

to enter into their consideration. When the people of that town asked for an Act of Incorporation he hoped to have the support of the hon. member from Tignish. He could assure him, however, that no definite action had as yet been taken upon the subject by his constituents.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES said that if the people of that town would ask for an Act of Incorporation, no obstruction should be thrown in their way, and he believed the sooner they applied for such an Act the better. It was now a place of considerable importance, and had risen to its present creditable position wholly by the energy, enterprise and public spirit of its people.

Mr. GAZEN thought it would be quite time enough to take this matter up when asked by the people to do so. It was true that several meetings were held for considering the subject, but the majority were opposed to having the town incorporated. When the people were prepared to ask for an Act of that nature he would be ready to support it. Until then he did not see any propriety in discussing the matter.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said that he very much regretted that no spot of ground had been secured for public purposes in that town. He understood that Mr. J. Green had made an offer of a plot for a public square some years ago, but the government did not purchase it. He did not belong to that town, but as a resident of the country he considered it important that attention should be given to the public wants of Summerside. Georgetown has her public squares and public buildings, and the capital of Prince County should have the same.

The Resolution was then agreed to, and a Committee consisting of Mr. McLellan, Hon. Mr. Haviland and Mr. Howlan was appointed to bring in a Bill in accordance with the foregoing resolutions.

House adjourned.

ROBERT GORDON, Reporter.

MONDAY, March 9.

Morning Session.

Speaker in the Chair.

It was moved that the House do now go into Committee on the draft address in answer to His Excellency's Speech.

Hon. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION—Mr. Speaker, before we go into that Committee, I will make a flying commentary on the speech with which Her Majesty's Ministers have opened the present Session. I do feel disappointed that this motion was not made by the hon. gentleman who framed the address. I thought that that hon. member would have given us a very eloquent address on the great and vital interests involved in the questions which are to be brought before this House. We know that last session, the reason given why there were no great measures brought in for the benefit of the Island, was the late season at which we were called together, and the short time during which this Government was in power. But now, sir, I was going to say they are as stable as a rock. They are, in fact, like the happy family that was exhibited in London, in which cats, rats, various descriptions of birds, &c, lived together in perfect harmony. I have thought that the present Government is very much like these creatures in the cage—it is composed of persons of every shade of politics, living, or apparently living, together in harmony. Now, Sir, we have this speech emanating

from this composite Government, yet I cannot congratulate them on its production. True it may pass the muster which the celebrated Cobbet once said no speech from the throne could—it may be grammatical; but when I look at it, I find nothing wonderful in it from the first to the last. In the first part, it mentions the Loan, that measure which was to give free land to the down-trodden tenantry, and relieve the country from commercial depression for all time to come. Some members of the Government said that if the Loan was not obtained, it would be impossible to meet the liabilities accruing on the Cunard Estate; and when it was laid down by members on this side of the House that there was no necessity for it, and that the Island could pay its debts without getting a loan, they were laughed at. When a petition was laid before this House for a further issue of Treasury Notes, and it was moved that the House go into Committee to consider the subject, the Hon. Mr. Howlan put his veto upon it at once. Well, then the Loan Bill is passed, and it remains upon the Statute Book a dead measure. Although this is a speech of Governor Dundas, yet it is the speech of his ministers. The speech goes on to say that the negotiations with the non-resident proprietors have not proved successful. Although the Townsend Estate has been purchased, yet the efforts of the Government to settle the Land Question have not been productive of much benefit. The report of the Attorney General, respecting this Bill, is published in the *Royal Gazette*, and contains a great deal of matter, but the matter is not there. From this speech you would imagine that the Loan had already been obtained, for what inference is to be drawn from the words "The provisions of the Loan still remain available, in case any proprietor shall see the advantage of meeting the views of the Government." I believe that while the Attorney General was in England, he did not fool away much of his time, and however unfortunate the result has been, it was not his fault. But we know, sir, that when he went there, although there was plenty of capital afloat, yet capitalists were not very ready to run after him and beg his acceptance of it. The Tasmanian Government were trying to negotiate a loan at the same time, but could not obtain it, except by selling their bonds at 90 per cent. When money could be had on the Island at six per cent, and the bonds taken at par, it was a most extraordinary thing that they should go to England for it. Notwithstanding all the fears of the hon. member (Attorney General), and his friend on his left, there is more money now on the Island than there was last year. The money due on the Cunard Estate has been paid, and there is now plenty of money in the banks awaiting investment. I will leave it for the hon. member for Belfast, on this side of the House, who is such a great financier, to settle this question.

Mr. DAVIES—I am as good a financier as you are.

Hon. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION—I said the hon. member for Belfast, on this side of the House. I think Mr. Duncan is well able to speak for himself.

Mr. DAVIES—I thought the hon. member referred to me.

Hon. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION—I leave it to Mr. Duncan himself to decide the matter.

Mr. DUNCAN—I certainly understood the hon. Leader of the Opposition to refer to me.

Mr. DAVIES—I am perfectly satisfied.