

THE MAFEKING MAIL

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No. 21

Wednesday, November 29th, 1899.

The Mafeking Mail.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER, 1899.

A CALM BEFORE THE STORM.

SOON COMING NOW.

"No News is Good News."

We are indebted to the courtesy of the Staff for the following:—

News from Mochudi, 23rd inst., received this morning, 29th.

All well along the line.

The "Lusitania" arrived at Beira on the 22nd.

WHO FEEDS THE FREE STATERS NEXT YEAR?

"The Basutos have refused to help the Free State Boers reaping and the crops are consequently rotting."

RETIRING BEFORE OUR REINFORCEMENTS.

"Consul Ross, Delago Bay, says that the Boers are retiring from Natal to defend the south-western border."

NOT MUCH INFORMATION FROM THE SOUTH.

"Kimberley all safe."

MUST NOT BELIEVE ALL WE READ.

"Big gun at Mafeking, weighing 10 tons, cannot be worked on account of heavy recoil." [This is news to us.]

HURRY UP! SIR R. B.

"In Natal, Sir George White's force is waiting at Ladysmith for General Sir Redvers Buller's army to carry out its concentration. The Boers, in the meantime, are camped round Ladysmith. They nearly cut off an armoured train the other day. The train had gone out on a reconnaissance and the Boers came and displaced some rails in the rear of it. On its return journey some of the trucks were overturned and several men were wounded and missing, but the remainder of the train got clear and returned."

MORE FIGHTING NORTH.

"Major Jarvis had a skirmish, between Tuli and Rhodes' Drift, on the 18th, in which two of his men were killed and he himself nearly captured. The names of the killed are: Trooper Geo. Henry Perrett and Trooper George Cooke; Trooper Marcus Barthropp is missing. The Boers retired."

MORE "ELEMENTS" FOR THE BOERS TO FIGHT.

"The Crocodile River is rising rapidly and will probably soon be impassible. This will prevent the Boers making any further reconnaissances on this side of the river."

"Boer commando, wishing to cross the Orange River, found it impassible from Norvals Pont to Zoutpan Drift."

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"Excitement in England over the war is now very great."

ACTUALLY THERE.

"Four transports with troops arrived in Capetown on the 14th inst."

SUMMARY COURT OF JURISDICTION.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOV., 1899.

Delporte, Marthinus Du Prez, Peter Green, and various others, charged with being suspected spies, were ordered to jail till "after the war is over." Cornelius Swartz and Frederick Bezuidenhout were similarly sentenced, Swartz remarking that he was "quite satisfied." Du Prez, on being asked, as all the others were, whether he had any statement to make, said: Yes, he would begin by giving a sketch of his whole life. Strange to say, the Court did not encourage this rhetorical delineator to carry out his threat.

A "drunk" was remanded till Thursday for the Court to decide whether the sentence is "to be or not to be" a flogging.

Peter Erasmus, another alleged suspected spy, is to be retained in jail, likewise two Van Rooyens, who also said they were "quite satisfied" with the sentence.