

# THE MAFEKING MAIL

## SPECIAL SIEGE SLIP.

ISSUED DAILY, SHELLS PERMITTING.

TERMS: ONE SHILLING PER WEEK, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

No. 107

Monday, April 2nd, 1900.

172nd Day of Siege

### The Mafeking Mail.

MONDAY, 2ND APRIL, 1900.

#### LATEST NEWS.

From the *Bulawayo Chronicle*:

Paardeberg, Feb. 24th.—It is said that in the middle of the 6th day of the siege of his laager, Cronje was willing to surrender, but the young Transvaalers refused.

Commandant De Wet, with 200 men, made a determined attempt to break our lines and get through, but the Scottish Borderers cut them off.

The enemy are now disregarding all the rules of civilised warfare. While an ambulance was passing, they poured the contents of a Vicksbury Maxim into it, with fatal effects.

No news is published [Pretoria and Johannesburg.] with regard to Cronje, except that a burgher named Brinck, who spread a report of their surrender, at Boshoff, was promptly prosecuted by the Government for disseminating false information.

#### TOO LATE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SURRENDER.

Lorenzo Marques, Feb. 27th.—Large Boer reinforcements, in response to an urgent appeal from President Steyn, have been despatched Bloemfontein.

#### EUPHEMISM.

Bloemfontein, March 1st.—President Steyn is visiting the burghers at Koedoosrant, where a big fight is imminent.

The *Saturday Review* of January 13th said with reference to Kimberley and Mafeking: "For the gallantry with which our beleaguered garrisons are holding their own no praise can be too high, no award of credit undeserved. They at least—like all our other troops—have worthily upheld the best traditions of the British Army."

#### A HINT.

"Both in the East and in the West the Boers seem to be extending their positions unduly. There is nothing more tempting, when occupying a defensive position, than to go on taking in points on the flanks—a tendency which should always be guarded against. Uncousciously it often leads a commander to occupy a longer line than the strength of his force warrants."

By the courtesy of Mr. Weil we publish the following extracts of public interest from a letter he received from his brother at Capetown, 5th March, 1900:—

Your are doubtless aware of the magnificent march of Lord Roberts, which led to the relief of Kimberley, the smashing up of Cronje's forces, and the capture of about 4,000 prisoners, besides the redoubtable Cronje himself. Commandant Cronje and the majority of these prisoners have already arrived in Capetown (as prisoners of war).

On the Natal side Her Majesty's forces have also been successful in raising the siege of Ladysmith and driving the Boers out of the territory of Natal.

I presume the Boers will now concentrate within their own borders to defend them. This will, I hope, lead to a speedy relief of

Mafeking—if not, other means are being taken to effect it.

The British forces at present in the field number over 200,000, and further large reinforcements are on the water, so that you will see it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to make a clean and thorough job of it, and the aspirations of the two Republics and the disloyals in the Cape Colony will, I hope, be wiped out for ever.

Give my best and kindest wishes to all friends in Mafeking, and tell them that the whole world is filled with admiration for the plucky stand they have made. Please inform Riesele that his children are quite well. Inform Mahony that I have seen Mrs. Mahony, also Hampson that I have seen Mrs. Hampson, and Goodyear that I have seen his wife,—all of whom are well and whose wants have been attended to. Mrs. and Miss Francis are in Grahamstown. I have written to them and asked them to apply to me freely in case they want anything. I understand that they are quite well. Remember me to Capt. Cowan, who is to be complimented on his brilliant work, and whose services will, I hope, be rewarded as they are appreciated. Also give my kindest regards to Col. Baden-Powell and Lord Edward Cecil, and you might mention to Lord Edward that Lady Cecil is staying at Groot Schuur with Lady Bentick, and both are quite well. Give my regards to Major Gould-Adams.

A later wire, dated Capetown, March 19th, says:—Large supplies are now on the road. Mr. Sam Weil is with the relief force now marching from Kimberley.

#### PRICES IN LADYSMITH BEFORE THE RELIEF

Eggs 36s. per dozen; a small fowl 18s 6d; a pumpkin 12s; a

small marrow 6s; a tin of jam 12s 6d; a tin of milk 8s 6d; box of sardines 3s; tobacco £4 10s per lb.; while a case of whiskey was raffled for £145.

### LOST. TWO COMMANDOES.

*S. & D. News* says, March 7th. No official reports are to hand of the whereabouts of the Krugersdorp, Ward 1 and Johannesburg commandoes. It is believed that a portion of these forces have fallen into the hands of the enemy. [The live "portion" we presume our contemporary alludes to.]

### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor Mafeking Mail.

SIR,—In your "Special Siege Slip" of March 31st, 1900, there were three letters *re* compensation.

Upon that subject I trust you will not think it an impertinence on my part for just drawing attention to the following:—

1. The men of all Corps in Mafeking (as nearly everyone is, no doubt, well aware) for some considerable time have been on short rations. Now whether the authorities at home will compensate them in any way is quite an open question, if their claims are not backed up by some one in authority.

2. I hear that some of the Volunteer Corps in the Colony and Natal are drawing 10s. per diem; if that is correct, do you think it would be asking too much for us to be put down for the same rate of pay?

Of course the men would not think of approaching the gallant G.O.C. on the subject but I thought that through your columns the thing might be suggested.

Trusting you will insert these few lines, and thanking you in anticipation,

I am, &c.,

"EX-TOMMY ATKINS."

### FRIEND & CO.,

GENERAL IRONMONGERS & FURNISHERS.

Store open daily from 7 to 8 a.m.  
and 3 to 5 p.m.

## Mafeking Garrison.

### GENERAL ORDERS

By Colonel R. S. S. Baden-Powell, Commanding Frontier Force.

Mafeking, 2nd April, 1900.

*Flags of Honour.*—The Colonel Commanding has much pleasure in announcing that a flag of honour is being made by the ladies of Mafeking for presentation to D 2, Cape Police, for their plucky and efficient scouting early in the war, and for the prominent part taken by them in driving the Boers out of the Brickfields.

*Court of Summary Jurisdiction.*—The Court of Summary Jurisdiction will meet on Tuesday, the 3rd April, at the Court House, at 10-15 a.m., for the examination of such prisoners as may be brought before it. President: Major Lord Edward Cecil, D.S.O.; Member: C. G. H. Bell Esq., C.C. & R.M.

*Medical Subordinates, etc.*—With reference to General Order No. 6, of the 24th ultimo, all Nurses and Medical Subordinates connected with the Hospital, the Convent Hospital, the Laager Hospital, the Town Guard and the Railway Division will be under the orders of Dr. Hayes as Base P.M.O. The Medical Subordinates of the Military and Police Forces will be under Major Anderson, R.A.M.C. as P.M.O. of the Forces, assisted by Surgeon Captain Holmden, B.S.A.P.

*Town Police.*—1. Sergeant P. Stuart, C.P. II., is appointed Chief Constable, Mafeking; all the Civil Police being under his control.

2. Sergt. P. Stuart, Chief Constable, Mafeking, is entitled to draw Extra Duty Pay from Imperial Funds at the rate of 7/6 per diem from the 13th October inclusive.

*Horses: Extra Rations.*—With reference to General Order No. 4, of the 12th ult., the Extra Ration therein authorised will consist of

Whole Oats ... 2 lbs. per horse.  
Oat Bran ... 5 " " "

By order,

E. H. CECIL, Major,  
Chief Staff Officer

### SIEGE ESSAY COMPETITION.

By A. L. CHIDDY.

(Continued from Slip No. 105.)

They are very erratic with the big gun, some days not firing at all, while other days as many as 30 shells are put into town. This number has been exceeded two or three times already. The first position which the big gun occupied was at Jackal Tree, about four miles South of the town; the second and third on the rise to the East of Cannon Kopje; the fourth on the North-east front; the fifth West of the Women's Laager, and the sixth back to the North-east front, where she now stands. Bells have been placed all over the town to warn the inhabitants when the guns is loaded and elevated, and also when she fires. The Boers have shelled the laager two or three times with the big gun and

smaller ones, although they know that the Red Cross flag is flown there. It was a very cowardly thing for men to do. It was thought that even Boers had more sense of honour than to kill helpless women and children. On one occasion a little girl was killed, and a little boy so severely wounded that he died afterwards. A white flag has also been fired upon here. The Cape Boys, under Lieutenant Currie, Cape Police, have done very good work. The night before last the enemy evacuated a very strong trench on the South-east near the Brickfields. The cause of the evacuation was the Cape Boys, who had entrenched themselves not 200 yards from the Boer trench. A quantity of explosive and an old newspaper were discovered in it. The Boers have retired further up the river, with a 5-pounder which they had in the Brickfields trench. We are expecting relief soon, either from the force which is advancing from Kimberley Northwards, or from Colonel Plumer, who is not very far away, between us and Bulawayo. He has with him a force of Volunteers similar to the Protectorate Regiment, and an Armoured Train. In town the whole population is on short rations. The women receive half of what the men get. The Natives have a Soup Kitchen, where they obtain a ration of soup at a certain price. Life is getting very monotonous lately, and all are eagerly waiting for relief. The war will soon be at an end, so we will not have to wait very long. When the war is over, all who took up arms will receive a medal from the Queen, and we all hope that there will be a happy ending to the Siege of Mafeking.

### £1 REWARD

WILL be paid to anyone giving such information that will lead to the detection of the individual who tore out a portrait from the "Daily Graphic" at the Mail office on Sunday.

G. N. H. WHALES.

### H. C. BRADFIELD

Is now in regular attendance at his Store to serve his customers and receive settlement of accounts.

THE

SIEGE HAIRDRESSING & SHAVING SALOON.

I, the Undersigned, beg to announce to my numerous Customers that I have opened my business in Main Street, opposite Mr. Riesle's Bar, and I trust to be favoured with your kind patronage, and I can assure the Customers that they will be served now as in the past, with Neatness, Cleanliness and Civility.

V. T. MANIE,

The well-known Practical Hairdresser.  
Mafeking, 28th March, 1900.

### BRICKS FOR SALE.

ABOUT 60,000 Best Stock Bricks.—Apply to J. R. Algie.

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