

THE MAFEKING MAIL

SPECIAL SIEGE SLIP.

ISSUED DAILY, SHELLS PERMITTING.

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No. 91

Tuesday, March 13th, 1900.

152nd Day of Siege

The Mafeking Mail.

TUESDAY, 13TH MARCH, 1900.

THE END IN SIGHT.

We may congratulate ourselves in the phrase now classical. "We are getting on very nicely all round." Ladysmith effectually relieved is by far the most welcome piece of intelligence we could have. Had it been possible for the Boers to take Ladysmith and the force we had there, as they so lippily explained in Nov., that they were about to do, the outlook would have been much more serious for us. The duration of the campaign would have been greatly prolonged and we should have had much more trouble. The news of to-day brings the termination of this war within estimatable distance. The final outcome none but the misguided fools who started it, failed to discern, but its duration could not be measured and that exceedingly momentous matter for us depended greatly upon our success or unsuccess on the Eastern side. Our position now:—with the Boers in Natal, practically smashed; the key to the Western Border having been, and still being, held by us; while the principal Southern force of the enemy has been overthrown and our troops advancing in to the enemy's country from the Central Southern points,—is so greatly improved that the most lugubrious can but rejoice. A most satisfactory feature of our successes, is that they have taken place in our own territory. Our friends at home, who with cheers for us drowned the hysterical squeaks of the "Little Englander," have an answer to objectors who prate of the "injustice of this war" in the fact that it was our own homes, the lives and limbs of our woman-kind and their babes, at their own hearths, that our troops were called here to battle for and defend. Where the injustice of this war will arise is if Britain in its far too humane remembrance of her own mightiness, will stay her hand before the *coup de grace* is given and in too merciful consideration of a fallen foe, not proceed to those extremities which any other power would regard as just retribution and which we would rejoice to see.

Mafeking Garrison.

GENERAL ORDERS

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

MAFEKING, 10TH MARCH, 1900.

The Colonel Commanding wishes to place on record his deep regret at the death of Private Sydney Webb, Cape Police, D. 2, for a long time employed as his Orderly at Headquarters.

Private Webb left Headquarters at his own request as he preferred to fight in the Brickfields with his comrades. By his death a gallant and plucky soldier has been lost to Her Majesty's Service.

Promotion.—Sergt. Currie to be Local and Provisional Lieutenant while in command of the Colonial Contingent.

Pay—Postal and Telegraph Staff (Correction).—With reference to General Order No. 4, of the 6th March, Mr. A. Thomas's name should have appeared as entitled to Trench Allowance at the rate of 2/6 per diem from the 13th October, 1899, inclusive.

MAFEKING, 12TH MARCH, 1900.

Notice.—The Col. Commanding wishes to warn the inhabitants of Mafeking that although the water is now flowing through the pipes from the Waterworks, it should not be used at present for cooking or drinking purposes.

Visiting Justice.—The Visiting Justice to the Mafeking Gaol for the ensuing week is Major Lord Edward Cecil, D.S.O.

Hospital Assistant.—Ferdinand Jacobs, Town Guard, is appointed Extra Hospital Assistant for temporary duty in the Brickfields; while actually employed outside the limits of the Town Defences he will receive an allowance of 5/- per diem in addition to his Trench Allowance of 2/6.

Signallers.—No. 49, Trooper E. A. Dawson, Protectorate Regiment, is granted Extra Duty Pay at the rate of 8d. per diem from the 13th October, 1899, inclusive to the date he was wounded, namely, the 26th December, 1899. No. 41, Trpr. E. Bones, Prot. Regiment, is granted First Class Rate of 1/- per diem from the 1st March, 1900, inclusive.

Horses on Duty.—Seven pounds of Oats will be issued daily for the following proportion of horses from this day's date inclusive:

Protectorate Regiment	100
B.S.A.P.	10
Cape Police	10
Staff	6

These horses are to be kept as fit as circumstances will allow; to be shod; and regularly exercised under the saddle ready for service.

Sale of Spirits, Beer, etc.—No further orders for private persons, merchants, hotel-keepers, etc., to purchase Spirits, Beer, etc., in cases or bulk, will, in future be issued, as the present stock in town does not admit of such authority being given for the present.

Matches.—All persons requiring to purchase are requested to apply to A.S.C. Depot, Isaacs' Store, and not Court House Office.

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

LATEST NEWS.

A despatch confirming a previous one, which has not come to hand, was received this morning. It tells of Ladysmith being relieved after great slaughter. No less than two thousand Boers being destroyed and three thousand taken prisoners. The total of our casualties were 1,100. It was reported that the Boers were massing at Bloemfontein and expected to make a stand there.

President Kruger has gone to the Natal Front.

Colonel Plumer is reported at Lobatsi Siding with the armoured train. About three hundred Boers are lying in wait for him at Ramathlabama.

Some of our local boys, under Sergt. Abrams, went out last Friday night and turned the Boers from the trench out West, beyond Fort Cronje. On Sunday night we occupied Jackall Tree and attacked Fort Snyman but were repulsed, although not before several Boers were shot. On the same night, beyond the Brickfields, some Boers were observed in the moonlight, crawling under the shelter of the bush and trees towards our most advanced trench occupied by Cape Boys, under Corpl. Diepenaar. Coolly abstaining from firing till they got well up, he let them have a volley. Of course, as usual they tried to bolt while their friends at the fort turned on a Maxim and a 5-pdr. as fast as it could be loaded. Diepenaar withdrew his men from the fort, five each side, in open order and got a volley or two into the retreating Boers, with the happy result of seeing them carry away two men wounded.

Some Baralongs went out for cattle last night; not being able to agree as to the best road, they divided into two parties; one found themselves observed by some Boers who fired upon them. They returned the fire and selecting a suitable place, flattened down the grass so that they could see any body approaching and lay down waiting for the Boers, who were following their spoor, to come upon them. When they arrived the Natives let fire with such good result that they disabled seven Boers, capturing two horses, rifles and ammunition bandoliers.

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