

Hon Mr POPE believed that the proposed Committee would have no trouble in obtaining the accounts, and when obtained and published, they would show how erroneous were the statements of the hon. the leader of the Opposition, with respect to this purchase.

Hon Mr WARBURTON moved, in amendment, that the inquiry should extend to the whole of the Government purchases.

Mr HOWLAN, in seconding the amendment, urged that a full and searching inquiry was necessary, in order to show the practical working of the self-sustaining principle. The report of the Committee would be information for every member of that House.

Hon Col GRAY trusted that the mover of the resolution would not object to the proposed amendment if full inquiry into the whole subject could not but result otherwise than for the benefit of the Colony.

The amendment was acceded to, and the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee for the purpose of carrying out the amended resolution:—Messrs. Haslam, Green, Brecken and Sinclair, and Hon Mr Warburton.

The House then adjourned.

#### AFTERNOON SITTING.

Hon Mr Longworth reported from the Private Bill Committee, on the Orange Lodge Incorporation Bill, recommending that it be exempt from fees. The second reading of the Bill was made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Hon Mr Laird presented a petition of Isaac Oxenham and others, praying for the establishment of a Post Office at New Wiltshire, Lot 31.

Hon Mr McAulay presented a petition of divers inhabitants of Cardigan River head, praying for the establishment of a Post Office at or near Alley's Mills, Head of Cardigan.

Several ordinary road petitions were also presented.

Hon Mr Davies presented a petition of S. W. Mitchell, late Keeper of the Lunatic Asylum, praying payment of a claim on his part, against the Government, for improvements in and about the Asylum, during the last 15 years. Mr. Davies moved that the petition do lie on the table; and Hon Mr Pope moved, in amendment, that the hon. member have leave to withdraw the petition,—which last motion was carried.

The debate was resumed on the amendment which was proposed in the forenoon, to the question "That a Committee be appointed to examine and report on the receipts and expenditure on the Worrell Estate and Lot Eleven," and which amendment was, that after the words "Lot Eleven," the following be added, "the Selkirk Estate and Lot Fifty-four."

After a few remarks from one or two hon. members the amendment was carried unanimously.

The Hon Col Secretary introduced a Bill relating to Steam Navigation in this Island.

Hon Mr Pope, a member of Her Majesty's Executive Council, presented to the House the classified Public Accounts, which were referred to the Special Committee on Accounts.

The Bill to Incorporate the Marine Insurance Company, was read a second time and taken up in Committee.

Progress was reported, and the House adjourned.

#### THURSDAY, March 19.

The Speaker having taken the chair and the usual formalities having been completed:

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole to consider the amendments made by the Legislative Council to the Act authorizing the House of Assembly, to commit prisoners in contempt, to the Common Jail of Queen's County.

Mr McLennan in the Chair.

Several verbal amendments were agreed to, and the hon Col Secretary was ordered by the hon Speaker to re-convey the Bill to the Council.

The House then resumed, and upon motion, the order limiting the period for the reception of private petitions was suspended for the day.—The following were presented:

By the hon Mr Kelly, from the inhabitants of Grand Tracadie and Mill Cove, for a grant to repair the Corran Ban Bridge.

By hon Mr Kelly, from several inhabitants of Lot 37, praying for aid to repair the Road from St. Peter's Road, to Mount Stewart Bridge.

By hon Mr Thornton, from James Matthewson and others, asking for a grant to open up a new road in Lot 55.

By hon Mr Thornton, from the inhabitants of the South side of Brudenell River, for the sum of ten pounds, to enable them to put into repair the roads leading from Montague Bridge to the Union Road.

By hon Mr Thornton, from the inhabitants of Grand River, and Lots 54 and 55, requesting a grant to enable the erection of a wharf upon the South side of Grand River, opposite the McLeod ferry.

The foregoing were all tabled.

The hon Mr Kelly presented from James Ross and others, a petition, praying for the establishment of a Small Debt Court, at Mount Stewart Bridge.

Hon Mr Davies opposed the prayer of the petition, for he believed that the increase of Small Debt Courts, only increased litigation among the people of the Colony.

Some discussion took place, but ultimately, upon the motion of the hon Mr Laird, that the hon mover be allowed to withdraw the petition, it was carried by 13 to 8, that the mover have leave to withdraw the petition, which was accordingly done.

#### THE ORANGE INCORPORATION BILL.

##### SECOND READING.

On the motion that the House do now proceed to the second order of the day, the hon Col Secretary spoke to the following effect:—

Mr Speaker, previously to moving the second reading of the "Bill to incorporate the Grand Orange Lodge of Prince Edward Island, and the subordinate Lodges in connection therewith," I would again bring under the notice of the House the fact, that the Bill in question is prayed for by a very large, influential, and respectable body of Electors; and endeavor to prove that the Orange organization is not, in this Island, an illegal association—that its existence among us has not been a means of disturbing the peace of the Colony, but on the contrary, that the increase of Orangemen has had the very opposite effect—has conduced to the preservation of peace and good order—and further, that circumstanced as the Protestants of this Island now are, it is their duty to unite for the purpose of doing all in their power to prevent Romish ascendancy.—Why, Sir, I ask, should the Orange association be characterized as an illegal society? Is there anything in the Constitution of that association now upon the table, to justify such a charge? Are not the principles therein set forth consistent with the declarations contained in the Bill of Rights? Orangemen seek to maintain, in the British Empire, Protestant ascendancy. They know that the struggle of 1688 was between Protestantism and Popery. That the constitution then established, was the consequence of the victory achieved. They believe that the Bill of Rights and the Protestant succession, will exist, only so long as the papists of the Empire remain the weaker party—so long as they shall be unable to reconquer the "Rebels" against the authority of "Our Lord God the Pope." We honor the memory of our brave forefathers, whose devotion to the cause of Protestantism in the old world, accomplished the glorious Revolution, and shall it be said that it is illegal for us, to associate on this