

# THE MAFEKING MAIL

## Special Siege Slip.

ISSUED DAILY, SHELLS PERMITTING.

TERMS: ONE SHILLING PER WEEK, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

No. 140

Thursday, May 10th, 1900.

210th Day of Siege

### THE Mafeking Mail.

THURSDAY, 10TH MAY, 1900.

#### MEMS.

(CONTRIBUTED).

Many people have different ways of pronouncing the name of our gallant Colonel, commanding Her Majesty's Frontier Forces, at Mafeking. With some it's Bahden-Powell; with some, Badden-Powell; and yet, with others it's Bayden-Powell. But when it comes to some of our Dutch residents (not conversant with the English language), in town, seriously calling him "Baking-Powder;" it fairly takes the cake. And yet; is the last cognomen not singularly appropriate? For if there be any kind of powder calculated to make the Boers rise; our heroic Colonel is just the man to do so.

In like manner *will* the Boers persist in calling Carrington, "Carry-ton;" and they are perfectly right; for when he arrives with his Canadian Artillery and other re-inforcements they'll discover that he is the very man that at present bears great weight.

The investing Boers, skulking behind the mimosa, kammeeldoorn and other thorn trees, and in their trenches, fondly delude themselves into the belief that they are going to starve us into surrendering. *Never*; Snyman, NEVER. Our world famed B.P. (which by-the-bye stands, Mr. Snyman, for British Pluck) commanding here in Mafeking, has taken the precious good precaution to avert, such a deplorable calamity. True: we're reduced in foodstuffs, but not in spirits (animal) for we still have on hand a limited supply of mutton; a few plaques; a little bread; chevril beef; chevril mince-meat; chevril polonies; in fact, chevril kinds of dainties, and so on, and sown.

'Tis marvellous how history repeats itself. During the "boom" and when things were humming, at Barberton, some eleven years ago; bank-notes, cheques and gold coin were abundant, and flowed like water, but there was an embarrassing dearth of silver money; which, as a

#### COUNT THEM


matter of, was at a premium. It was the custom, then, for purchasers at the stores, hotels, &c., to give "good fors" when they had no change; and these were accepted; readily enough. Among the inhabitants of that thriving town was a facetious humourist, named Adam; who always signed his I.O.U.'s I. Adam. He invariably sported and displayed a cheque for an insignificant amount, and his credit was good. Alack and alas! when the silver money did arrive, the hotel-keepers and others found themselves victimized by the acute Mr. I Adam, for he had evaporated. Similarly, when the history of the Siege of Mafeking comes to be written, in its records, *inter alia*, will be found our universally-renowned B.-P. saying of the Boers around here; "I 'ad 'em," which is perfectly true.

With a flourish of trumpets, Mr. Eloff, Commandant-General and Marshal-in-Chief of the local Bore (I mean Boer) Force, you came here, in a desperate hurry, to smash things; but as yet, your attempts have only terminated in a ghastly failure; for, like the man who fell out of the balloon, you are not in it. You "wacht-een-bietje" and meanwhile remember:

That on a bright, tight little island far in the sea  
Sits, bemoaning his fate, your old General Cronje.

So "pas op." For your information I may tell you there are several Columns advancing to our relief, who each have a surprise packet in store for you; and, methinks, when the General, marching from the South, has Met-you-an' your gang, you'll remember the date ever afterwards. Mark me! Take a piece of sound advice, whilst there is still time, and in reality be "Heel-of."

In reference to the pronouncement [Pronouncement is not the correct form of the word to use according to the dictionaries] of that renowned name, Baden-Powell, to which reference is made by our esteemed contributor, the following, culled from one of the Home papers may prove of interest:

#### BADEN-POWELL AT SCHOOL.

The report, repeated this morning, that Mafeking has been relieved gives special interest to some incidents concerning the school-days of its hero, which Dr. Haig Brown, the former Headmaster of Charterhouse, has been telling a Surrey paper. "I notice that the name is invariably mispronounced," said the Doctor. "The 'a' in Baden is generally given the sound 'ah,' but it should have the usual sound of 'a,' as in 'Bathing-Towel,' which was his nickname among the boys at school. The boy was essentially father to the man! he was very active, lively, full of fun and amusement, and exceedingly popular with his schoolfellows. An extremely clever boy in every sort of way, his accomplishments were numerous. He proved particularly clever with his hands, and could draw two pictures with left and right at the same time. He was fond of athletics of all kinds, and in all he undertook, showed a fertility of resource, coupled with a keen sense of humour, which has been displayed again and again during the Siege of Mafeking."

#### THE ASHANTI RISING.

(From the "BULAWAYO CHRONICLE.")

The rising of the natives in British territory is always a matter of considerable importance, because it indicates some flaw in the system of government and because it usually costs a considerable amount of time, trouble, and expenditure before matters are put right. The reported rebellion of the natives in Ashanti is doubly annoying, because it was only last year the territories on the Gold Coast and of British Nigeria were organised under the Colonial Office as one territory, and as coming at the present time when we have a good deal on our hands. Ashanti may be called the hinterland of the Gold Coast; its capital is Kumassi



and the country has seen, comparatively within recent years, two British expeditions. England has been connected indirectly with the Gold Coast since 1618, when some of her merchants established trading stations and erected a fort. Later forts were built by the Dutch, French, Danes, and Germans, as well as the English. In 1662 an English Chartered Company was established, and was succeeded by others. The Royal African Company lasted from 1672 till 1750, when it again was succeeded by the African Company of Merchants. In 1821 the settlements were taken over by the Crown and placed under the Sierra Leone Government. In 1850 England bought the Danish forts, and in 1872 the Dutch transferred all their forts to Great Britain. The 1873-4 war with the King of Ashanti arose out of this transfer, as the dusky monarch, who had always been on good terms with the Dutch, feared he would be cut off from the sea. The expedition under Lord (then Sir Garnet) Wolseley completely shattered the king's power. In 1894 King Prempeh objected to the installation of a Resident at Kumassi. Prempeh was a successful warrior, and a cause of trouble to his neighbours. Every chance was given him to retain his position, but similarly to the case of another autocrat—without result. Accordingly a military expedition had to be dispatched, and entered Kumassi on January 7th, 1896. Prempeh made submission, but failed to comply with the conditions laid down, so that it was found necessary to banish him to Sierra Leone. A Resident was installed at Kumassi. By recent agreements with France and Germany, respective spheres of influence have been delimited, and boundaries marked, with the result that Great Britain and the other Powers have acquired more territory. Trade with the Gold Coast is chiefly with Great Britain, and is important, the value of rubber exported in 1898 being worth 551,000*l*; palm oil, 114,000*l*; timber, 110,000*l*; and palm kernels, 66,00*l*. The total exports were 992,000*l*, and the imports 960,000*l*. A railway is in course of construction to Tarkwa, the centre of the gold mining districts. The Government has constructed 700 miles of telegraphs. The seat of Government is at Accra. Educational matters have been attended to, and altogether the Gold Coast territory is in many respects, despite its unhealthy climate, very much more advanced than Rhodesia. There is not sufficient information to hand to pronounce an opinion on the present rising.

### Garrison Deposit Bank.

THE Garrison Deposit Bank will NOT open on Sundays in future.

H. GREENER, Capt.,  
Chief Paymaster.  
Mafeking, 10th May, 1900.

### ACROSTIC.

No 9.

Here to-day and past to morrow,  
Some give us joy and some give  
sorrow.

1. In life's sad book a new leaf must we find.  
'Tis a fresh start; Oh, may the fates be kind.
2. Hard to receive, and often hard to give,  
Yet, these to get, do some men only live.
3. To give it is more blessed than receive,  
If not well done, you'll rue it, please believe.
4. Null, void and useless, unless this he is,  
In fact, to ask him, surely is not biz.
5. 'Tis past, 'tis gone, there let it rest,  
To-day we'll try to do our best.
6. And so to the world out they go,  
If full of these, blame C.S.O.

### STAMP COLLECTING.

Our numerous friends suffering from this malady may be interested in the following complete list of "Siege" issues:—

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| Colonial, green, figure seated,<br>"Halfpenny" printed below,<br>surcharged Mafeking     | 1d |
| Do. do., figure erect,<br>"½d" printed in top corners,<br>surcharged Mafeking            | 1d |
| Imperial, red, ½d, surcharged<br>"Bechuanaland Protectorate"                             | 1d |
| and Mafeking   | 1d |
| Bicycle, blue, local,  | 1d |
| Colonial, pink, 1d<br>surcharged Mafeking  | 3d |
| Imperial, mauve, 1d, surcharged<br>"Bechuanaland Protectorate"                           | 3d |
| and Mafeking   | 3d |
| Baden-Powell, blue   | 3d |
| * " " " larger size  | 3d |
| * " " " head look-<br>ing to right   | 3d |
| British Bechuanaland, mauve &<br>black, 3d, surcharged Mafeking                          | 6d |
| *Colonial, mauve, 3d, surcharged<br>Mafeking   | 6d |
| *Imperial, brown on yellow, 3d,<br>surcharged Bechd. Prot. and<br>Mafeking               | 6d |
| Imperial, green and red, 2d, sur-<br>charged Bechuanaland Pro-<br>tectorate and Mafeking | 6d |

(Two kinds of type were used  
in the Mafeking surcharge).

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| Imperial, green and brown, 4d,<br>surcharged British Bechu-<br>analand and Mafeking | 1/- |
| Colonial, light olive green, 4d,<br>surcharged Mafeking                             | 1/- |

Imperial, brown on salmon, 6d,  
surcharged British Bechu-  
analand and Mafeking 1/-  
Do. do. surcharged  
Bechd. Prot. and Mafeking 1/-  
Imperial green, , sur-  
charged British Bechuana-  
land and Mafeking 2/-

\*Scarce.

ADVERTISER will pay 15/- each  
for specimens of brown on  
salmon, Bechuanaland 6d. stamp, sur-  
charged 1/-. Twelve required. De-  
liver at "Mail" office where cash will  
be paid.

### THE RAFFLE

FOR AN

Encyclopedia Britannica

WILL TAKE PLACE AT

Dixon's Hotel,

ON

Saturday, 12th May,

AT 8 P.M.

E. Platnauer,

Auctioneer, etc.,

will sell on

Sunday next, May 13th,

AT 9-30 A.M.,

Complete Bedroom Suite

Bedsteads, Chairs, etc.,

1 Complete Set SIEGE STAMPS,

1 94-pdr. Shell.

And a host of other Goods.

No Reserve.

### STAMPS.

Wanted to Purchase

Bechuanaland Yellow, 3d, surcharged  
Red-violet, C. of Good Hope, 6d.,  
surcharged  
British Bechuanaland 6d, surcharged  
1s.

Can exchange Grey Cape of Good  
Hope, surcharged 1s.; British Be-  
chuanaland 2s., and local threepenny,  
Col. Baden-Powell, large head.

Apply "Mafeking Mail" Office.

£1 Notes, Wanted,  
For Framing.

Must be good specimens. Price  
to "Maltby," Mail Office.

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