

THE MAFEKING MAIL

SPECIAL SIEGE SLIP.

ISSUED DAILY, SHELLS PERMITTING.

TERMS: ONE SHILLING PER WEEK, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

No. 94

Monday, March 19th, 1900.

158th Day of Siege

The Mafeking Mail.

MONDAY, 19TH MARCH, 1900.

LATEST NEWS.

By the courtesy of the Colonel Commanding we are enabled to publish the following

INFORMATION.

The party of cattle-looters who left here on Monday last, returned yesterday. They state that the Boers are very much vexed at the way that they have been treated by cattle-looters. They (the Natives) were unable to capture any cattle owing to the Boers making trenches round their cattle kraals. On their way back to Mafeking they were followed by a party of Boers, who overtook them near the Railway Siding near Madibi. The Baralongs made a stand and killed and wounded 10 of the Boers, and most of their horses. The Boers have now got the funks and are afraid to travel about the country in small numbers. They have informed the Natives that there is an army of about 1,000 Baralongs scattered about the country, and that there are hundreds of them near Madibi under British officers, with two Maxims; also that they were going to move their Western laager to the Border. The Natives were also told, what we have already heard, about Plumer at Lobatsi, etc. The Boers would have taken all the Natives prisoners but for the protests of one Hartmann, a Zarp, who said that if they took away the Natives they would have to fight the Baralongs as well as the English, and that would mean "fighting an iron combined with a rock."

Four runners came in from Kimberley. They left Mafeking on divers dates and have been in Kimberley all the time waiting for the troops to arrive. They found the condition of the inhabitants of Kimberley much worse than ours, and they thought that the place was never going to hold out, as nearly everybody there was starving. It was very pitiful to see ladies and a lot of children running to the bottom of the diamond mines to take shelter against shell fire, and there were so many people that it made things worse.

Their relief came on February 14th, on which date the troops arrived. The Natives have no words to describe the number of the troops; they think that the man who wrote the Bible referred to British troops when he said that there were many tribes among the Israelites and each numbered twelve thousand.

On the 15th the troops brought in thousands of Boers they had captured close to

Macfarlanes, and later on they brought in Cronje and his army. On that day they ate ox meat for the first time.

They came back *via* Barkly West. The troops came *via* Fourteen Streams, and another lot went round *via* Barkly on the 18th February. They left this column at Pniel Mission Station. The Missionary there, together with four others, were taken prisoners and sent to Kimberley for stopping despatch runners. When the Boers heard that a column was advancing on Barkly, they waited three days, and then fled to Klipdam.

When they left Barkly they heard that troops were at Warrenton, and the Boers encamped at Fourteen Streams. The Natives say they cannot understand our troops; when they find a number of wagons all they care about are rifles, forage, horses and cattle. They pour paraffin on everything else and burn it, including ammunition and foodstuffs. Before reaching Taungs they heard a heavy cannonade in the direction of Fourteen Streams, and they saw Boers who came from there hurrying back to their farms; these Boers said they had given the fight to the English, but that they were still at the river.

At Maritzani they heard from one Dekooker, who went down last month to reinforce Jan Cronje, that Cronje himself was expected at his farm on Friday, and that the Boers were all crossing the Border.

A member of a cattle raiding party who left here last Saturday, also returned yesterday; they were informed by Natives that the Boers had told them that Colonel Plumer had fought the Dutch, North of Pitsani, and defeated them with loss. The English had a fearful gun on the armoured train, which they used with great effect. Snyman's men left to reinforce the North on Tuesday, but the armoured train got to Lobatsi before them. The Boers informed the Native women that if they wanted to leave Mafeking they had better do so before Sunday as no people would be allowed to leave after that date. The Natives say they expect the Boers would be leaving before them, as Pitsani is not so far away from here.

The Native women (who told the Boers they were Gopani's people, stopped here by the war) have got messages from their Chief saying that the English had a laager near Gopani's, in the Transvaal, and they must be prepared to fly to the English with their arms as soon as there is an opportunity, for they had been armed against his wish.

Photographs for the Siege Exhibition.

We are glad to see that the Committee have eliminated all conditions in connection with Class 5, which were likely to prevent

the holders of collections of photographs from exhibiting them. Now those terms at which so many objections were raised, have been withdrawn, we are sure none of those holders will be so selfish as to keep the garrison from viewing the most interesting record of events that modern science enables us to secure.

A SIEGE EXHIBITION

WILL BE HELD AT THE

MASONIC HALL,

ON

SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 1900.

COMMITTEE:

Col. Baden-Powell; Major H. J. Goold-Adams, C.B., C.M.G.; C. G. H. Bell, Esq., C.C. & R.M.; Capt. J. R. More; F. Whiteley, Esq. (Mayor).

MANAGING DIRECTOR: J. W. De Kock, Esq.
HON. SECRETARY: J. R. Algie, Esq.

CLASS.

1. Prize, £5, presented by Col. Baden-Powell, for the Best Model of any locally manufactured Siege Weapon or Armament, or of any Fort or Redan.

2. Prize, £5, presented by Messrs. Wirsing Bros., for the Quaintest or Most Original Curio, ornamental or useful, constructed of any shells or bullets which have been fired into the town by the enemy during the Siege.

3. Prize, £5, for the best piece of Fancy Work made during the Siege.

4. Prize, £5, for the best piece of Lace worked during the Siege.

5. Prize, £5, presented by G. Riesle, Esq., for the best collection of not less than Forty Siege Photos.

And a Second Prize of £2 10s.

6. Prize, £5, presented by the *Mafeking Mail*, for the best Musical Composition, either Waltz or March. To be written for Piano only, or for Orchestra. The successful composition to be known as the "Mafeking Siege Waltz, or March."

7. Prize, £2 2s., presented by Major H. J. Goold-Adams, for the best Essay on Siege Life. Open to girls under the age of 15.

8. Prize, £2 2s., presented by Major H. J. Goold-Adams, for the best Essay on Siege Life. Open to boys under the age of 15.

With reference to Prizes 7 and 8, all competitors must present themselves for examination at the Masonic Hall, on March 25th inst., at 9 a.m., for the purpose of writing their Essay. They will be allowed until noon to complete their work in the presence of a Commissioner, who will be in attendance and who will supply the necessary writing materials.

9. Prize, £2 2s., presented by C. W. Clucas, Esq., for the best Dressed Doll.

10. Prize, £5, presented by F. Whiteley, Esq., for the best Painting (oil or water colour), or Pen and Ink Sketch, portraying any scene, incident, or character, connected with the Siege.

11. Prize, £2 2s., presented by A. H. Friend, Esq., for the best original Poem or Song. Competing poems or songs must be recited or sung (as the case may be) by the competitors (or any person appointed by them) on the afternoon of the Exhibition.

12. Prize, £5, presented by B. B. Weil, Esq., for the best Siege Anecdote, of not more than 500 words.

13. Prize, £5, presented by Lady's Sarah Wilson, for the best Trimmed Lady's Hat. The hat and material to have been purchased in Mafeking during the Siege. The unsuccessful hats to be sold by auction after Exhibition, if so desired.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

1. The Committee, in due course, will arrange and appoint Judges for each class.

2. All exhibits may be marked "For Sale," except Class 5.

3. All exhibits must be handed in to the Committee or their Nominee, at the Masonic Hall, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., on the morning of the Exhibition.

4. All entries are received.

5. In no class will prize be given unless at least two entries are received.

NOTE.—The Committee will be glad to receive any additional prizes and any suggestions from the Garrison as to the enlargement of the Exhibition.

The Committee will gladly receive a Second Prize for Class 5.

NOTICE.

PERSONS having any stock of Starch are requested to communicate with me.

C. M. RYAN, Capt.,
D.A.A.G.B

Mafeking, 19th March, 1900.

Mafeking Garrison.

GENERAL ORDERS

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

MAFEKING, 19TH MARCH, 1900.

Court of Summary Jurisdiction.—The Court of Summary Jurisdiction will meet to-morrow, the 20th instant, 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.

Pay.—With reference to General Order No. 2, of the 10th March, 1900, the Pay and Allowances of Lieut. Currie will be equivalent to those of a Colonial Officer serving as Lieutenant in the Protectorate Regiment.

Casualty Returns.—During the absence in Hospital of Lieut. Moncrieffe, A.D.C., all Casualty Returns should be addressed to Lieut. McKenzie, Headquarter Office, who is temporarily keeping the records.

Diseases (Animals).—Contagious or infectious diseases might easily be introduced into our camp through animals captured from the enemy; all captured animals will, therefore, with the least possible delay, be inspected by Vet. Lieut. Dunlop-Smith, A.V.D., and will not be disposed of until his report has been considered.

By order,

E. H. CECIL, Major,
Chief Staff Officer

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