

THE MAFEKING MAIL

SPECIAL SIEGE SLIP.

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No. 83

Thursday, March 1st, 1900.

140th Day of Siege

The Mafeking Mail.

THURSDAY, 1st MARCH, 1900.

SECOND AFTERNOON CONCERT AT THE MASONIC HALL.

The Concert of Sunday last was a grand success. We had prepared an exhaustive report for insertion in Monday's issue but more anxiously looked for news from the outer world coming to hand, even though a month old, the Concert naturally gave it the floor. By the same cause it was crowded out of yesterday's slip and this morning another of those rudely hasty shells came into the printing office and—God knows where that "copy" is. We don't. Trying to write new copy we find that the shell report when it burst in the editorial sanctum entirely knocked the concert report out of the editorial cranium, but we can recollect the crowded Hall although the seats were four shillings each, at which everybody grumbled—but paid, the sweet singing of Mrs. Lees, and the uproarious laughter at the recitation of Sherlock Holmes, and the sketch of Corney Grain, an oh! the facial expression, that, we shall never forget, nor the worried physiognomy of the Sergt.-Major, as time passed and supplementary turns were put up and still the celebrated scientific detective had not appeared, and how the said face relaxed and resumed its usual placidity when he finally did appear. This is all we can remember about the concert except the programme, which was as follows:—A capital opener, "The Irish Jubilee," by Mr. Adams, put every one in good humour, although it was twenty minutes after the published time before a start was made. The popular Sergeant-Major Layton sang "The Lads in Red." Mrs. Lees next gave "Alone on the Raft" and the lady got an ovation that shewed the audience appreciated good music. The Rev. W. H. Weekes sang "The Gallant Salamander" with his usual ability. Mr. Wedderburn next sang "It's comin' on again," and when, referring to the chorus, he told the audience to "let it go," they just did. Mr. Taylor at the piano sang two comic pieces, which were much appreciated, then the Ker—no, Sherlock Holmes come on and made everybody's sides ache. The second part went through with the proper swing. It was "The Holy City," by Mr. Hall; "The Coster's Sister," by Mr. King; "Mona," by Mr. Crittenden; "The Song for Me," by Mrs. Lees; Sketch, by Mr. Corney Grain; while Ventriloquism, by Mr. Lees concluded a first-class entertainment. Messrs. Grayson and Taylor, at the piano, were excellent. The result of the bookings was, as before mentioned, Ten Pounds Fifteen Shillings handed over to the Sports and Prizes Funds.

NARROW ESCAPES.

When the shell just mentioned came into our office Mr. S. Hall, of the Railway, and Paymaster to the Bechuanaland Rifles, with Mr. Hampson, Produce Merchant, were within a few feet of the explosion.

Beyond scratched heads—and on the part of Mr. Hall a bruised arm—they fortunately escaped injury, a fact on which we offer them our cordial congratulations. May they be safely underground the next time a ninety-four pounder bursts near them, is our ambiguous but sincere wish.

NOTICE.

A letter has been sent to General Snyman by the Colonel Commanding to the following effect:—

That as General Snyman has used armed Natives for the invasion of our territory, and is employing them directly against us, the Colonel proposes to act in a similar manner.

If, therefore, the armed Natives are not withdrawn across the Border by the 3rd proximo, and the Chief Saani restored to his people, steps will be taken for carrying into effect an invasion of the Marico and Rustenburg Districts by Linchwe, Khama, Bathoen, etc.

Mafeking Garrison.

GENERAL ORDERS

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

MAFEKING, 28TH FEBRUARY, 1900.

The Colonel Commanding has much pleasure in placing on record a clever and plucky piece of scouting performed on Monday night by Sergt.-Major Taylor and Private Oliphant in the Brickfields. These men made their way close to one of the Boer outposts and listened to the conversation of the men; then got in the Boer communication trench and inspected the rear of their work and returned through their outposts, having gained useful information as to their disposition, etc.

It is regretted that two men were wounded in the Brickfields on Monday night mainly through their own carelessness in exposing themselves above the parapet, and in lighting pipes in view of the enemy.

The enemy having kept their Krupp and one-pounder Maxim hidden away the past week or more, we rigged up a Dummy Armoured Truck with a stove-pipe gun to the South of the Stadt in order to tempt out and to see if they were still here. The trick was a complete success, both these guns and the big gun have, in the course of the day, wasted a large amount of ammunition on the Dummy. For a time the quick-firing guns turned on our horses and cattle, but these were very quickly driven in out of danger. The cattle and horse-guards are highly to be complimented on their coolness and good work under the heavy fire, notably Troopers White and Ekstein, Cape Police, and it is thanks to their efficient work that we had not a heavy list of casualties among the animals.

Field General Court Martial.—A Field General Court Martial, composed as under, will assemble on Friday, the 2nd prox., at such place and time as the President may appoint, for the trial of the prisoner named

in the margin, * and of such other prisoners as may be brought before it.

* No. 261, Trooper W. A. Fauldsin, Protectorate Regiment.

PRESIDENT: Captain Marsh, Protectorate Regiment.

MEMBERS: A Subaltern, Protectorate Regiment; a Subaltern, Bechuanaland Rifles.

The prisoner will be warned and all witnesses directed to attend. Proceedings to be forwarded to the Chief Staff Officer.

Countersign.—A Countersign will be used nightly in future and will be duly notified. As Sentries are very confused, apparently, as to the proper form of challenge, great care should be taken to make the following clear to them on posting:—

On seeing any person approaching they should challenge: "Halt, who goes there," after receiving the reply they should call out: "Advance one and give the Countersign"; if this is correct they will say as usual: "Pass Friend" (or "Grand" or "Visiting Rounds" as the case may be) and "All's Well."

MAFEKING, 1ST MARCH, 1900.

Court of Summary Jurisdiction.—The Court of Summary Jurisdiction will meet to-morrow, Friday, the 2nd March, 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.

By order,

E. H. CECIL, Major,
Chief Staff Officer.

Correspondence

Hold over till to-morrow for want of space.

NOTICE.

Situation Required.

WHEREAS MARY, a Massarwa, 16 years, believed a good household servant, is at present confined in the Mafeking Gaol, and there being no suitable women's accommodation for the same, the Court of Summary Jurisdiction are prepared to indenture, for a definite period, the said Mary according to law, to any suitable person willing to take her as a servant. Application should be made to Mr. Heale, the Gaoler.

ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY.

List of names of owners whose property will be assessed on Sunday next, 4th March:—

Erf No. 45	J. A. Hill
" 45	Bechuanaland Rifles
" 31	St. John's Rectory
" 12	N. D. Farquharson
" 17	J. L. Reid (Agent: J. Winter)
" 12	W. C. Bland
" 7	E. Isaacs
" 64	S. Cohen & Son
" 63	I. Amod
" 64	C. Williams
" 63	Abdul Gaffor D. Webster
" 92	H. H. Bradley
" 110	J. G. Stenson
" ? 124	R. Spiers.

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