ed and reported on by the deputy minister. In the finance department Mr. Flett passes them; the minister does not sign cheques, he merely countersigns them, after the deputy minister and the audi tor have approved. In the lands and works department the vouchers are signalthough Mr. Gamble, the chief engineer, the House the other day, of all the

works. "I do not think that I need to say anything more about that. I have now been 12 years actively engaged in public life in British Columbia. Many hon. gent'emen of this House have had busialways found me straightforward, and anxious to do everything I undertook. And I may say more than that, sir. There are some hon, gentlemen on the other side of the House who are well acquainted with parties who were interested in those Colorado transactions, and know that they have heard from those parties that I never profited one dollar from anything that was done down there. I do not know that I need to take any more of the time of the House with these matters, but I will leave that to this House to judge whether I have not fully answered these charges, and whether as between myself and the junior member for Vancouver government cheers

House could not be congratifated upon the exhibition with which it had been favored by the third member for Vancouver, The attack of that hon, member had been so evidently actuated by personal interest or rpersonal spite, that no one would be likely to misinterpret it as intended for the public good. It was wholly and purely a personal matter, The public good could be in no way conserved by the carrying out of the What purpose of advantage to the country could there be in investigating the personal affairs of any hon. member of the House some twenty years How did it concern the House whether the Hon. Minister of Finance made or lost money during his residence in Colorado? What had the legislature of British Columbia to do with that Everyone was well aware of the char- should be admired for going to gaol ra- made just before he (Mr. Semlin) came acteristics of western frontier life, and ther than disclose a confidence. The to the town, and that on hearing what of the shrewdness of the business of the newspaper narrative of Hon. Mr. Cot- Mr. Dunsmuir had said, he made the a young man came to the west of Ameri- Mr. Martin had favored the House, he looked upon (if he had money) as a story." Surely Hon. Mr. Cotton should providential dispensation, for the benefit, be glad as he would be under the ciramong whom he came. There was brought up, giving him opportunity to among whom he came. There was stated and the state of set himself right. This newspaper story from that he be censured. earlier experiences in America he had publication; and he had nothing but Colonel Baker-I have very little now less money but a great deal more contempt for a man who would thus stab say on this resolution, except it be to experience. But in any event, of what a man in the back. If this Denver express a regret that private matters interest to the House were this gentle- newspaper publication was the best evi- of this kind should be introduced into man's exper ences and earlier concerns in dence that the third member for Van- the House, There has been too much anything to do with them The matters failed. The charges that had been tinued the character of no hon gentlecouver in connection with the Finance cowardly attacks that had been made those attacks. Because the House can-Minister's Colorado residence were no against the leader of the present opponent take cognizance of matters which secret. They had been common talk as long ago as 1894, and since then; and the was as little in this charge, and he properly within the province of a court of introducer of this resolution must have heard of them long before he became a of the day could do in honor and fair member of the House and accepted a play would be to state publicly that seat in the cabinet, with the Hon. Minist there was not the slightest foundation ter as a colleague. The hon, gentleman for these mean charges that had been must have known of these rumors prior made for political purposes in the meanto the elections of 1898-

House that I did not know of them. would of course have to accept the hon. gentleman's statement in this regard, while he felt convinced that there was no other public man who would say that he had not heard of these things. The third member for Vancouver was apparently quite alone in his lack of knowledge. It seemed to him that knowing all the circumstances so far as they were understood, the third member for Vancouver had been quite willing to take a seat in the executive of which the Hon. Minister of Finance had been a promin ent member: he was also willing that that hon, gentleman should be the leader of the party and of the government.

Mr. Martin promptly rose to deny this assertion. He had said that he wondered that the Hon. Finance Minister had not been selecter as leader "as against tion," however, he wished to deny most exactly coincided with what the hon, with Mr. Martin's want of confidence moyou, Mr. Premier"—this concluding shot emphatically that this was correct. As gentleman had just told the House tobeing directly addressed to Hon. Mr. (for the two other charges contained in day. (Appraise.)

Hon, Mr. Semlin continued that h was at a loss to reconcile Mr. Martin's this being his second session, and had present statements with his own observations and natural inferences.

"Now as to who were the proper parties to judge between Hon. Mr. Cotton to, while he was quite satisfied as he and the public. As the Hon, Minister had said, he had been in the province for upwards of 12 years, and had been elected and re-elected as the representative of Vancouver in this House. The electors of the province when they had so honored the hon, gentleman by chosing him as their represenative had been even more cognizant of all the circumstances of these matters referred to by the hon, third member for Vancouver than that hon, gentleman himself. Their confidence in the Finance Minister and their opinion as to these charges was il-Instrated in his repeated election in successive terms, and the House had now no right whatever to interfere in a matter wholly between the representative and the electors who had sent him to the House. If the electors of Vancouver had come to the conclusion that Hon. Mr. Cotton was not a fit and proper person to represent them upon the floor of the House they had the power in their own hands to relegate him to private life. Their returning him to the House with full knowledge of the facts was a sufficient refutation of the charges which the third member for Vancouver had now resurrected. When the third member for Vancouver hunched these charges, as he had, it was therefore to be taken as a direct slur upon his fellow citizens of Vancouver. No good result could be secured by the House appointing such a committee of inquiry as had been asked for, and he therefore proposed to vote against the resolu-

Mr. Booth would have agreed entirely

secure opportunity of meeting the ac-

cusations as he hadsite had, however, not had the courage couver had-so that they could be met and refuted. In conclusion, the member for North Victoria suggested that it would be well for the third member for Vancouver to withdraw his charges unless he could assure the House that he which he had indicated.

hitting below the belt, and therefore op-Hon Mr. Semlin observed that the

vertance.

Mr. Couton that, having been satisfact- yet out of the 18 or 20 on the opposite orly disposed of in 1894, it should not side not one had raised his voice in prohave been resurrected. Mr. Martin had test against those slanders. not taken the trouble to explain the cir- Hon. Mr. Semlin explained with re cumstances in this matter; and with a spect to the case of Mr. Robert Dunsknowledge of these circumstances he per- muir that gentleman's speech regarding matter in any respect or particular? sonally thought that Hon. Mr. Cotton the British and the Americans had been west. Everyone was aware how, when ton's Colorado experiences, with which ca from England, he was in most cases characterized as a "beautiful fairy not of the public, but of the individuals enunstances that the matter had been public interest that he had consented Finance when he first came to Western he had reason to believe had nothing was in this position, and it whatever in it it had been written up was probable that in consequence of his | for political purposes and sent East for

thought that the least the government est possible way. (Hear, hear.) He Mr. Martin-I have already told the had prepared an amendment proposing to strike out the second and third para-Hon, Mr. Semlin continued that he graphs of the resolution, but if it were understood that no attempt would be made by the government to defeat discussion, full and free discussion, he did not see that any good would be done by

> There was a promise in chorus from the government side that the closure would not be attempted.

bringing the amendment forward.

and Hon. Dr. McKechnie said that he had himself but a new member in the House arrived but recently comparatively in the country. He had therefore no personal knowledge of the matters referred believed the House was also-with the explanation of the Finance Minister, in

whose integrity and ability he had the fullest confidence. Hon. Mr. Hume joined with his colleague, who had just spoken in denying the charge of falsification. He was acting as secretary, and he found occasion ally in taking down the proceedings of the business meetings, that alterations were sometimes necessary. If Mr. Cotton was to blame for falsifying those reeords, he (Mr. Hume) must be in the same position. He did not think the Minister of Finance falsified those records; the member for Vancouver, he thought, had overstated the matter. The matter in question was a mistake, purely a mistake. If Mr. Martin had been sincere in his charges he would not have sat in the cabinet. As far as the other charges were concerned he had seen references to them in the various papers of the province, but had paid no heed

Mr. Turner-I cannot help feeling that resolution of this kind, which is really a personal resolution, is repugnant to what I consider right. I object very strongly to personal resolutions; several of them have been levelled at me. 1 must say that I thing the how the leader of the government must have forgotton the facts that have taken place since he and I have been in this legislature. One personal resolution brought into the House was against the late Hon. Robert Dunsmuir, though that could not he applied to him because the matters the Premier had they been applied to a untered public life. The present leader private member of the House-in such of the government though now bitterly

passed by the auditor of one department. Crown, however, the case was different, division after division. Mr. Turner said. While the opposition had shown their carry out the wishes of the House, it passed by the auditor of one department. Crown, however, the case was different, division after division. Mr. Turner said. While the opposition had shown their carry out the wishes of the House, it passed by the auditor of one department. Crown, however, the case was different, division after division. Mr. Turner said. or the other, and has also to be examin- the Minister in a way representing the would have been very glad if that desire to see that hon, gentleman get province as well as his own constituency sort of feeling had been stamped out fair play, and insisted that he should fidence, and made known the exact po i and being responsible to the entire pro- then. As had been very truly pointed vince as well as his own constituents. out by Mr. Booth, the present govern-Furthermore it was meet that a Crown ment was perfectly cognizant of the fact play to his opponents. Minister should be, like Caesar's wife, that the most outrageous charges were above suspicion. The House and the being made against the members of the Minister himself should therefore be late government; not public charges, but ed by Mr. Gore in the lands department, glad that the third member for Vancou- charges of gross dereliction of duty. ver had brought these matters forward, Those were circulated up and down the has now charge, as I explained to and enabled the Finance Minister to province in the newspapers of the them opposition. He did not see any gentlemen on the opposite side of the Hon. Mr. Carter-Cotton-Hear, heur. House get up and protest against this The charges that had been made sort of thing. Even in the newspaper against the Finance Minister, Mr. Booth owned and managed by the present hon. continued, were in a manner paralleled Minister of Finance there appeared the by the infamous charges that had been vilest slanders upon the characters of ness transactions with me, and I think put forward by the friends of the now the members of the late government. that they will tell you that they have government party just before the last Not more than six weeks ago it was general elections. The gentlemen oppo- promised that a charge would be brought against him that would sweep him out as yet to come forward and make their of public life. Up to the present time charges as the third member for Vun-nothing further had been heard of that charge. Had the gentlemen opposite no protest to make against this kind of thing? Or were they willing to have it published to all the world and shouted from every platform that the ministry had other evidence to submit than that of the province were dishonest, not that they had made mistakes in duty, but Mr. Helmcken regarded the resolution were dishonest, and had defrauded the before the House as in the nature of country. He was glad to see that the hon, leader of the government was in posed it in toto. He accepted Hon, Mr. favor of putting down personalities. In Cotton's explanation as satisfactory to 1804, when in Vancouver, Mr. Turner that they do not say that they consider every member of theutionse, expressing had been informed of something like the these charges entirely disproved." (Loud surprise, however, that neither Hon. statement made in the present resolu-Mr. Semlin por any, of his colleagues tion, but he had treated it with conhad not taken the first, opportunity to tempt. He believed he had never said corroborate the Finance Minister's state-anything that could be offensive personment with respect to the alleged falsifi- ally to any hon, gentleman on the oppo cation of records.

Hon, Mr. Semlin rose to explain. If shown the newspapers from Colorado site side of the House. He had been he had not done so it was through inad- containing the statements referring to He certainly had intended to the hon. Minister of Finance, but he had assure the House that there had been no more than glanced at it. Mr. Cotton no deliberate faisification of the min- had explained his position so fully that he thought nothing was to be gained by Victoria's senior member thought that appointing a committee. Those charges this would be taken as satisfactory, and laid against a member of a government hoped that the other ministers would be are very detrimental to his business, as heard from to the same effect. As for he knew from experience; and the genthe Gordon case, he agreed with Hon. tlemen opposite knew such was the case,

> remark that a man who would utter such statements should not occupy the position of a minister of the crown under the British flag. It was wholly in the Mr. Turner-You supported the resolu-

Hon. Mr. Semin-If it was true that he used those words.

Why should the House have couver had to offer, his case centainly of this before, and if this is to be conreferred to by the third member for Van- brought forward reminded him of the man in this House will be safe, from iaw. Members had the privilege in the House of getting up and being able to accuse any other man of any crime, and the accused could not have recourse to the usual procedure of redress. If any member offended politically in any way. it is not only the privilege but the right of any member to bring the matter to the notice of the House. With regard to the charges against the Finance Minister. I have heard them frequently, years and years ago. And then people have often come to me with allegations against the hon, gentleman, and also against other members of the House, but I have always said that if I had to fight out a battle in the House I would Mr. Helmicken accordingly consigned fight it on an absolutely fair field. That his amendment to the waste basket, is the course I have followed throughout my whole career. As regards the state ments relating to the hon, gentleman's very little to say, but regarded it as his residence in the state of Colorado, only duty to set himself right in the matter lately when in London I happened to of the alleged falsification of the re- meet the gentleman who was private cords of the executive. He was not at secretary to Mr. Cotton when that genliberty of course to give any minute ac- tleman was in-Colorado, and in justice count of the proceedings of the execu- to that hon, gentleman I must say that tive. As for the "de iberate falsifica- what that gentleman in London told me

the resolution before the House-he was Hon. Mr. Henderson expressed himself as quite satisfied with Hon. Mr. Cotton's explanation, and held that Mr. Martin had completely failed in making out any case. He complimented the leading members of the opposition for the manly stand they had taken in deprecating the introduction of personaliies into politics.

Mr. McPhillips, while he did not agree with much that had been said in and of the resolution, held that it was eminently unfair to say that Mr. Martin had faile to make out a case, because it was only when the committee asked for should commence his work that he could properpresent his evidence. Again, the Minister of Finance, it would be remembered, had drawn the charges upon himself-the third member for Vancouver had been practically compelled by the Finance Minister to formulate the charges which were now complained of had many differences with Mr. Martin, had no reason to set himself up as that gentleman's champion he believed that 4th January, with regard to the sending that member should have fair play, and should not be expected to bring any proof of the charges he had made, before the House, the proper course being tion. "He had taken the offer as genuine to reserve such matter for the select and in every sense bonn, fide, and, redizwith regard to the alleged falsification of ported the proposals. He could see no the record should be accepted as disposing of that portion of the charges. The never have been revived—that matter be ing res adjudicata. Nor did he think Colorado matter should have been brought into the parliament. Mr. Mr-Phillips regretted to see that the Finance Minister had lacked the manliness to rise with the observations and conclusions of it dealt with occurred, years before he in his place and clear the leader of the opposition from the vile imputations that had been placed upon him. Such riotism. a case it would have been a matter sole-opposed to personal resolutions took an conduct as that of the Finance Minister done their duty-but he did not think the dy between the member and his conceptive enough part in that one against in this regard could only be characterstituents. With a Minister, of the Mr. Dunsmuir. His name appeared in | ized as cowardly, unmanly and unfair.

be honorably dealt with, it would be re- tion of affairs, . The contempt of the gov membered that he had not accorded fair

Mr. Martin, closing the debate, exnation, whereas it proposed merely that answer the question that all the province a fair and impartial investigation should was asking. be made, which would have permitted the Finance Minister the opportunity that the offer of B. C. troops had not been would welcome, to fully and finally es- genuine and worthy exhibition of patriot and had opposed the proposition for an had accepted the offer in specific terms ed until the case was presented-as it. found there was no substantial founda; things were now there was no need for tion for his case, he would get the worst | more men in Africa. of it. Under the circumstances, Hon. Mr. Cotton's denial amounted to nothing.

Dealing specifically with the charge of that not a single member of the governhis duty-the rest was for the constituen-

question of private life, but of business tion would redound to its everlasting from Lord Roberts has been common honesty. Everything the Finance Min- credit. elections had taken place—which did not of B. C. look as though they were intended for Mr. Helmeken quoted from a "head-He would have liked the matters to go Lt. Col. Vidal, stating that it was under before a committee, and if the charges stood at the federal capital that the B. C. done his duty in asking for the country tee; if the House refused it that was something that he had nothing to do with. But he did not think the country derstanding existed. From the last and derstanding existed. whitewashing the Minister of Finance

without investigation. Booth. the government-Messrs. tice, A. W. Smith, withdrawing, Mr. Cotton not voting, and Mr. Dunsmuir being still absent from the city.

A Question Answered. Mr. Kidd asked the Minister of Finance; 1. Is it the intention of the government have another Inspection made of the Burnaby small holdings, with a view to determining whether or not the leasehold-

ers are complying with the terms of their 2. If such is the intention, when will the uspection be made? n. Mr. Cotton replied: "1. Yes.

Redistribution Adjourned.

The government insistel upon the deported by the opposition-maintained that raid an enthusiastic tribute to the volunit had been well understood that this teers of Vernon, and declared that East member for Vancouver pointed out that, kind. after taking so prominent a part in one debate, it would be unfair to expect him had never intended its offer. Every action o take up the new subject at the same of the administration showed that it sitting—especially as he was physically in- nothing more than cheap bluff. If the capacitated

giving the government a thorough castiga- the other 160tion; and therefore insisted on the debate

Mr. Martin protested with vigor against him, a throat affection making it extremeour to complete his remarks on this important subject.

B. C. Troops for Africa. Moving the adjournment of the House as unfairly introduced. While he had Mr. Turner again directed attention to the neglect of the government to use due and probably would again, and while he energy in carrying out the wishes of the House, as expressed by resolution on the of a B. C. confingent to South Africa. He thad taken that offer to be a serious one on the part of the government, and thad therefore been gind to second the resolut committee if one were granted. He ing that there was abundant meterial for thought the statements of the ministers, a good troop from B. C., bad cordially supcented, the country being unantmous in charge in the Gordon matter should favor of it. As a fact it had not been present upon the authorities; and intallment reconsection had not been undortaken. He hald that the province did not want its offer of troops to be taken as merely a chean advertising bluff (of the weturn of the Pacific onlie offer), and the fact that hundreds of good men had come forward all through the province showed that the people were earnest in their patriotism. The people of the province had done their duty-but he did not think the government had done all in its power to at the usual hour.

ernment for the patriotic offers of the leading provincial cities was referred to, and the inactivity of the government was contrasted with the energetic patriotism pressed disappointment at the turn the of the Australasian governments. All that debate had taken-opposition as well as the B. C. administration had done was to government having apparently misinter present to the House an empty telegram preted the resolution as one of condem-

that it would be naturally thought he made as an advertising bhiff-it was a tablish the falsity of the charges against ism inducing B. C. to express a desire to Cronje's Retreat to Bloemf ntein him—if so be that those charges were eral telegrams had been received from assist in the struggle in South Africa. Sevuntrue. The Finance Minister did not Ottawa in connection with the provincial appear to desire such an opportunity, offer, but none showing that the Dominion investigation; and it would seem that the in which the offer had been made. It House was disposed to whitewash him was to be inferred that the matter of without asking for evidence such as transportation was the great stumbling could only be properly presented before block. He deried emphatically that the a committee. His explanation, which government had failed in patriotism. The had apparently satisfied a majority of question rested wholly with the Dominion the House, had been altogether out of government, he did not see how this govorder, inasmuch as he should have wait whether it would be destrable to so do. Maj.-Gen. Kinchant held that it was had not been and could not be until the evident that the Dominion objected to the committee commenced work. In making proposal as submitted by the province, and large tactical advantage has been gained. these charges he had of course taken the he held that from a military point of view the reach, and the way to Bloemfontein was cutte convent. risk that, if a committee upon inquiry their contention was quite correct. As

Col. Baker could not seree with the in-terpretation that had been placed upon the telegrams from Driawa by the gentle boers in force. Their paties melted away Dealing specifically with the charge of falsification of the records, he declared de ment had dared to deny the facts—they gent, they must make it up to a proper As to what force General Croude has had simply given their opinions. What unit and deliver the men in South Africa.

did he care for their opinions? This was This threw the responsibility wholly upon making a stand against the invaders, no question for the ministers, for the the government of B. C., so that if the House and for the country. He would government was sincere and ready to go knows anything. The data for conceptions lay evidence before the country to show shead the power was given it to do sothat the Minister of Finance could have for the opposition had given a guarantee made no mistake under the circumstant that they would stand by any expendition of Lord Roberts are placed at 50,000 in a ces. The House might whitewash the ture incurred in this direction. The progeneral way. These figures are revealed Finance Minister; he was perfectly pre- position came down to the plain question by the commands mentioned in the dispared for them to do that; he had done how large a vote would be required? He believed that B. C. could send 400 first! class mounted riflemen to South Africa, Quite possibly Lord Roberts has 10,000 or In regard to the second charge he did synenditure of regard to the second charge he did synenditure of regard to the second charge he did synenditure of regard to the second charge he did expenditure of perhaps, \$150,000 involved. not believe in going into the private life Even if the province had to provide for of any member-but this was not u the expenditure by a special loan, the ac-

ister had said was consistent with that Mr. Booth said that he would like to see time in studying maps, and topography portion of the paragraph in his resolu- B. C. send a thousand men to South Africa and figuring out the possibilities of Lord tion, and if a committee of the House to aid the Mother Country, but the ex. Roberts's communications and what there looked into the circumstances, and pense proposed required serious consideral is left for the Boers to do.

Messrs. Wilson and Davis were examination. He questioned if \$150,000 would correct Cronje's communications. ed, it would be disclosed whether the er the cost of sending 400 men to Cape-Finance Minister was entitled to occupy town, as the Dominion had paid \$115,000 best news England could bear would be the nosition he did now. In regard to the position he did now. In regard to that the fine fine on the scene; and while he, as a Britmen on the scene; and while he, as a Britmen on the scene; and while he, as a Britmen on the scene; and while he, as a Britmen on the scene; and while he, as a Brittalked about a fairy tale, but he hought on and a Canadian, would be both proud must raise the slege of Kimberley and reit was Mr. Cotton's explanation that and glad to give the last man and the last looked fishy. It would be noted that the dollar, if necessary, he thought that the fight. This retreat could be a long detour article in question had been published in effer already made should be regarded as a around the head of the British advance to Bloemfontein, or, as seems to military

political purposes in British Columbia: quarters" letter from Ottawa, signed by were proved to be untrue, he would be contingent was organizing locally that was the first person to apologize. He had the information that had been given an done his duty in asking for the comm the applicant there. He asked for an authoris-

ould support the House in deliberately swer received from the Dominion govern of relieving Ladysmith." ment, it was evident that they washed their hands of the entire concern, and left Mareking, dated January 29th, after men-Upon the House dividing, Messrs, this government to pay all expenses for tioning matters already sent out by corres-Chifford, Higgins, their men to the Cape, if they desired to pondents, gives his total casualties up to Brydon and Martin (Jos.) were found send them. The government was still en- January 25th as follows: Killed-Five offiin the affirmative; while Messrs. Hall, deavoring to arrange transportation; but cers and 60 men. Wounded-Eight officers Baker, Turner and Ellison voted with the Imperial government had recently state and 123 men. Missing-34 men. McPhillips, ed that it did not want less than 135 No word has been received regarding the government—messrs. McBride, Pooley, Pren-mounted infantry or 260 mounted riflemen. Gen. Gatacre's 12,000 men at Stormberg. Besides, he questioned if the people of the The impression is that these forces are on province would endorse so large an ex; the way to Lord Roberts. penditure in this connection as \$150,000when the government of the Dominion had declined to do anything.

Maj. Gen. Kinchant informed the House that Canada had no mounted infantry; 260 men was therefore the smallest force that would be regarded as acceptable. Mr. Elison accused Gen. Kinchant pointedly of having quickly changed his views

on this subject—as it was only a few days since he had supported the statement that mounted scouts were most of all required in the South African campaign. He held A government officer will be instructed to that the government would be quite justi make an inspection at the earliest possible fied in sending the men through to Africa "all expenses paid"-and felt sure that the country would support such action. Upon the order for a continuation of the government spend or offer to spend the redistribution question, in connection indition dollars for a cable proposition with out reference to or consideration for the House entirely by the hole-in-a-corner process surely it would endorse such an bate proceeding, while Mr. Martin-sup-expenditure as was here contemplated. He should go over until Friday. The third Yale had plenty more of the same right

Mr. McPhillips held that the government government was in earnest, even on its Hon. Mr. Semlin did not think the hon. original offer, and would send the 100 men gentleman's looks justified his plea. He he felt sure that the citizens of the prov coked as though he was still capable of dace, in their private capacity, would send

"What guarantee have we of that?" isked someone on the government side. Hon. Mr. Cotton-The Dominion govern uch an unfair advantage being taken of ment proposes to wash its hands of the whole matter in connection with provin r painful for him to speak, while it would clai confingents. Therefore, if B. C. wants coulre him at least three-quarters of an to send a contingent, it is clearly stated

Mr. McPhillips continued that the patriotism of the opposition did not halt at Halifax, although that of the government apparently went but that far. He thought that the action of the government in this mportant matter had discredited it in the yes of the country. The government would be, at the first opportunity, condemned by Mr. Helgesen-Does

opinion extend to the extent of \$300,000? Mr. McPhilips observed that \$300,000 ap peared to stagger the senfor member for Carlboo now, although but a little while since he had been quite ready to see a million of provincial money sunk in the depths of the sea, and without consulting the House at all. The government had tried and found wanting, even in patriotism Mr. Deane held that the matter should

be very seriously considered before so large an expenditure as involved should be undertaken, although he was patriotic enough to say that had he the money himself he would cheerfully vote it for the purpose. Mr. Turner said that the matter having

been discussed, as he desired it should be, he would withdraw the resolution The House then adjourned until Monday

## Lord Roberts's Force

He Has Over 50,000 Men Under His Command at Mod. der R.ver. Hon, Mr. Semiln, replying, quite agreed

> Has Been Cut Off -Casualties at Mafeking

London, Feb. 15.-For the first time since the war began the British army is inside the Boor frontier. Lord Roberts, with least 40,000 infantry, 7:000 cavalry and guns, has gained the Magersfontein lind before which the British forces have en. camped for ten weeks, and with half of his corps he is already operating on Free State territory. A battle has not yet been fought, but

is appreciably easier. Lord Roberts's dispatches wired from

inside the Free State and on the Riet river left him Wednesday morning as the British moved forward. The Boer army is likely to be felt in a day or two, and a battle is conveniently imminent are wholly wanting.

patches as having been added to the divisions known to be with Lord Methuen.

'Communications' Cut. London, Feb. 16.-As nothing further

to the public, military adepts spend their General Cronje's communications with Bloemfentein have already been cut. The

treat to a point where he would prefer to students more practicable, he could withdraw to the north, using the railroad for his guns and heavy baggage, moving to Fourteen Streams station and thence into Transvaal territory.

The Boers have made no preparations to lefend Bloemfontein, and there is no particular reason why General Cronje should risk a battle to protect the capital of the Free State. Operations elsewhere are apparently suspended.

A correspondent wiring from Chieveley February 13th, says: "We are still hopeful Col. Baden-Powell in a dispatch from

The war office has issued orders for the

formation of 21 new batteries and three battallons of infantry. Boer Report. Feb. 13. Yesterday Gen. Botha, with a

Boer Langer, near Ladysmith, Tuesday, small force, crossed the Tugela to the deserted British camp, where he encountered fifty Lancers, of whom thirteen were killed, five wounded and nine taken prisoners. One prisoner was sent to tell the British to fetch their wounded.

· CANADIAN ITEMS (Associated Press.)

Toronto, Feb. 16 .- Alfred Day, the well-known general secretary of the Ontario Provincial Sunday School Association, has resigned to take charge of the Michigan State Association. The board of health reports for January shows the total number of deaths

in the province for that month was 1,743, ninety per cent. of the population having reported. In the corresponding month last year, with 98 per cent. of the population reporting, the total deaths were 2.154. Hon. Sir Frank Smith, who has been ailing for some time, has taken a turn

for the worse and is in a sinking condition The Ontario government forestry lepartment has received inquiries from firms at Cork, Ireland and Cardiff. Wales, concerning spruce boxes for butter packing. Each company is desirous

of securing 50,000 boxes. Kingston, Feb. 16.-Dr. A. S. Oliver, an old resident of this place, died suddenly last night. Danville, Ont., Feb. 16 .- Joseph Pi-

nard, 50 years of age, was fatally crushed by a load of timber going over his body while driving the load down 3 steep hill yesterday afternoon. He was dead when the doctor arrived. St. Catherines, Ont., Feb. 16.-The Board of Trade here has passed a resolution urging the government to soffer

Canadian volunteers for service in South Africa. Montreal, Feb. 16.-At the annual meeting of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co. held to-day, the acnouncement was made that the company would increase Its capital by allowing holders of five shares on record to February 28th, to purchase one new share.

Her Majesty an increased number of

Among the recent arrivals from the North were James Hume, proprietor of the Bennett hotel, and his bride. They came down to spend their honeymoon in this city. Mrs. Hume was aforetime Miss Ellen Robertson, of Bennett. They were married at the Baptist parsonage at Bennett by Rev. C. Jordan.

The old board of directors was re-elect-

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