matters. There were also many other subjects which he thought should properly come under this Committee's cognizance, among which he mentioned the new fence in front of the House.

Mr. PRINCE commented upon the inconsistency of the leader of the Opposition in saying, in the first place, that the bill of fare was so meagre as to need little consideration, and yet that he thought it necessary to criticise closely the Address, clause by clause, and support an amendment to some portion of it. He declaimed against the intemperate language used by the hon. members for North York and East Toronto, especially the imputations that the leader of the House, as asserted by these gents, was either hypocritical or dastardly in his conduct. He was sorry that hon. gentlemen could not conduct themselves on the floor of the House without using words which, in meaning, if not exactly in form, were extremely unparliamentary and ungentlemanly. He ridiculed the idea that the Government had endeavoured, in the action they had taken, to curry favour with religious bodies, and considered it the height of hypocrisy for the gentlemen of the Opposition to pretend that their sole purpose in stirring up this question was a desire to benefit the Orangemen, and was not in order if possible to put themselves in possession of power. He defended the action of the Attorney-General in regard to his personal support of the Orange measure, and considered that its reservation was at the same time the best and the wisest course to pursue in the circumstances. Personally he stated that he occupied the same position in regard to this matter as he did last year. He was still opposed to it, as tending to perpetuate sectional feeling and bitterness, which he thought was neither in the interest of any party or the country generally. (Hear, hear.) He thought that enough had been said upon the Proton Outrage, of which the House and the country had long been satisfied. It was surely time there was an end of this. (Hear, hear.) Another of the matters upon which the hon. member for East Toronto seemed to place great weight, was the erection of a fence in front of the Buildings; no doubt he would next proceed to explore the smoking-room and other similar places. (Laughter.) He concluded by saying that he was glad to know that the question of the boundaries of the Province had been grappled with successfully, and he ventured to predict, as he had before predicted, that the hon. gentlemen at the head of the Government had a long lease of power before them. (Cheers.)

Mr. DEACON said that the question before the House, as contained in the amendment of the hon. member for North York, was not whether or not the Orange Associations should be incorporated, but whether the action of the Administration in reserving these Bills for the consideration of the Governor-General, was not a strain upon the Constitution. He desired to know whether or not it was intended that the promised measure would give the Orangemen incorporation. If it did, he charged the Ministry with inconsistency, in so far as a majority of them opposed these Bills last year. He had heard a very curious story about the Attorney-General in connection with these Bills, which he would relate now, in order to give that gentleman an opportunity of denying it if it were not true. It was that the Premier, after speaking and voting for the Orange Bills last session, had promised Archbishop Lynch that he would see that they were saved. The gentleman who had made this statement to him, asked him to repeat it in the House, ask for a committee of investigation, and he would come forward and prove it. Another gentleman had made a similar statement. He was very unwilling to believe the story, but he could not help thinking that everything pointed in that direction. He said he would vote for the amendment of the hon. member for North York, in preference to the amendment of the hon. member for Stormont. He was opposed, however, to the principle of the Ballot, but would welcome it if it were going to bring back to power the Conservative party as it was going to do in England. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SINCLAIR defended the Government, and gave it as his opinion that the Orange Bills would become law. He was still opposed to that measure himself, as he had formerly been, being of opinion that no secret political society should be incorporated according to the laws of the country. He defended the Attorney-General from the attack made upon him because he did not state beforehand the advice he intended to give to the Crown. He did not