

procession. This shows that the Institution had not the Royal approval. I will read an Orange toast given at some of their meetings in Ireland, which I think will prove that such a society, instead of promoting religion, must contribute to exterminate the last remnant of it on earth. The toast runs thus:—

"The glorious, pious, and immortal memory of the great and good King William, who saved us from the Pope and popery, brass money and wooden shoes. He that wont drink this toast, may the north wind blow him to the south, and a west wind blow him to the east; may he have a dark night, a lee shore, a rank storm, and a leaky vessel to carry him over the ferry to Hell; may the devil jump down his throat with a red hot harrow, that every pin may tear out his inside; may he be jammed, rammed, and dammed into the great gun of Athlone, and fired off into the kitchen of hell, where the Pope is roasting on a spit, and the devil pelting him with cardinals."

This showed very little christian spirit; if it does, I know not what the spirit of christianity is. It, however, evidences the spirit of the Orange society; and I feel confident that no Institution which tolerates such sentiments, can be productive of good in any part of the world. I believe I am as good a christian as the hon Col. Secretary, and I must differ from him entirely in the opinion which he entertains of this association. We may be Protestants, and if I did not believe I was right, I would not be one; but that is no reason why we should bind ourselves by oath into organizations for opposing Roman Catholics.— We ought to look in charity upon others who differ with us in creed. That very part of the Orangeman's obligation, which prevents him from marrying a Roman Catholic, displays hatred to those belonging to that Church— In Ireland, at the time of the Rebellion in 1795, though there may have been Orangemen before then, they were first called *Peep o' day Boys*; and at that time, on account of their proceedings, a counter association was formed by Roman Catholics under the name of *Defenders*. The conflicts between these two parties were the means of nearly exterminating Roman Catholics in some parts of Ireland. The Orangemen there professed to be organized to uphold law, but it was rather an anomalous position for an armed force to hold that they were engaged in maintaining law, when they would not be controlled by law. Here also, Orangemen are coming forward, and wishing to be recognized as the defenders of our country and constitution.— No necessity exists for organizing secret societies for this purpose, as Her Majesty's Government is quite able and ready to uphold the majesty of the law. I hope the prayer of the petition will be rejected, for why should any measure be introduced here, that would tend to prevent Protestants and Roman Catholics from living on friendly terms. I will oppose incorporating the Orange Institution, because I look upon it as one of the greatest curses which can afflict any country.

Hon Mr COLES—I cannot give a silent vote on this subject, Mr Speaker, as I am sorry it has been brought in here. A year or two ago, Sir, when we were discussing the Volunteer question, hon members of the majority were astonished to hear that there were Orange Lodges in the Island. It appears that now there is a number of Lodges, and they come forward to have the institution incorporated, because they have received a little encouragement from the Government. This association pretends to be loyal, and yet it would dictate to the Queen. They will support her so far, but no further. I am a Protestant, and as such I do not consider that Protestantism is in danger. No alteration can take place in the constitution of the Colony in favor of Roman Catholics, as long as it is a dependency of Great Britain. Orangemen, I understand, became very bold at the last election, and dictated what they wanted. There is a bye-law of the Institution, I believe, which binds the members to vote in political contests as the majority of them desire; therefore, I contend it takes away the liberty of the person. No doubt those

who become members of the society enter it voluntarily; but they are at first induced to join it in a great measure through curiosity. This is at least the case with many of the young men. The hon Col. Secretary has failed to show that Orange Lodges are incorporated, either in Great Britain or in any of her Colonies. It was attempted in New Brunswick, but failed; and I believe that even there the existence of the organization was found to cause bloodshed. I hope that no vote of this House will incorporate such a body. The passing of an Act of this description will authorize processions, and the wearing of badges and orange flowers as I saw displayed by some going to the meetings last summer. If we incorporate this institution, Ribbon Lodges have just about as good a right to ask a similar favor. As has been referred to by the hon member for the third District of Prince County, the Orangemen of Canada, notwithstanding their boasted loyalty, did not show much love for their Sovereign, in seeking to force the Prince of Wales under their arch. I have no objection, if Protestants think their religion in danger, to connect themselves a little more closely together; but there is no necessity that they should bind themselves in an association by an oath. There is one part of the Orangemen's obligation which I consider highly objectionable, namely, that which refers to his protecting his brother Orangeman. Supposing he had been guilty of some crime, how, Sir, would it act! I am doubtful, Sir, in view of this oath, if those who take it are fit persons to act on a jury. These Lodges, I contend, should not be sanctioned by the Legislature of any Colony. I do not say, but there may be many respectable men connected with them; but, Sir, I believe, there are many worthless ones too. The inference which I drew from the remarks of the hon Col. Secretary, was, that if the majority of the members of this House were Roman Catholics, the Protestant religion would suffer. As I have said already, I have no fear on this score. I do not consider there would be any danger, though every member of this House were a Roman Catholic. They could do nothing without passing an Act of Parliament, and that if it interfered with the rights of British subjects it would not receive the Royal assent. If I thought the Roman Catholics were wishing to overthrow our liberties, I would be as determined to resist them, as any Orangemen; but when I find them dealing fairly, I cannot treat them otherwise, than I do the rest of my fellow colonists. I have heard of petitions, which, instead of being received, were thrown under the table; I, however, would be ready to treat this one so, as it is said to be signed by respectable persons. Now was the time, though, for those opposed to the petition to express their opinions. I am of opinion that this Island would have been better off, if there had never been any Orangemen in it. If they are encouraged by an Act of incorporation, they may walk forth in procession, with their banners flying; and though not disposed to break the peace, yet when numbers are congregated we know they are apt to become excited; and thus some poor Roman Catholic might meet a number of Orangemen in this state, and be tempted to do some rash act, which would no doubt be followed by bloodshed. The Orangemen might be able to say in extenuation of their offences that they were insulted; but the insult would be caused by provocation. I do not blame those who are Orangemen now for joining the Institution, as perhaps they did so out of curiosity, but I blame them for encouraging others to follow their example. I will oppose the petition going to Committee, but I suppose some hon members feel a little dependent upon Orangemen, and dare not vote against them.

Mr CONROY—Mr Speaker, I rise also to express my regret that such an application has been made to this House. I have seen nothing to awaken fear among Protestants that they are in danger. I do not purpose to speak of Roman Catholics now; but to say that though I am a Roman Catholic, and esteem my Roman Catholic friends, yet some of my warmest friends have been Protestants. Sir, I saw before me the near relatives of one, who, though a Protestant, was among the first to treat me as a friend, when I came to this country to make it my home. We visited