

# THE MAFEKING MAIL

## SPECIAL SIEGE SLIP.

ISSUED DAILY, SHELLS PERMITTING.

TERMS: ONE SHILLING PER WEEK, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

No. 47

Saturday, January 6th, 1900.

87th Day of Siege.

### The Mafeking Mail.

SATURDAY, 6TH JANUARY, 1900.

#### LATEST NEWS.

##### LADYSMITH RELIEVED.

Boers' Big Gun Destroyed.

Four Maxims and Howitzer captured.

General Gatacre reached Molteno.

##### NATAL.

Ladysmith was relieved, date not given, but probably about the 22nd of December, after hard fighting and severe loss inflicted on the enemy. It will be remembered that in last Saturday's issue we reported that our forces met with a reverse at Colenso, some of our guns being captured by the enemy. A few days later Sir Redvers Buller took Colenso, recovered our guns, killed and wounded large numbers of Boers and scattered the remainder. He then advanced to and effected the relief of Ladysmith. The garrison of this town had previously made a sortie and destroyed the enemy's big French gun, ("Long Tom" as the besieged folks called it) which used to be fired into the town in the middle of the night like "Oud Greitje" is here, and captured four Maxims and a Howitzer. The reverse at Colenso was occasioned by a Battery of Horse Artillery going into action too far ahead. Getting right in among the Boers it was cut off, lost all the horses and most of its officers and men were shot. Of course this was wiped out in a day or two afterwards.

##### SOUTH.

General French is at Naauwpoort and successfully holding the enemy back till he has further reinforcements, while General Gatacre, who we reported last week had lost 267 men near the Stormberg through some treacherous guides, has got so far as Molteno. The reverse, therefore, could not have materially interfered with his progress. It is gratifying to know that we are through the dangerous Stormberg country and steadily gaining ground in the midst of that hot-bed of disloyalty, of which Molteno (detested name) is about the centre. The importance of Naauwpoort being successfully held by our troops is apparent when we consider its position regarding Colesberg and traitorous Burgersdorp. It will also keep open communication south.

General Methuen has built a new bridge at Modder River and is advancing against the enemy at Spytfontein.

He will be reinforced by the 5th Division (which has by now arrived). The 6th Division embarked 24th December. 7th and 8th Divisions are being prepared for embarkation. Another Canadian Contingent is being got ready, and New South Wales is ready to send more troops if necessary.

It is reported that Lord Roberts has been appointed Commander-in-Chief in S. Africa, and left England 23rd December, in the Dunottar Castle. Lord Kitchener is to be his Chief Staff Officer.

##### NORTH.

Our forces have reached Crocodile Pools and are doing well.

Matters are thus going well but very slowly, and it will be necessary for us therefore to sit tight for some time yet, which we can easily do. Our food, with proper care to avoid waste, would last another three months if it were necessary—which however, is not likely to be the case.

Sundays, 7th and 14th.

#### Variety Entertainment.

##### World-wide Show

— AND —

##### Driving Competition.

Under the Patronage of Colonel Baden-Powell and the Officers of the Garrison.

##### COMMITTEE.

##### RECREATION GROUND.

Captain Girdwood and two Gentlemen and two Ladies to be selected by him.

##### HIDDEN HOLLOW.

Major Godley and two Gentlemen and two Ladies to be selected by him.

A prize will be given to the Corps producing the best Variety Entertainment.

Amount of prize will depend on number of members of the troupe; at least £1 for every performer, 10s. each bandsman or accompanist.

The following entertainments will take place to-morrow, commencing at 3 p.m.:

##### RECREATION GROUND.

Variety Entertainment given by the Cape Police and Bechuanaland Rifles.

#### CAPE POLICE, D. 2, ELLIS' FORT

"Semper Vigilans."

##### PROGRAMME.

1. Piano and Mouth Organ Medley,  
PTE. A. W. RICHARDS.
2. Comic Song ... ..  
PTE. E. W. COXWELL.
3. Sword Exercise, etc: ... ..  
CORPL. CLEMENTS, PTE. WARREN and  
PTE. SCALLY.
4. Mandoline Solo ... ..  
PTE. J. P. MURRAY.
5. Club Swinging ... ..  
PTE. HALL.
6. Hottentot Dance ... ..  
CORPL. H. M. B. CURRIE.

#### BECHUANALAND RIFLES.

#### Travelling Minstrel Troupe.

##### PROGRAMME.

1. March Past ... ..  
"STAATS ARTILLERIE."
  2. Song, "Old Swanee Ribber," ... ..  
GENERAL SNYMAN.
  3. Grand Miserable Drill Display,  
By the TROUPE.
  4. Tent-pegging ... ..  
By the DARK TOWN SECTIONAL TEAM.
  5. Clog Dance ... ..  
By PIET CRONJE.
  6. Glee, "Fancy Meeting You,"  
By the TROUPE.
- And a War Dance by The Missing Link.  
To be followed by a

#### WORLD WIDE SHOW!!

The Grand

#### Siege Driving Competition.

One prize for the most unique and original turn out.

One Prize for the lady passenger in the vehicle that wins the race.

The race consists of driving the vehicle round a circular course while the band plays. When the halt sounds the vehicle that is nearest up to the winning post wins the race. Drivers choose their own pace, but may not stop till the halt sounds.

Any kind of vehicle, any kind of animal or team, any kind of dress is permissible, but each vehicle must be provided with



some form of alarm, such as horn, or whistle, etc., which must be kept sounding during the race.

Each vehicle must carry a lady passenger, to whom the prize goes in the case of the winning vehicle.

## Hidden Hollow.

Variety Entertainment given by the Protectorate Regt. and the B.S.A. Police.

### PROTECTORATE REGIMENT.

#### PROGRAMME:

1. Comic Song ... ..  
TROOPER BARRON.
2. Recitation, "American"  
TROOPER BURNE.
3. Song .. "Nancy Lee"  
TROOPER CLARKE.
4. Comic Song ... ..  
TROOPER COOPER.
5. Banjo Duet ... ..  
CORPL. BAILLIE AND PRIVATE GOTT.
6. Laughable Sketch, "The Shoeblick"  
"Billy," TPR. COOPER; "Jimmy,"  
TPR. BARRON; "The Toff," TROOPER  
CLARKE.

### B.S.A. POLICE, CANNON KOPJE.

#### PROGRAMME:

- Cornet Solo ... .. Tpr. Turbridge  
Comic Song ... .. Burke.  
Clog Dance ... .. Fell.  
Song ... .. Ascough.  
Boxing ... .. Tprs. Burke and Parish.  
Club Swinging ... .. Tpr. Parish.

Trolleys for conveyance of troupes will be provided, also a stage at each point.

A similar entertainment will be provided on the following Sunday at the same time, the performers changing places, namely:—  
To-morrow's Hidden Hollow party going to the Recreation Ground and the Recreation Ground party to Hidden Hollow.

On the final day the Committees will decide on the best performance and prizes will be awarded.

By the kind permission of Capt. Cowan, the Band of the Bechuanaland Rifles will perform on both days.

### GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Printed and published by  
Townshend & Son, Market Square, Mafeking  
Editor and Manager: G. N. H. Whales.

Collection no: A2706

Collection: MAFIKENG MAIL, Special Siege Slip, 1899-1900

**PUBLISHER:**

*Publisher:*- Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand

*Location:*- Johannesburg

©2013

**LEGAL NOTICES:**

**Copyright Notice:** All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

**Disclaimer and Terms of Use:** Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

**DOCUMENT DETAILS:**

*Document ID:*- A2706

*Document Title:*- MAFIKENG MAIL, Special Siege Slip

*Document Date:*- 1899-1900