

# THE MAFEKING MAIL

## SPECIAL SIEGE EDITION.

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No. 21 Wednesday, November 29th, 1899.

The Mafeking Mail.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER, 1899.

### A CALM BEFORE THE STORM.

SOON COMING NOW.

"No News is Good News."

We are indebted to the courtesy of the Staff for the following:—

News from Mochudi, 23rd inst., received this morning, 29th.

All well along the line.

The "Lusitania" arrived at Beira on the 22nd.

### WHO FEEDS THE FREE STATERS NEXT YEAR?

"The Basutos have refused to help the Free State Boers reaping and the crops are consequently rotting."

### RETIRING BEFORE OUR REINFORCEMENTS.

"Consul Ross, Delago Bay, says that the Boers are retiring from Natal to defend the south-western border."

### NOT MUCH INFORMATION FROM THE SOUTH.

"Kimberley all safe."

### MUST NOT BELIEVE ALL WE READ.

"Big gun at Mafeking, weighing 10 tons, cannot be worked on account of heavy recoil." [This is news to us.]

### HURRY UP! SIR R. B.

"In Natal, Sir George White's force is waiting at Ladysmith for General Sir Redvers Buller's army to carry out its concentration. The Boers, in the meantime, are camped round Ladysmith. They nearly cut off an armoured train the other day. The train had gone out on a reconnaissance and the Boers came and displaced some rails in the rear of it. On its return journey some of the trucks were overturned and several men were wounded and missing, but the remainder of the train got clear and returned."

### MORE FIGHTING NORTH.

"Major Jarvis had a skirmish, between Tuli and Rhodes' Drift, on the 18th, in which two of his men were killed and he himself nearly captured. The names of the killed are: Trooper Geo. Henry Perrett and Trooper George Cooke; Trooper Marcus Barthropp is missing. The Boers retired."

### MORE "ELEMENTS" FOR THE BOERS TO FIGHT.

"The Crocodile River is rising rapidly and will probably soon be impassible. This will prevent the Boers making any further reconnaissances on this side of the river."

"Boer commando, wishing to cross the Orange River, found it impassible from Norvals Pont to Zoutpan Drift."

!!!

"Excitement in England over the war is now very great."

### ACTUALLY THERE.

"Four transports with troops arrived in Capetown on the 14th inst."

### SUMMARY COURT OF JURISDICTION.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOV., 1899.

Delporte, Marthinus Du Prez, Peter Green, and various others, charged with being suspected spies, were ordered to jail till "after the war is over." Cornelius Swartz and Frederick Bezuidenhout were similarly sentenced, Swartz remarking that he was "quite satisfied." Du Prez, on being asked, as all the others were, whether he had any statement to make, said: Yes, he would begin by giving a sketch of his whole life. Strange to say, the Court did not encourage this rhetorical delineator to carry out his threat.

A "drunk" was remanded till Thursday for the Court to decide whether the sentence is "to be or not to be" a flogging.

Peter Erasmus, another alleged suspected spy, is to be retained in jail, likewise two Van Rooyens, who also said they were "quite satisfied" with the sentence.

Christian J. Burger, father of the three Burgers charged last week as suspected spies, was brought up this morning on a similar charge and will be retained in jail.

Jan Arnoldus, Rudolph Britz, Frederick Minkelbek and D. Muller have also been sent to help fill the prison.

Van Rooyen and Venter were again remanded for the appearance of the boy who, it will be remembered, said he was working in Mafeking but failed to identify his employer.

Patsy Carrol was brought up in custody charged with using language the reverse of complimentary to another prisoner, Green. He was cautioned and returned to prison, and the same treatment was meted out to Green.

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### CORRESPONDENCE

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*To the Editor of the Mafeking Mail:*

Sir,—I can myself speak to the truth of Mr. Pitts' letter. There were two commandoes of Boers from Frazerburg and Carnarvon Districts, and Colonel Bayley came from Capetown to take command from *Major* Nesbit and not "Inspector," as your correspondent says.

I remain, yours truly,

G. MASTERS,

Late 24th Regiment.

Mafeking, 29th Nov., 1899.

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This apposite selection was kindly forwarded to us; not recognising the signature we do not know whom to thank:

Then spake the Consul Anlus,  
He spake a bitter jest,  
Once the Jays sent a message  
Unto the Eagle's nest.  
Now yield thee forth thine eyrie  
Unto the Carrion Kite,  
Or come forth valiantly and face  
The Jays in deadly fight.  
Forth looked, in wrath, the Eagle;  
And Carrion Kite and Jay,  
As soon as they saw his beak and claw  
Fled screaming far away.

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