

HON. MR. O'DONOHUE—My hon. friend may say it served O'Brien right, but if stones were thrown at his own head he would scarcely say it served him right.

HON. MR. McDONALD—I did not break the law.

HON. MR. O'DONOHUE—Nor did Mr. O'Brien on that occasion break the law. On another occasion the Orangemen in the city of Toronto, without any provocation, broke down a hotel, simply because Mr. McGee was dining there on the 17th March, and they pursued him to the Parliament House, where he told the House the circumstances, but the owner never received any remuneration, nor were there any convictions made. The judges themselves said on the bench that the officials and the constables were altogether with these people, and Chief Justice Richards said there was another oath beyond the oath of their office that they observed, and no man could be brought to justice under it. That was the state of things there. Look at the sad results flowing from the Orange procession in the city of New York. They may have had some provocation. They were out in procession; but supposing there is a provocation, does that justify wholesale slaughter? If a child throws a red rag at a bull, can the bull be justified if he takes the child on his horns and tosses him in the air? There were sixty lives laid in death because of the procession in 1871 in the streets of New York. If there had been no procession of that kind no lives would have been lost. Would it not have been better for society to be without such an organization? Would it not be better for society here to be without them? I submit to this House that we should give no countenance to Bills of this character. Next Session a Bill of a very different nature may be brought before us by some other secret society, and we cannot very consistently say no to it if we say yes to this one. Outside you hear it freely stated that this House has its mind made up—that this Bill comes to the Senate under the sanction and with the approbation of the Premier of the Dominion; that, in fact, it is his design, and I have very little doubt it is, because the maker's name seems to be stamped on the blade pretty well. He is himself one of the order, and no doubt does everything in his power to foster it, and has always

done so. In my humble judgment this House should not pass this Bill. We should not care under whose auspices the Bill was brought up or who brought it here; the question for this House should be, is it beneficial to society to give this organization that recognition which is sought? It is not what is on the face of the Bill I read to you. What is on the face of the Bill amounts to nothing. The Orange order can in every one of the Provinces have all the rights they want as to holding property, and as to benevolent purposes, so it is not for that it is brought here. It is to give the society recognition. Now, hon. gentlemen, in all frankness I believe that a more serious question you have not been troubled with in your time in this Senate, and if there ever was one that should be well considered before we cast our votes it is this Bill. In withholding our support from it we are hurting nobody; we are producing no bad effects. We are irritating no party. They have all the power they want for holding property and for benevolent purposes, and why do they ask the Parliament of Canada to give them recognition. For my part, I believe it is unwise to recognize any society of the kind—not merely the Orange society, but any society whatever that is secret and political. These societies begin in a very peculiar manner. They do not do good to the Orangemen. The great mass of the Orange body are not benefited by them. It is simply the bell wethers—the fellows that make use of them for positions—these are the men who make use of the other poor fellows, and all they get in return is to be trotted out under the burning sun on the 12th of July to parade the streets. These societies do them harm, by subjecting their members to excitement, and I believe that they would not be any worse Protestants by not having this organization, and that the state of Protestantism in Canada does not require their assistance. England says: "We don't want your assistance," as she has told them freely and frankly over and over again; "the civil power is strong enough to protect the country." The Orangemen offered to take up arms for Ireland, but their offer was repudiated. Under these circumstances, I ask hon. gentlemen to consider calmly whether they are doing a benefit or an injury to Canada by legalizing a system of secret societies in our political affairs.