

verment and their supporters in the Legislature, and to the inactivity of the Government, in not having recourse to more energetic repressive measures for the putting down of the Tenant League at its very inception; and that the unmitigated severity of the censure had a tendency to injure and lower the people of this Colony in the estimation of those of the neighbouring Provinces as well as in the opinion of the Home Government. (Mr. Brecken) would indeed feel it a painful duty to censure either the people of this Island, or any considerable portion of them, as a lawless and seditious body; for he was quite certain that they were not. But that the censure alluded to in His Excellency's Speech had certainly taken place, and that it proceeded from, or was caused by, an illegal association of the tenantry for the subversion of the rights of property, formed at the instigation of certain ignorant or designing men, were facts which he presumed, he would not wish to deny. If then hon. members were truly anxious for the honor and good name of the country, was it not their most evident duty to state in the clearest and most unmistakable language, on behalf of themselves and the great mass of their constituents, the condemnatory view which they entertained concerning the formation, the proceedings, and the principles of the unlawful organization in question. It was particularly unfortunate that any portion of the people of this Colony should at this time have been betrayed into such a line of conduct as characterized the proceedings of the Tenant League. We were pressed by the Home Government and Canada to go into Confederation; and among the arguments urged by those of us who were opposed to the Scheme was that we had Self-Government with all its rights, powers and privileges; that we had at all times shown ourselves able to uphold the supremacy of the law, and to ensure, to all living within our borders, protection and security in the enjoyment of their rights and liberties; but he feared that the late unfortunate and disgraceful disturbances had gone far to weaken that argument; indeed, he thought the Leaguers had done more to drive us into Confederation than the most ardent supporters of the scheme here had been able to effect. It was not by drawing a veil over the civil disturbances which had lately taken place in the Island—it was not by endeavouring to extenuate them; but by showing—at the same time that we freely admitted they had unfortunately arisen—that we had possessed the necessary administrative courage and energy to suppress the organization from which they had proceeded, that we should be able to repel the insinuation, that we are only fit to part and parcel of a larger country, the government of which would be able to rule us in such a manner as would round more to our credit and the promotion of our interests, than if ourselves were to continue to be entrusted with the care of the one and the management of the other. The Leader of the Opposition was very severe upon the Government for not having suppressed the League at its origin; but he had not attempted to show in what respect they had failed in that duty. The hon. member ought to know that times and circumstances often arise in the history of a country, when it becomes the duty of public men to throw aside party considerations and put their shoulders to the common wheel. But how had the leader of the Opposition acted in this matter? Hon. members well recollect that, during the last Session, a very large procession of Leaguers paraded the streets of Charlottetown; that, when the objects of this association were denounced by several hon. members on this side of the House, the leader of the Opposition shrunk from condemning them, preferring to lay by, indifferent to the injury which the country might, in the meantime, sustain, content if out of the complications that might arise, he might advance his party interests. A man's responsibility must be measured by his position. The hon. member, as the leader of a large and influential political party, no doubt possessed considerable influence; and had he used it in the cause of order, and had he denounced the League, last year, in the terms he now uses, he might have rendered good service to his country.

On the 10th of April, 1866, the House went into Committee on the report of the Committee on expiring Laws, and agreed to certain resolutions.

On the 11th of April, the House went into Committee on the Bill to incorporate the Western Bank. Mr. Sinclair in the Chair. The said Bill was then, after some remarks from several hon. members relative to the clause on the appointment of Shareholders, agreed to.

The Bill to incorporate a Church at Cardigan was submitted to a Committee of the whole House and agreed to.

The Bill to incorporate the Mechanics' Fishing Company of Charlottetown, was committed to a Committee of the whole House.

After some time spent in Committee on the clause relating to the liability of the Company, which clause does not render individual members of the Company liable for any debts contracted in the name of the Company, only to the extent of his interest therein, the Bill was read a second time and agreed to.

Hon. Sol. General introduced a Bill relating to the conveyance and transfer of real and personal property vested in mortgages and trustees. Received, read, and referred to Committee to report thereon.

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Hon. Sol. General introduced a Bill for the purpose of amending the Act relating to a Court of Divorce in this Island. The principal object of the proposed Bill was to empower the said Court to compel the High Sheriffs of the different Counties of the Island, to serve any writs or other documents issued by the said Court, and also to execute any process or writs of any other Court of Justice, established within the respective Counties aforesaid, and to remedy other difficulties arising from certain defects in the present Act, which the Bill purports to amend. The Bill was received and read, and ordered to be referred to Committee to report thereon.

Hon. Sol. General introduced a Bill to incorporate the Brackley Point Road, which was read a second time and agreed to.

On motion of the Hon. Sol. General, a Committee was appointed to whom was referred all the petitions on the table, relating to the opening of new Roads. Ordered that the following hon. members do compose the said Committee, viz.—Hons. Kelly, Thurston, Messrs. Green and Haslam.

On motion of the Hon. Sol. General, the House went into Committee on the Bill to amend the City Corporation Act. Mr. Sinclair in the Chair.

After some time spent in Committee, progress was reported.

The Bill to amend the Act compelling Masters of Vessels to exhibit a light white in harbor in the night time, was read a second time and agreed to.

Hon. Leader of the Government introduced a Bill to be intitled "An Act for the regulation of Benefit Building Societies." He explained that the object of the bill was to encourage the formation of building Societies among the Mechanics and other classes of the community, and to provide for the regulation of such Societies, by small periodical subscriptions, to be in freehold or leasehold property. He alluded to the beneficial working of similar Societies in the Mother Country, the United States, and the sister Provinces. The protection and advantages afforded to the members of such Societies, and the advantages which they have to invest by the formation of institutions of that nature, called for a bill such as he presented, and which, he had no doubt, would meet with the hearty concurrence of hon. members on both sides.

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### SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

—SATURDAY, April 21.

The Bill to incorporate Casumpepe Church was read a second time and agreed to.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Longworth, the House went into Committee on the report of the Committee on expiring Laws, and agreed to certain resolutions.

On motion of Mr. Howland, the House went into Committee on the Bill to incorporate the Western Bank. Mr. Sinclair in the Chair. The said Bill was then, after some remarks from several hon. members relative to the clause on the appointment of Shareholders, agreed to.

The Bill to incorporate a Church at Cardigan was submitted to a Committee of the whole House and agreed to.

The Bill to incorporate the Mechanics' Fishing Company of Charlottetown, was committed to a Committee of the whole House.

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On motion of the Hon. Sol. General, the House went into Committee on the Bill to amend the City Corporation Act. Mr. Sinclair in the Chair.

After some time spent in Committee, progress was reported.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

—TUESDAY, April 24.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hensley, the Bill to incorporate the Western Bank was read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Longworth, the Bill to compel masters of vessels to exhibit a light on board their vessels in the night time, was read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Longworth, the order of the day for the second reading of the Bill to incorporate the Presbyterian Church at Bonshaw, was read.

Hon. Mr. Laird presented a petition which was received and read, from certain alleged adherents of the said Church at Bonshaw, praying that said Bill to incorporate that Church be disallowed, on the ground that the petition, on which said Bill was founded, was forwarded to the Legislature without the knowledge and concurrence of the petitioners, and for other reasons set forth by them. Ordered, that the petition justly lie on the table.

The order of the day for the second reading of the Bill in question was then discharged.

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