

popular airs were played with an intensity of feeling which was evidently generated by the inspiring circumstances.

A tremendous crowd gathered early in the afternoon to hear the Scottish Regiment's band, which had taken up a commanding position opposite to the notice board from which the city had learned the official confirmation. The crowd was evidently pleased at the appropriateness of the band's choice of position, and vociferous cheers were given for most things which it occurred to them to cheer about, and there was a considerable number of them.

A body of cadets and the Naval Artillery volunteers paraded the streets during the day.

LORD ROBERTS CONGRATULATED.

The following cable was forwarded by the Premier to Lord Roberts:—"New South Wales congratulates you on the relief of Mafeking, and accuracy in fixing date."

The British Colonies were intensely patriotic and loyal to the Empire during the war in South Africa. The people of New Zealand were thrilled by the news of the relief of Mafeking, and every reader will be interested in an account of the rejoicings throughout the Colony that followed the rescue of the brave garrison, which suffered untold privations and defended their honor and their flag for 214 days.

For days and weeks the feeling had lain pent and slumbering in the breasts of the people of Wellington that Mafeking must soon be relieved, so vivid and complete is the faith of the British public in the British soldier—a faith which the military exploits of centuries have justified and confirmed. They knew that Colonel Baden-Powell and his gallant garrison and the loyalists penned up there in that far South African town would not surrender. They realized that the hardships of the siege—the dietary of locusts and horseflesh, the scarcity of water, the inroads of disease, and the constant fusillade of shells—might entail unspeakable misery upon Mafeking's defenders—upon the women and children as well as the soldiery—but they knew that these would not induce the laying down of arms and capitulation to the

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