

## ORANGE INCORPORATION.

Animated Discussion in the Private Bills Committee.

### THE BILL THROWN OUT.

In the Private Bills Committee yesterday morning the Orange Bill came up for discussion. The room was crowded with members of the Committee and other citizens.

Mr. MERRICK was the first speaker. He opposed the general Bill of Incorporation on the ground that it was too expensive to incorporate the lodges separately, and besides, it was under the general Act impossible for them to hold property. In the special Act now before the Committee there was provided a form of deed to enable them to hold and transfer real property—as was the way with other societies.

The yeas and nays were then called for.

Mr. LAUDER thought there was apparent a little haste in this matter. The Bill should be well considered before taking a vote. He had never heard any good reason advanced in opposition to the Bill, and strongly favoured its adoption. He believed if party questions had been excluded it would have carried long ago.

Mr. PARKHILL believed that a majority of the people in Ontario were in favour of the incorporation sought under this Bill. If the petitions for it had been carried through his own constituency they would have been signed, not only by Orangemen, but by Roman Catholics as well. ("Oh, oh," and laughter.) A Bill of incorporation had been carried five years ago, but had been refused the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor. His own name was on the petition for incorporation, and he hoped the Government would see their way to passing the Bill. The Orange body was composed of respectable men and good citizens. If they could not have justice in the House, when they came before the electors the ballot-box would secure it to them.

The CHAIRMAN (Hon. Mr. Fraser) suggested that this was not the place to question or defend the action of the Government. That could be done on the floor of the House.

Mr. MORRIS desired, before the vote was taken, to express himself in favour of the Bill. He thought it most unfortunate that the House and the country should be kept in a state of dissension upon the question for such a long time. The Government had already admitted the principle of the Bill, and he did not see how they could consistently oppose it. He had never been a member of any secret society, but he deemed it but an act of simple justice to grant the incorporation prayed for.

Mr. CLARKE (Norfolk) said that when the Bill came up in the House last session he had voted for its second reading in order that the whole matter might be discussed. He sympathized with the hon. member for East Toronto in his regret that this matter had so long been kept before the country, a fruitful source of irritation and dissension. He had desired to learn what was the object and history of the Orange Order, and he had found its history to be one of murder and bloodshed—(laughter)—its object to foster hatred and bigotry, and to set class against class in the community. It carried in its course fire-brands, arrows, and death. ("Oh, oh," and loud laughter.) He need only point to the late incidents in Montreal in proof of what he said. In voting against this Bill he would do so believing conscientiously that such was his duty. Let us support our own national associations, but import no foreign political societies founded on worn-out grievances and dead issues.

Dr. WILSON opposed the passage of the Bill. The Government had already provided a means of incorporation, the only objection to which was the expense attending it. If these people were so anxious for incorporation as they pretended, and if they were the loyal and faithful citizens they claimed to be, they would avail themselves of the means afforded them, even at a slightly greater cost, rather than keep such

### PRIVATE BILLS COMMITTEE.

TORONTO, Feb. 11.

met this morning. Pre-  
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, Wills, and Harcourt.  
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Forsyth Grant, Private  
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