

THE MAFEKING MAIL

Special Siege Slip.

ISSUED DAILY, SHELLS PERMITTING.

TERMS: ONE SHILLING PER WEEK, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

No. 132

Tuesday, May 1st, 1900. 201st Day of Siege

THE Mafeking Mail.

TUESDAY, 1st MAY, 1900

MEMS.

Now the Sowens issue is systematised and excellent soup for the whites is procurable daily, the fear of trouble resulting from insufficiency of food is removed. Of course we would like to have plenty, but "plenty" and "siege" are not synonymous terms, and, as there is enough to keep body and soul together, we can show our "Mark Tapley"ism, continue as we have done for 200 days, and keep up our spirits to the end.

We learn that the whole Garrison, Officers, N.C.O.'s and men, have given up their sugar ration in favour of the women, children, and the sick. A graceful sacrifice that should be highly appreciated by those it benefits.

The following letter is from the Mother Superior in reply to that of the Colonel Commanding, covering cheque for £98 15s., as reported in these columns yesterday:—

Convent of Our Lady of Mercy,
Mafeking, 1st May, 1900.

To COLONEL BADEN-POWELL.

Dear Sir,—Permit me, on my own part, and that of the Sisters, to thank you and through you, Mr. Weil and all the other gentlemen who so liberally contributed towards making the Raffle the success it has been, not only for the generous gift, but more especially for the kindly feeling towards us which prompted the act. This, I assure you, we value far more than money.

Whatever labour or fatigue we have undergone in the service of the poor sick and wounded was amply made up for, in the pleasure it gave us to be able, however slightly, to alleviate the pains and aid the noble cause for which you, your brave garrison, and the good men of Mafeking are enduring so many labours and privations.

Praying the good God to preserve each of you through the many dangers of this dreadful crisis,

I am, Dear Sir,

Gratefully yours,

M. TERESA.

"What is the most popular book of the month? Not a novel, strange to say. And, oddly enough, the author does not know that his book has already sold over fifty thousand copies, for he is locked up at present at Mafeking. His name is Baden-Powell, and his book is called "Aids to Scouting" (Gale and Polden). It contains two dire misprints, which we readily forgive, for B.-P. corrected the proof sheets while he was cheerily preparing to be beleaguered at Mafeking, and the letter that brought the proofs to London formed an item of the last post that evaded the Boers ere they surrounded the town. It is a red-covered book, almost small enough to be slipped into the waistcoat-pocket, and was, of course, written for soldiers. But the public will read it with interest, for it touches the imagination and really makes one eager to join the hazardous profession of scout. The scout lives in the open, he is always his own master, and he needs just those faculties that Sherlock Holmes possessed so abundantly. Indeed Baden-Powell refers more than once to that prince among detectives. Dr. Conan Doyle starts with Mr. Langman's hospital staff for South Africa shortly, and if "Aids to Scouting" falls into his hands, maybe the hero of his next book will be a scout."—*Illustrated London News.*

"Sowens and Rations" Competition.

As there seems to have been a misunderstanding about the date on which these recipes were to be delivered, the time will be extended to Thursday, 3rd inst., for both competitions.

A prize of £2 will be given for the BEST RECIPE FOR THE PREPARATION OF SOWENS.

Each plan sent in will be carefully tried, and a com-

mittee will decide upon its merits, and award the prize.

For the best manner of COOKING AND MAKING THE BEST OF THE PRESENT DAILY RATION, without any extras, a prize of £3 will be given, and a second prize of £2 for the next best.

From the instructions sent in competition, dishes will be carefully prepared and a committee will test them.

All recipes must be delivered, marked "Cooking Competition," by Thursday next, to the Editor, *Mafeking Mail.*

PEACE OVERTURES.

TEXT OF THE TELEGRAMS

BRITAIN WILL NOT AGAIN GRANT INDEPENDENCE.

The following is the text of the correspondence with the Presidents of the South African Republic and of the Orange Free State respecting the war as read in the House of Lords by Lord Salisbury:

"The Presidents of the Orange Free State and of the South African Republics to the Marquis of Salisbury.

Received 6th March, by telegram (translation).

Bloemfontein, March 5, 1900.

"The blood and the tears of the thousands who have suffered by this war, and the prospect of the moral and economic ruin with which South Africa is threatened, make it necessary for both belligerents to ask themselves dispassionately, and as in the sight of the Triune God, for what they are fighting, and whether the aim of each justified all this appalling misery and devastation.

With this object, and in view of the assertions of various British statesmen to the effect that this war was begun, and is being carried on,

with the set purpose of undermining her Majesty's authority in South Africa, and of setting up a administration over all South Africa independent of Her Majesty's Government, we consider it our duty solemnly to declare that this war was undertaken as solely as a defensive measure to safeguard the threatened independence of the South African Republic, and is only continued in order to secure and safeguard the incontestable independence of both Republics as Sovereign International States, and to obtain the assurance that those of Her Majesty's subjects who have taken part with us in this war shall suffer no harm whatsoever in person or property.

On these conditions alone we are now, as in the past, desirous of seeing peace re established in South Africa, and of putting an end to the evils now reigning over South Africa. while if Her Majesty's Government is determined to destroy the independence of the Republics there is nothing to us and to our people but to preserve to the end in the course already begun, in spite of the overwhelming pre-eminence of the British Empire, confident that that God who lighted the unextinguishable fire of the love of freedom in the hearts of ourselves and of our fathers will not forsake us, but will accomplish His work in us and in our descendants.

"We hesitated to make this declaration earlier to your Excellency, as we feared that as long as the advantage was always on our side, and as long as our forces held defensive positions far in Her Majesty's Colonies such a declaration might hurt the feelings of honour of British people; but now that the prestige of the British Empire may be considered to be assured by the capture of one of our forces by Her Majesty's troops, and that we are thereby forced to evacuate other positions which our forces had occupied, that difficulty is over, and we can no longer hesitate clearly to inform your Government and people, in sight of the whole civilised world, why we are fighting and on what conditions we are ready to restore peace."

Lord Salisbury's reply to the above will appear in to-morrow's "Slip."

MAFEKING GARRISON.

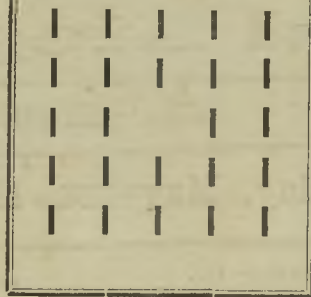
GENERAL ORDERS

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

MAFEKING, 30TH APRIL, 1900.

Appointments.—(a) Owing to the illness of Dr. W. Hayes, Major Anderson, Principal Medical Officer of the Defence Forces, will take over

COUNT THEM



charge of the Victoria Hospital, etc., with effect from the 27th inst.; the duties of the Medical Officers under him being distributed as follows:—

Surgeon-Capt. Holmden: B.S.A.P. Convalescent Home, &c.

Dr. T. Hayes: District Surgeon, Cape Police, &c.

Dr. Elmes: Assistant Physician to the Victoria Hospital.

(b) General Order No. 4, of 24th March, 1900, Mr. Algie's appointment as Secretary on the staff of the P.M.O., is hereby antedated to the 13th October, 1899, inclusive, that being the date on which he took over duty under the Military Authorities.

Cattle Grazing.—Officers Commanding outposts must give strictest orders with reference to herds keeping their cattle and stock within safe grazing limits. 11 cattle and 17 donkeys were captured by the Boers yesterday, and thus over a week's supply of meat has been lost to us through the carelessness of look-outs and those in charge.

Rations.—(a) Meat. Horse-beef sausage or minced meat will be issued, if available, on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays. Ration: Three quarter lb.

(b) Bread. From and including Wednesday, the 2nd of May, no bread or biscuit will be issued to the Cape Boys, but the following will be substituted:

6 oz. of Mealie Meal per diem per man.

Ration indents to be made out accordingly.

NOTICE.

Cattle—Taking over of.

IT having been decided as a matter of necessity that the Imperial Authorities should take over all Cattle (other than Milch Cows) from private owners, all Cattle owners are hereby required to attend, with their Cattle, at Isaac's Store Yard, to-

morrow (the 2nd instant), at 7 a.m., when the animals will be taken over and receipts given.

Under the Patronage of

COLONEL R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL AND
OFFICERS OF THE GARRISON,

A GRAND

Boxing Entertainment

WILL BE GIVEN ON

SUNDAY, MAY 6TH, 1900,

AT THE

RECREATION GROUND.

Competition.

OPEN TO ALL WHITE MEMBERS
OF THE GARRISON.

If entries permit, division will be made into two classes, viz., above and below, 9st. 7lbs.

Competition: 3 Rounds of 2 Minutes.

First Prize, in each class, £5

Runner up ... £2

Entries, stating weights, to be sent to Lieut. Hon. A. Hanbury Tracy, Headquarter Staff, not later than 7 p.m. Thursday, 3rd inst.

Coloured Competition.

Open to all coloured persons.

Competition: 3 Rounds of 2 Minutes.

First Prize ... £3

Runner up ... £1

Entries, stating weights, to be sent to Lieut. Hon. A. Hanbury Tracy, Headquarter Staff, not later than 7 p.m. Thursday, 3rd inst.

CONTEST.

"PATSY CARROL" challenges any man in the Garrison to box him 5 rounds of 2 minutes for a purse of £10, conceding 7lbs.

Acceptances, stating weights, to be sent to Lieut. Hon. A. Hanbury Tracy, Headquarter Staff, not later than 7 p.m. Thursday, 3rd inst.

WANTED

TWO Respectable Men for Soup Kitchen. Must have good references.—Apply from half-past 1 to 2 p.m. to

INSPECTOR B. MYERS,
Lippmann's Yard.

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