

for the incorporation of the Provincial Grand Orange Lodge of Nova Scotia. That Bill did not receive a second reading. It was introduced again the following year and failed to secure a second reading. The Bill was introduced a third time in the Session of 1875; and my own impression is that in 1875 there were twice as many Orangemen in Nova Scotia as there had been in 1873. In 1875 the Bill, which is very much the same sort of measure as the one now before us, was passed without any discussion. A good deal of feeling was being stirred up throughout the Province, and the Government of the day and the members of the Legislature concluded that, although it might be a thing which could not be defended as a matter of principle, yet, as a matter of policy, it was better to pass the Bill. As I have said, the Bill passed without any discussion; and since that time we have heard very much less of Orangeism in Nova Scotia than we heard before.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—Where was the evil effect of it?

HON. MR. POWER—The body has fallen back to about the condition in which it was two or three years before the Bill was passed. Another fact in connection with the incorporation is that in Nova Scotia, as far as I am aware, the Orange association is not in any sense a political organization.

HON. MR. READ—It is not here, either.

HON. MR. POWER—Under these circumstances, I am placed in a somewhat different position from other members who have spoken. The Orange body is incorporated in Nova Scotia, and the additional incorporation by this Parliament will not materially affect their position in Nova Scotia; so that I might vote against this Bill without giving them ground for complaint; and, on the other hand, I might vote for the Bill, because we have the organization incorporated there, and this Bill will not give them any greater influence or weight, or any higher standing than they have already. I think one of the probable effects of incorporating the body will be that we shall hear less about them in other Provinces, as we now find is the case in Nova Scotia.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—They will have no grievance.

HON. MR. POWER—There is no substantial reason why there should be an Orange association. I believe the body is held together now largely by a feeling—a mistaken feeling, no doubt—that they have a right to incorporation, which right is refused them. They are unable to look at their own body with the same eyes as men who are perfectly indifferent in the matter do, and they feel—wrongly, I think—that they have a grievance, and, as long as they feel that they have a grievance, they will keep on agitating, and we shall not get rid of this difficulty. I believe, as I say, that one of the effects of their incorporation will be that we shall hear less of them after a very little while. There are two classes of Orangemen. There is one class who practice upon the prejudices of their weaker brethren for their own advantage, political or otherwise, or for the advantage of their party; and there is the large mass of members, who are honestly under the impression that they have a serious grievance. The feeling that they have had that grievance, as I have said, keeps the body together and makes them active. If the Bill is passed, the sense of grievance will probably be removed. I should feel very strongly in favor of not passing it if I thought that by throwing it out we would be done with it; but, if we reject this Bill after it has been passed by the House of Commons, we shall have it come back year after year; so I take it that there is a good deal to be said in favor of our freeing Parliament of this agitation by passing the Bill. There is this other circumstance—that there have been no petitions presented in this House against the Bill. I feel that, as a matter of principle, I am obliged to vote against the Bill. Apart altogether from my own religious views or prejudices, I could not vote for a Bill to recognize an association which is based upon what I consider very objectionable principles; and, if the question is pressed to a vote, I shall feel bound to vote against the Bill. At the same time, I am not myself anxious that the opposition should be pressed to a division.

HON. MR. READ—I would not have risen on this occasion to say a word if the hon. gentleman from Toronto had not charged the Orange body with almost all the crimes in the calendar. In the course of his speech he referred to the burn-