

celebrate the event. The streets were however, thronged by good humored crowds.

Confirmation of Mafeking's relief reached Invercargill about 1.30 p. m., and within a quarter of an hour the commotion in the main streets was something to remember. Flags were flying in every direction. The fire, church, factory and dinner bells were ringing, and the noise of instruments, from tin whistles to a big drum, rent the air. The Garrison Band turned out and played through the streets to the rotunda, where the throng listened to patriotic speeches by several public men. At night the celebrations continued in the form of a fireworks display.

#### MELBOURNE SHOUTS AND WAVES FLAGS.

The news from Mafeking electrified Melbourne. From early morn the people began to throng in from all the suburbs to the city, and trams and trains poured their ever increasing loads of humanity all the forenoon into the heart of the metropolis. The march of the Victorian naval and military forces was the great attraction of the day, and no better evidence of the enthusiastic favor with which the defenders of the country were regarded could be found than the immense crowd which assembled at every point along the line of route to add their acclamations to the general outburst of fervid rejoicing at the relief of Mafeking, and the triumph of its gallant defender, Major-General Baden-Powell.

A military officer who took part in the procession, and who had a good opportunity of estimating the number of people in the streets, gave it as his opinion that no fewer than 200,000 persons took part in the unparalleled display of loyal enthusiasm. The city was splendidly decorated with flags, and public and private buildings vied with each other in gorgeous ornamentation.

With military punctuality the march of the Victorian forces began exactly at half-past two o'clock, the prearranged time. With a handful of mounted policeman to clear the way, the military commandant, Major-General Downes, on horseback, accompanied by his staff, left the barrack square at the head of a force which represented every local arm of the service. Navy, artillery, engi-

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