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Tuesday, December 12th, 1899.

The Mafeking Mail.

TUESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 1899.

By the courtesy of the Colonel Commanding we are able to lay before our readers the following reproduction of a communication carried to the Boers by the riders seen leaving the town yesterday.

NOTICE

To the Burghers of the Z.A.R.
at present under arms near
Mafeking.

*From the Officer Commanding Her
Majesty's Forces, Mafeking.*

BURGHERS,—I address you in this manner because I have only recently learnt how you are being intentionally kept in the dark by your officers and your Government newspapers as to what is really happening in other parts of South Africa.

As officer commanding Her Majesty's troops on this border I think it right to point out to you clearly the inevitable result of your remaining any longer in arms against Great Britain.

You are all aware that the present war was caused by the invasion of British territory by your forces, and as most of you know, without any justifiable reason.

Your leaders do not tell you, that so far your forces have met with what is only the advanced guard of the British forces, and that circumstances have changed within the past week; the main body of the British is now daily arriving by thousands from England, Canada, India, and Australia, and is about to advance through your country. In a few weeks the South African Republic will be in the hands of the English; no sacrifice of life on your part can stop it. The question now to put to yourselves before it is this: Is it worth while losing your lives in a vain attempt to stop their invasion or to take a town beyond your borders which, if taken, would be of no use to you? (And I may tell you that Mafeking cannot be taken by sitting down and looking at it, for we have ample supplies for several months to come).

The Staat Artillery have done us very little damage, and we are now well protected with forts and mines. Your presence here, or elsewhere, under arms, cannot stop the British advancing into your country.

Your leaders and newspapers are also trying to make you believe that some foreign continental powers are likely to intervene in your behalf against England. This is not in keeping with their pretence, that your side is going to be victorious, nor is it in accordance with facts. The S.A.R. having declared war and taken the offensive cannot claim intervention on its behalf. And were it not so, the German Emperor is at present in England, and fully in sympathy with us: the American Government have warned others of their intention to side with England should any other nation interfere; France has large interests in the gold fields identical with those of England; and Italy is entirely in accord with us; and Russia sees no cause to interfere.

The war is a war of one Government against another and not of people against people. The duty assigned to my troops is to sit still here until the proper time arrives and then to fight and to kill until you give in. You, on the other hand, have other interests to think of, in your families and farms and their safety.

Your leaders have caused the destruction of farms in this country and have fired on women and children, and our men are becoming hard to restrain in consequence. Your leaders have also caused invasion of Kafir territory, and looting of their cattle, and have thus induced them to rise, and in their turn to invade your country, and to kill your burghers. As one white man to another I warned General Cronje on the 14th November that this would occur, and yesterday I heard that more Kafirs are rising, and are contemplating similar moves; and I have warned Snyman accordingly. Thus great bloodshed, and destruction of farms threaten you on all sides, and I wish to offer you a chance of avoiding it. To this end my advice to you is to return without delay to your homes and there remain peacefully till the war is over. Those of you who do this before the 14th instant will be as far as possible protected, as regards yourselves, your families, and property, from confiscations, looting and other penalties to which those who remain under arms may be subjected when the invasion takes place.

Our secret agents will communicate to me the names of those who do and of those who do not avail themselves, before the 13th instant, of the terms now offered.

To ensure their property being respected all the men of a family must be

present at home when the troops arrive and be prepared to hand over a rifle and 150 rounds of ammunition each.

The above terms do not apply to officers or to members of the Staats Artillery, who may surrender as prisoners of war at any time; nor do they apply to rebels from British territory or others against whom there may be other charges. It is probable that my force will shortly again take the offensive.

To those who, after this warning, defer their submission till too late I can offer no promise, and they will only have themselves to blame for an injury or loss of property that they or their families may afterwards suffer.

Sgd. R. S. S. BADEN POWELL,
Colonel.

Mafeking, 10th Dec., 1899.

THE 7th MEETING

OF THE

Mafeking Gymkhana Club

WAS HELD

On Sunday, December 10th,

(UNDER SIEGE CONDITIONS.)

To the Recreation Ground and under the patronage of Colonel R. S. S. Baden-Powell. The following gentlemen formed the Committee:—

Major Goold-Adams, Lieut.-Colonel Walford, Inspector Browne, Mr. Bell, Mr. F. Whiteley, Mr. G. Riesle, Mr. Gemmell, Hon. Sec. and Treas.: Sub-Inspector A. D. Murray.

Although the weather on Sunday was by no means propitious, it did not prevent an excellent day's sport being well attended. Sub-Inspector Murray, on whom as Hon. Sec. fell the bulk of the work in connection with the affair, was taken ill on Saturday, but the love of sport was, we suppose, too strong to allow him to remain in the hospital, and we were glad to see him busy on the ground during the whole of the proceedings and hope the excitement will not have the effect of sending him again to hospital. Col Baden-Powell was present, also the Major part of his staff, although contradictory as it may appear the Major part could not attend, Lord E. Cecil unfortunately suffering a relapse which confined him within doors. Not a few ladies graced the scene and added interest to the contests. The programme and results were as follows:—

- 1.—100 YARDS FLAT RACE (open).
 1. Purchase, C.P.
 2. Carr, C.P.
- 2.—RING AND PEG (mounted).
 1. Armstrong, B.S.A.P.
 2. Hodgson, C.P.
- 3.—RUN AND RIDE RACE (open)
 1. Abrams, C.P., and Duffy, Prot. Regt.
- 4.—220 YARDS FLAT RACE (open).
 1. Crosskill, Town Guard.
 2. Carr, C.P.
- 5.—LEMON CUTTING (mounted).
 1. Armstrong, B.S.A.P.
 2. Bunbury, B.S.A.P.
- 6.—BOYS RACE, 100 yards (open to all boys under 15).
 1. Sheesby; 2. Gower.
- 7.—BULLET RACE (for Ladies).
As Boer bullets, which it was intended to use,

were found to be far too small for the purpose, the domestic "Murphy" was substituted.

1. Miss De Kock.
2. Miss Sabbit.

Miss Brown and Miss Wyatt also faced the starter, the latter would have won "hands down" had she not, unfortunately for her, overlooked one "Murphy."

8.—TENT PEGGING (sectional).

Prize: Four Watches.

Cpl. Gash
Pte. Hazlerigg } C.P., D. 2, won (63 points).
" Scally
" Hodgson

B.S.A.P. Section (Armstrong's) were second (59 points). The winning section took all four pegs "like one man" in their third run, making an exhibition well deserving the encomium of Colonel Baden-Powell: "Very good indeed. The finest tent-pegging I have ever seen."

9.—TUG OF WAR.

For the Cup presented by Major Goold-Adams, C.B., C.M.G., to the Mafeking Gymkhana Club, to be the property of the team winning three times in succession. This was won by the Cape Police, Dist. 2, D. Div., the team being as follows: Sergt. Stuart, Corpl. Gash, Pte. Hazlerigg, Pte. A. Brown, Pte. S. Brown, Pte. Gradie, Pte. O'Brien, Pte. Clarke.

In the first trial the B.S.A.P. gave the C.P. without doubt the hardest pull they have had in connection with Cup contests. The Bechuanaland Rifles were pulled over by the Protectorate Team, the last named meeting the victorious team in the final.

As this makes the 3rd win for the D. Div. of the Cape Police the Cup now becomes their absolute property. The C.P. stationed in Mafeking appear to be determined to carry all before them. This year they took the Rugby Football Cup for the third year in succession and they have also got "2 legs in" in the Socker Cup, both open to all teams in Bechuanaland.

Miss Hill, the courageous and charming Matron of the Victoria Hospital, presented the very handsome prizes at the conclusion of the meeting. After which three hearty cheers for Miss Hill and three more for Col. Baden-Powell ended a good day's sport.

A voice in the crowd called for three cheers for the Relief Column, this was most heartily responded to.

Mafeking Garrison.

GENERAL ORDERS.

MAFEKING, DECEMBER 11TH, 1899.

Correction.—Appointment of Mr. Algie to the Staff of the P.M.O. General Order No. 6, of 21st November, add after "to date" the words "from 21st November, 1899."

Court of Summary Jurisdiction.—The Court of Summary Jurisdiction will meet to-morrow, the 12th instant, at 10-15 a.m., in the Court House. President: H. H. Major Goold-Adams, C.B., C.M.G. Member, Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Vyvyan.

Stores.—Attention is directed to General Order No. 5, of 6th December, 1899. O.C.'s of Units or Corps who have not already completed are requested to send in statements without further delay.

By order,

F. W. PANZERA, Major,
Acting C.S.O.

SHELL-FIRE.

Notice to Inhabitants.

NO women are to live in Town without Special Permit, which will only be granted where they have efficient bomb-proof cover, certified as safe by the Town Commandant.

The ordinary houses in town afford no safety from the enemy's shell-fire, and the streets are at all times unsafe.

The unfortunate casualties that have occurred during the past few days from shell-fire have been, in most instances, due to neglect to take adequate cover on the alarm being given; people having got into the way of trusting to luck to escape injury.

The Police have instructions to send to the Women's Laager any families they may find living in town without permit.

Permits may be obtained in special cases from Colonel Vyvyan, Town Commandant.

By order,

F. W. PANZERA, Major,
Actg. C.S.O.

Mafeking, 9 December, 1899.

NOTICE No. 1.

THE Colonel Commanding directs that all persons having in their possession at present date any stocks, of the articles undershewn, viz.: Boer Meal, Flour, Kafir Corn, Mealie Meal, Mealies, Preserved Meats, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Salt, Pepper, Rice or Peas, Vegetables (fresh or preserved), Lime Juice, Baking Powder, must notify possession of same, stating quantities, to Captain Ryan, D.A.A.G., as soon as possible. This declaration must be sent in *irrespective of whether the owner simply holds the stock for his personal consumption or not.* Particular attention is called to declaring fully Meal and Flour, however small the quantity.

Search warrants will be issued to ensure this Notice being complied with—non-compliance means confiscation of all stock found.

NOTICE No. 2.

NO person residing in the laager, and obtaining rations there either through Mr. Whiteley or by private purchase, will be allowed to leave the laager for the purpose of coming to reside in the town without first obtaining the sanction of the C.S.O. (through Mr. Whiteley). Such persons as may have already left the laager or *who at the beginning of the siege did not proceed to the laager*, are required to at once register their present address, stating whether they provide their own rations (if so, from what source), or are in receipt of a free issue at the hands of the Imperial authorities. Number in family requiring rations to be stated, giving ages of children. Care should be taken in giving the number, as it may be deemed necessary at some future time to put the entire population on rations.

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