

since his object was to vindicate those constitutional principles which in his opinion should have guided and inspired the Government when they came to the conclusion that it was their duty to send a military contingent to Africa, that it would have been far more in accordance with the fitness of things that he should have moved his amendment either upon the address, when that subject was debated at length, or upon the motion presented to the House by the Minister of Finance, in order to make good the expenditure incurred for that object. Then my hon. friend would have presented to this House a real and live issue, a concrete motion which could have been discussed and debated, affirmed or denied, or amended to some practical purpose; whereas he now offers us not a practical motion, but an academic, abstract and rigid motion, which can be debated, which can be affirmed or denied, but cannot be amended, and which, by the rules of this House, has either to be swallowed whole or rejected whole. My hon. friend, in the course of his very able and eloquent speech, has taken the House into his confidence as to the relations which have existed between him and me upon this subject. He has informed the House, and truly informed the House, that he was not present when the motion which I offered to the House, I think on the 31st July or the 1st of August last, of sympathy with the Uitlanders, was adopted, and he has said that if he had been present in the House at that time he would have opposed the motion. He has informed the House also that at that time, and later on, he repeatedly warned me that if we were to incur any military expenditure he would oppose that step of the Government. My hon. friend will permit me to say that I have always respected his convictions, that although I differ from his views I have too much respect, and I may say, without hesitation, admiration for him, not to allow him the full liberty which he claimed. (Hear, hear.) My hon. friend informed me more than once that he wanted to move an amendment to the policy of the Government in order to affirm his conviction.

A More Fitting Occasion. The hon. gentleman will agree with me if I go a little farther in the confidence to which he has invited the House, and if I say that I often represented to my hon. friend that if he felt bound in the discharge of the duty which he owed to himself of bringing in an amendment, he should do it either upon the address, or upon the resolution of the Minister of Finance, because if my

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