

debate must stop. (Hear, hear.) The leader of the opposition could read that a reply in Governor.

something done that they thought unconstitutional. There were, therefore, two cases of unconstitutional practice to deal with. There could be no question about the power of the Lieut.-Governor; he had the power at any moment to dismiss any government, even if it had a two-thirds majority, where there were good and cogent reasons for so doing.

There was a great deal of legislation hanging in the balance, and he was sure the decision of the Lieut.-Governor would cause regret amongst the people, and there would be still more that this legislation was not carried out.

That this House desires to renew its feelings of loyalty and devotion to the person and throne of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and to extend to her their most heartfelt congratulations on the victory of Lord Roberts, whose name the war in South Africa will be brought to an early termination.

Victorians at the Modder. The Times Correspondent With the First Contingent Writes From the Front. Belmont Camp, 3 p.m., Jan. 18.—The following has just come to hand from my ally at Modder River, dated Modder River, Jan. 18th, 3 p.m.: "We commenced shelling the Boer position at Magersfontein at 4.30 p.m. to-day, the enemy replying for the first time in two weeks. Our balloon went up to-day and reported Boer position unchanged since the New Year. The big naval guns and 4.7 five there will, of course, be a certain amount, but not nearly so much as one would be at first inclined to imagine. Casualties can be very largely avoided by the exercise of a little common sense.

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Mr. Higgins quoted at some length from the statute books to show the like-ness between the present state of British Columbia and the crisis which had taken place in New Zealand and Nova Scotia at certain periods of its history.

Mr. Deane pointed out that the House had been treated with scant courtesy by His Honor. The members came down to the House to transact the business of the country and this morning learned that the Governor had dismissed the government, there was no information to go upon and nobody knew what it was intended to do.

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