

B DEN POWELL WINS. MAFEKING RELIEVED.

Seven Months' Bitter Siege Comes to an End.

GREAT REJOICING IN BRITAIN.

Boers Themselves Announce Their Retreat From the Belaguered Town on the Approach of the Relieving Force From the South—Mafeking Now Occupied by Several Thousand British Troops—Sketch of the Career of the Gallant Commander—Seven Thousand Boers Flees Before Gen. Buller—Lalng's Nek Tunnel Blown Up—Many Boers Surrendering—Germans Killed at Mafeking.

Proctoria, May 18.—It was officially announced today that when the ladders and fords around Mafeking had been severely bombarded the siege was abandoned, a British force from the South taking possession of the place. President Steyn arrived here on Wednesday night, and had long and close conferences with the Transvaal Government. He left here for the Free State yesterday night. Addressing a crowd on the platform he urged them to be good cheer. It is reported that 5,000 British troops have surrounded Christiania, and that the English and other officials have been taken prisoners. James Milne, the correspondent of the Reuters Telegram Company, who has been a prisoner here, was liberated and escorted to the border this morning.

The News Confirmed. London, May 18.—Col. Baden-Powell's son, who is in London, today received a telegram from a Dutch friend in Pretoria, announcing that Mafeking had been relieved.

Rejoicing in London. London, May 18.—A country or city mad with triumphant exultation is a thing only less terrible than a mad mob with the fury of revenge. Boers not even the Boers things have, could refrain from sympathizing with the great outburst of rejoicing that has broken out in London at the relief of Mafeking. The relief of Mafeking flashed over the land. It is the latest of a series of sudden and startling news which has been pouring in from the front since the Boer invasion. It is a relief which has been a relief to the hearts of all who have been following the progress of the war. It is a relief which has been a relief to the hearts of all who have been following the progress of the war. It is a relief which has been a relief to the hearts of all who have been following the progress of the war.

War Office Believes It. London, May 18.—Shortly before the announcement of the House of Commons, which took place at 12.05 p.m., Mr. Balfour, the Government Leader, said: "The only news regarding Mafeking which I have received is through the courtesy of the press, professing to give official information. I have no doubt that the effect that Mafeking has been relieved. We have no official news at the War Office, nor could we receive it as soon as it could arrive through other channels. Therefore the fact that we have not got it neither proves nor disproves the truth of the information. I think we have good reason to believe that it may be true."

At Covent Garden. London, May 18.—There was a wonderful scene at the opera at Covent Garden theatre when the relief of Mafeking was first known. After the second act of "Lohengrin," the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of York, the Duchess of Fife, the King of Sweden and Norway, and Princess Victoria were present. The news apparently emanated from the Prince of Wales, but the house was quiet until the information reached the gallery. The audience then announced the news in the voice of a Stentor, and demanded that the orchestra play "God Save the Queen." Here Mr. J. H. B. was conducting, and the remaining musicians hesitated, but the audience struck up the national hymn. The royalties came to the front of their box, the Prince of Wales besting time, perhaps unconsciously, with his hand. The scene terminated with roars and cheers of jubilation.

At the Mansion House. As soon as the news of the relief of Mafeking was proclaimed at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor and his wife appeared on a balcony before the miraculously-assembled crowd, which numbered tens of thousands. An immense portrait of Col. Baden-Powell was displayed, bearing the inscription, "Mafeking Relieved." While the attendants were waving Union Jacks, the Lord Mayor bestirred the assemblage: "I wish your cheers could reach Mafeking—here the speech was interrupted by a tremendous cheering and the singing of 'God Save the Queen'—after which the Lord Mayor remarked: 'We never doubted that the end would be, or that British pluck and courage would conquer at last.' The Lord Mayor then led the crowd in singing, 'God Save the Queen' and 'Soldiers of the Queen,' and with renewed cheering and waving of flags by the assembled multitude, and the singing of 'For He's a Jolly Good Fellow,' the Lord Mayor and his party retired.

son and inhabitants after long privations." The Times on Mafeking. London, May 19.—In its editorial leader to-day the Times says: "What was widely done last night in the streets of London and every town of the United Kingdom was a moral and not a military triumph. If the Boers had stormed Mafeking at the beginning of the year, when the British advance was checked, or if the gallant garrison had fought its way out, the strategic effect upon the general plan of campaign would have been infinitesimally small. But from a patriotic point of view the spectacle presented by the fight which Col. Baden-Powell and his brave comrades have made during seven months of suffering and bitter struggle has fired the spirit of the nation beyond all former precedent. The demonstration in London, when the news was made known at the Mansion House has not been paralleled in modern times."

A Gallant Defence. The defence of Mafeking began with the outbreak of the war, and as an exploit of arms ranks with the most glorious achievements of British history. A colonial force, not over 1,000 strong, with a man of genius and a true patriot at its head, has held its ground against a superior force, led by Gen. Buller, and subsequently by General Buller. A relieving force was nowhere in sight, and the garrison was holding in an open town, incapable of scientific defence, but by displaying the finest qualities of British grit and endurance Col. Baden-Powell and his brave comrades just arrived at the relief of Mafeking. He was supported by a small but brilliant group of British officers, among whom was Lord Buller's son, and

Stephen filled the office of godfather to "B.P.," and gave him the name of Robert Stephenson Smyth. Baden-Powell was remarkable even as a child, of extraordinarily even temper, uncommonly intelligent, and possessed of a certain dignified self-control under the most trying of infantile distresses. Indeed, the writer is assured on the best possible authority that Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell never cried in the whole course of his baby career—in truth a wonderfully exemplary child! The infant Baden-Powell showed a quiet contempt for the boys that brighten the average child's life. He was quite happy if placed in possession of a stump of lead pencil and a sheet or two of plain unruled paper. With these rudimentary tools of the artist he would sit by the hour evolving from his infantile brain the weirdest sort of original drawings, some of which, achieved at the age of three years, are preserved as family relics. They are not copies—"B.P." even in those days had too much faith in himself to copy anybody—but self-convicted and self-executed little pencil drawings which for a child of three years of age are surprisingly clever. If R. S. Baden-Powell had not been a brave and distinguished soldier he would have achieved greatness as an artist—probably of the impressionist school. Young Powell was given a thorough and useful schooling at Tunbridge Wells, and then at the Charterhouse School. Wherever he went he was always the same—"B.P."—industrious, clever, resourceful, and, above all things, many, contented. He was popular among his "set."



COL. BADEN-POWELL, THE HEROIC DEFENDER OF MAFEKING.

half a dozen well-known figures in London society. The relieving force had been organized with the greatest secrecy, and there was a ready resource in the exploits of Col. Baden-Powell, whose portrait appeared everywhere. Though there is absolutely no official confirmation of the news of the relief of the town, it is implicitly believed in quarters, not excepting official circles. The description of the scenes in the London streets and the theatres could convey something of the feeling of the country, a feeling to express which we had bankrupt the powers of a script-writer, living or dead. Reports of rejoicings come from Canada, Australia, and all other parts of the British Empire.

Diary of the Siege. Oct. 11.—Boers entered on town. Oct. 15.—Bombardment. Oct. 23.—Bombardment. Dec. 21.—Sortie. Dec. 26.—Successful sortie. March 16.—Pumme having advanced southward to Lobati is forced to retire to Crocodile Pool. March 21.—Pumme repulsed at Rammathama. May 13.—Baden-Powell lays trap for Boers and captures Kruger's grandson and 70 Boers, 40 being killed. May 14.—Bombardment.

HERO OF MAFEKING. Some Facts About the Gallant Baden-Powell. To see "B.P." as he is affectionately termed, go walking down the street at Mafeking, deep in thought, pleasing of countenance, bright and confident, is cheering and heartening. Had any man in whom the town placed its confidence been in command and disaster might have befallen Mafeking, and if we are able to place the game of Mafeking on its feet, it will be chiefly because Baden-Powell has commanded us. Colonel R. S. Baden-Powell, who has so gallantly and successfully resisted the designs of the Boers on Mafeking, England, on Feb. 22, 1857. His father was a well-known (legitimate) th of skin and m with the and one time sailing professor at Oxford. The Colonel's mother was a daughter of Admiral Smyth, K. S. F. Baden-Powell's list of friends includes many men whose names are household words, and one of the first distinguished personages whose acquaintance he made was Robert Stephenson, the engineer. This was the Colonel's very early days, for Mr.

tempest of yells, plaudits and whistles from the gods and delighted applause from the relieved rows." Mafeking Casualties. Following is a summary of the casualties in Mafeking since October 12, when the siege commenced, to the end of March, 1900, as officially furnished by Mr. Ronald Moncrieff, Extra A. D. C., part of whose duties it is to compile this sad roll: Combatants. Officers, Men. Killed and died of wounds 6 53 Wounded 11 90 Missing 1 36 Died of sickness 0 8 Total 18 187 Civilians, Non-Combatants, and Natives. Women and Men Child. Natives. Killed 8 7 141 Wounded 6 3 95 Total 14 10 349 Grand total 319

Col. Baden-Powell's Mottoes. "Don't hurry; patience gains the day." "A stick and a smile will carry you through any difficulty."

Incidents of the Siege. Fighting around Mafeking commenced on Oct. 12th, but the real investment of the town was not completed until the 24th, when the Boers, under command of Gen. Cronje, heavily bombarded the place. Previous to this date, viz., on Oct. 15th, the garrison had made a most successful series of sorties. On this occasion two squadrons of the Protectorate Regiment, with an armored train, attacked the enemy four miles from the town, killing 23 and wounding many. The British loss was two killed and fifteen wounded. On the following day the Boers made a desperate assault upon the town, but were repulsed with heavy loss. Taking advantage of the impression created by their success, the garrison made another sortie on the 17th, and again inflicted heavy losses upon the enemy. Early in November the Boers made another assault, but were again defeated. On the 26th of December the garrison sallied out and attacked Game Tree Fort, a strong Boer position. The attack was unsuccessful, the British loss being 26 killed and 100 wounded. This was the only unsuccessful action on the part of the garrison during the siege. It did not dampen the ardor of Col. Baden-Powell and his men, who steadily advanced their outworks, gradually pushing the enemy farther back, and, in fact, taking possession of an important position known as the Brick Fields, and other points where the enemy had constructed entrenchments. In the early part of the year hopes that the town might soon be relieved were raised by the near approach of Col. Plumer's Rhodesian force. But this force was too small to cope with the besiegers, although it managed to distract the attention of the enemy to some extent. The real pinch of hunger began to be felt in the beleaguered town, and gradually the defenders were reduced to such straits that the efforts of whites and natives alike were directed to catching locusts and using them for food. In April a message was received from Lord Roberts asking the garrison to hold out until May 18th and promising relief by that date. To this Col. Baden-Powell replied that they could hold out until June 10th, never and dyes were played among the women and children, and the Boers violated the rules of warfare by deliberately shelling the women's quarters. Col. Baden-Powell after a vain protest to the Boer commander removed the women and children, and placed the Boer prisoners in their hands. He notified the Boers of what he had done and the bombardment of that particular place thereupon ceased.

At the commencement of the siege the number of troops at Mafeking was considerably under 1,000, and the artillery consisted of a few Maxim's, a couple of old 7-pounders (muzzle-loaders), and a 10-pounder. The garrison (date 1875) dug up in the Kaffir stadt. This cannon had been used as a post for twenty years. The garrison made a quantity of ammunition, and also cast another gun which was given considerable satisfaction. In addition to providing for the troops, the authorities had to feed and care for nearly 8,000 people, including a number of natives who remained loyal, and some of whom have rendered great assistance in the defence of the town. Lord Cecil, Lord Salisbury's son, and Colonel Baden-Powell's right-hand man, on his own responsibility, and at his own expense, stocked the town with three months' provisions over and above the supplies provided by the Government, and it was the wisdom of this step that was warmly complimented by Col. Baden-Powell, Lord Charles Cavendish-Bentley, Maj. Wilson and others who gave the most anxious and brave of their gallant chief through the defence of the town.

The following from the last number to hand of M. A. P. shows the spirit which prevailed among the besieged, and the manner in which Colonel Baden-Powell aided to vary the monotony of the siege: "Here is another deliciously humorous study of the coveting side of that many-faceted genius, Colonel Baden-Powell, which I take from the admirable Mafeking letters of the Pall Mall Gazette, which is to be heartily congratulated on its correspondent in the beleaguered town. The picture forms an admirable contrast to the skit-drawing and other episodes which I quoted from the same source last week: 'The feature of the day was the concert, which was enjoyed by a crowded audience, and went with a snap. I had no idea that so small a company of people could yield such a crop of genuinely good artists, and even a composer, and I am firmly convinced that no music hall in the United Kingdom ever held an audience more filled with pleasure than our congregation of besieged ones. Boer and soldier and recitators, a Cape Police instrumentalists' union, and a couple of capital humorous writers by our gallant Colonel, who impersonated Baden-Powell in the first part, and kept the hall in a roar. Afterwards he paraded as something like a cross between a chimney-sweep and a Whitechapel coster, to the delight of the elder ones, and the fear of the youngsters, who had never seen anything more startling in the human line than a Kaffir. The Colonel wound up his 'turn' by playing 'Home, Sweet Home' on a mouth organ that he borrowed somewhere, and the Commanding Officer-sweep-staff-keeper left the stage amid a

GEN. BULLER AT NEWCASTLE. The Boers Fleeing Before Him and Scattering in Different Directions. London, May 18.—Gen. Buller, in a despatch to the War Office, dated Newcastle, May 18th, says: "Newcastle was occupied last night, and today the whole 2nd division and the 3rd Cavalry Brigade will be concentrated at Mafeking. I have ordered the mounted force through Ngutu to expel a small force of the enemy and to reassure the natives. 'The enemy have burnt the chapel, broken much glass, plundered many houses and taken cash from the banks, but otherwise they have not done much harm. 'The railway is badly damaged; the Ingogane and Nkader bridges are destroyed, as are many culverts, and the pumping stations and waterworks. 'Of the 7,000 men flying before us, about 1,000 seem to have gone to Walkerstrom, and some by Miller's Pass to the Free State. The rest, who are described as 'disorganized rabble,' have gone north, and say they intend to make a stand at Lalng's Nek."

Still Surrendering. Toronto, May 19.—Word was received from Lieut-Col. Otter in the city yesterday, to the effect that he spent eight days in hospital on account of his wound, but is completely recovered, and is again at the head of his regiment. Still Surrendering. Kronstadt, May 17, 10.30 a.m.—Many burghers are handing their rifles and going to their homes under escort of British troops. Two members of the Orange Free State Volksraad, Paul Botha (Booth), Kroonstad, and Mr. Macdonald, Wepster, are here, and are advising the Free State burghers to lay down their arms and return to their homes.

Mines to Be Blown Up. London, May 19.—Winston Churchill, the correspondent of the Morning Post at Kronstadt, dating his despatch May 17th, says that the principal mines at Johannesburg have been prepared for destruction, marked "for oil." The blowing of them up has been deferred until the British cross the Vaal River. President Kruger is powerless to prevent their destruction. The Plea for Peace. Amsterdam, May 18.—The Dutch professors have addressed the American professors, requesting them to support the efforts of the Boer delegates now in the United States to obtain peace. Left for Lydenburg. London, May 19.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Pretoria, dated Friday, states that the Foreign Consuls are leaving Pretoria for Lydenburg. Buller's Costly Oil. Regarding Gen. Buller and his supplies there is also an interesting anecdote current. Buller, it appears, had cases of champagne, marked "costly oil." About the time the wine was due Buller wired to the officer in charge of the base notifying him that he expected fifty cases of costly oil, which he wished despatched without delay. The officer at the base replied, regretting the cases had not arrived, but saying he had prepared all the available coster oil, twenty cases, which he had forwarded in the hope that it would suffice for the present. Gen. Buller's remarks are not recorded.