

presence felt in South Africa. It will show you that they went there to fight (cheers) and it is a splendid tribute to the services they are rendering to the Mother Country that they should have been able to wrest the flag from the enemy and send it to New Zealand, where it will remain as an evidence of the prowess of her devoted sons who fearlessly fought the foe on behalf of the Motherland. (Enthusiastic cheers.)

And let me point out to you that in this flag you have the emblem of what the Boers intended it to be—a South African Republic—because it is the combined flag of the Transvaal and Orange Free State. (Groans.) This is signified by the stripe of yellow across the Transvaal flag. It showed that they were united, but in spite of their union Major Cradock and his men tore it from them and sent it home to New Zealand. (Enthusiastic cheers.) And I may here fittingly paraphrase those words with which you are all so familiar and say: 'We've hoisted the Union Jack; We've beat the Boers back; And England will see it through.' (A voice: 'Three cheers for Baden-Powell,' followed by prolonged cheering.)

#### AN EVENT TO BE REMEMBERED.

"The relief of Mafeking will never be forgotten so long as the history of the British Empire lasts (cheers) and I am sure it will never be effaced from the recollection of New Zealanders (cheers) because in our small way we have done what we could to back up the dear old Mother Country by sending our men, by subscribing our money, and by sending our women as nurses to attend the sick and the wounded. We have shown the old Country that we in this distant land are prepared to take our share in the responsibilities of defending and increasing the realms of the Empire. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is Saturday afternoon (laughter and cheers) and we are not going to mark this great event by having an ordinary half-holiday, and I have the pleasure of informing you that Monday has already been proclaimed by the Government a general holiday throughout the colony. (Loud

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