

# THE MAFEKING MAIL

## SPECIAL SIEGE EDITION.

ISSUED DAILY, SHELLS PERMITTING. TERMS: ONE SHILLING PER WEEK, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

No. 33. Friday, December 15th, 1899.

The Mafeking Mail.

FRIDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 1899.

### LOCAL DEFENCES.

THE Base Commandant requests that all claims not already submitted against the "Local Defences Account" may be furnished forthwith to the Chief Paymaster for adjustment.

Where claims have been already submitted any additional accounts should be sent in to the Chief Paymaster weekly, being made up to and for Saturday in each week.

All accounts should be supported by the Original Orders for goods supplied, as Vouchers.

Delay in furnishing these claims may cause much trouble and confusion hereafter, and it is therefore important that they may be sent in at once as requested.

C. B. VYVYAN, Lieut.-Col.,  
Base Commandant.

14th December, 1899.

### Mafeking Garrison.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

MAFEKING, 14TH DECEMBER, 1899.

*Special State.*—Officers Commanding Corps or Units are requested to send into this office, by 10 a.m. on Saturday next, the 16th instant, a complete State for the Corps under their command, showing men, horses, transport, etc.

*Transport.*—Transport wagons on no account to be allowed to go about when enemy's shell fire is going on. Drivers are to be instructed to keep them under cover on pain of being tried for neglect of orders should they neglect to carry out these instructions.

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

MAFEKING, 14TH DECEMBER, 1899.

*Appointment, Court of Summary Jurisdiction.*—Lieutenant-Colonel C. O. Hore, Commanding Protectorate Regiment, is appointed a Member of the Court of Summary Jurisdiction under Proclamation of 12th October and 17th November, 1899.

*Magazines—L.M. Rifle.*—Officers commanding Corps or Units are to give strict orders that magazines are on no account to remain charged except in positions where an unexpected attack is possible, or on out-posts or other duties which may render it necessary. Under no circumstances whatever should the cleaning of a rifle be permitted while the magazine has cartridges in it, as accidents are likely to be caused by this proceeding.

*Court of Summary Jurisdiction.*—The Court of Summary Jurisdiction will meet to-morrow, Friday, the 15th instant, at the Court House, at 10.15 a.m., for the examination of such prisoners as may be brought before it. President: Lieut.-Col. Vyvyan; Member: C. G. H. Bell, Esq., C.C. and R.M.

*Rations of Men in Hospital.*—In future when sick or wounded men are admitted to the Hospital, O.C.'s of Corps and Units will strike men out of rations so far as their own Corps or Units are concerned. Rations will be drawn for Hospital inmates by the P.M.O. who will keep a register showing clearly to what Corps or Unit each patient belongs for whom rations are drawn. This order also applies to men of the Town Guard in the trenches going sick.

*Oats.*—A certain quantity of condemned Oats are offered for sale, and can be viewed at Isaac's store; purchasers will be required to remove them. Failing application to purchase being received within two days from date, Oats will be destroyed.

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

### DINGAAN'S DAY.

To-morrow, Saturday, the 16th of December, will be "Dingaan's Day," the anniversary of the day on which the Boers, assisted by the English residents in Natal, made, with 400 men, a successful stand against about 10,000 Kafirs under Dingaan, brother to Chaka, the chief who raised the Zulus into a formidable organisation. This historic fight took place in 1838. Previous to then, during 1837 and 1838, the Boers, who never have been able to settle into a law-abiding people, had been migrating from the Cape Colony in consequence of the decision of the British House of Commons to reinstate the Kafir chiefs as masters of the country from the Fish to the Great Kei River. There was also another great cause for grievance in a Boer's estimation. The revenue of the Colony was inadequate to meet the costs of civil establishments, and it would soon become necessary for the Boer to contribute in the form of taxes. Nothing could give the old Boers greater offence than to ask them for money. The present war can be directly traced, through a long train of circumstances extending over a score of years, to the seizure of a Boer's wagon and team by the Government, on account of the non-payment of his tax. In the years immediately preceding the exodus leading to the Dingaan massacre, the Boers were also sore upon another matter affecting their pocket. This was the paying-out price offered by the British Government for slaves at the time of the emancipation. The Boers had sent in an official estimate of the value of their slaves, averaging about £85 15s. per head, upon which an amount of £3,000,000 out of the £20,000,000 voted by the Home Parliament for the purpose of redemption, was intended for the Cape. But when upon further examination the actual value of slaves was found to average only £35 per head, and the amount for compensation was reduced accordingly to £1,250,000, the "guileless Boer" objected to not being allowed to make a profit of £50 per head on his wretched slaves. He objected to being prevented from making an advantageous market deal on that glorious act of humanity we British may well feel proud of, and these combined circumstances caused him to trek. Some of the first small parties were set upon by Matabeles and cruelly massacred, but those who followed were more cautious and formed laagers, and with their fire-arms kept the Natives at bay and eventually routed them. In 1837 they were joined by Mr. Pieter Retief, from the Paarl, who organised some force of Government against them.



They then pressed on towards Natal. On arrival, Retief and some others proceeded to the head-quarters of Dingaan, who, having first combined with his brother, Umhlangana, to get Chaka murdered, had himself got rid of Umhlangana and was the acknowledged king of the Zulus. From him, in consideration of the recovery of some cattle which had been carried off from Dingaan by a chief living on the Drakensberg, they obtained formal cession of the whole territory of Natal. The next morning as Retief and his party were preparing to leave, they were all treacherously seized and most savagely put to death. Directly after the massacre Dingaan sent out a force to surprise the emigrants, who, unconscious of danger, were scattered about the base of the Drakensberg. They came upon them before daybreak and butchered and mutilated about five hundred souls—men, women and children. The survivors got the English residents at the port of Natal to espouse their cause and together they attacked Dingaan, but unsuccessfully. Upon the arrival of another party of emigrants, amongst whom was Mr. Andries Pretorius, from Graaff-Reinet, they elected him leader, and at the end of the year 1838, crossed the Tugela. On Sunday, the 16th December, they finally routed the Zulus; some mounted men, about two hundred, sallying out from the laager and charging them on both flanks. Subsequently they engaged Panda, a younger brother of Dingaan, as an ally and succeeded in driving the Zulu king away, a fugitive. He was eventually killed. They still observe Dingaan's Day—partly as a religious festival, partly as a day of rejoicing. What they will regard it as to-morrow remains to be seen.

---

#### POLO TOURNAMENT.

A POLO TOURNAMENT will be held on Sunday next, on the Polo Ground, commencing at 2.30 p.m. The teams are as follows:—

- No. I.—Colonel Baden-Powell (Capt.),  
 Captain Gordon Wilson,  
 Captain Singleton,  
 Lieut. Hon. A. Hanbry-Tracey.
- No. II.—Captain Lord C. Cavendish Bentinck  
 (Captain),  
 Lieutenant-Colonel Walford,  
 Major Anderson,  
 Lieutenant Mackenzie.
- No. III.—Lieutenant-Colonel Hore (Capt.),  
 Captain Sandford,  
 Captain Vernon,  
 Lieutenant Bridges.
- No. IV.—Major Godley (Captain),  
 Major Gould-Adams, C.B., C.M.G.,  
 Captain Fitzclarence,  
 Lieutenant Moncrieffe.
- No. V. Major Baillie (Captain),  
 Captain Marsh,  
 Captain Cowan,  
 Lieutenant Paton.

---

#### WESLEYAN CHURCH.

Sunday, December 17th, 1899.

Service at 7.30 p.m.

The Rev. J. Martindale Peart will preach.

---

#### St. John's Church. Mafeking.

3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

Rev. W. H. Weekes will hold the following services:—

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Holy Communion  | 7.30 a.m.  |
| Matins ... ..   | 10.30 a.m. |
| Evensong ... .. | 7.30 a.m.  |

**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*