

## MAFEKING SIEGE “GOOD FORS”

“For some people, money is merely something underwritten by the state and designed to enhance a basic barter economy” (The Economist May 18<sup>th</sup> 2013).

During the siege of Mafeking, and as a consequence of hoarding, an acute shortage of money developed in the town. In the months January to March 1900, notes of 1/-, 2/- and 3/- denominations were prepared and issued. The design was simple; the printing functional, using a letterpress and Croyley writing paper impressed with an albino embossed 1d. cheque stamp of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. For these, Capt. Greener paid Standard Bank £.1045 by cheque.

Later, Baden-Powell decided to issue notes of 10/- and £.1 denomination. It was he who designed the vignettes which were to be adopted in the designs of the notes. Some £.3500 of 10/- notes were issued.

The £.1 notes were printed by E C Ross using the aforementioned ferro-prussiate process (incidentally it is also used in the production of architectural drawings) and were signed by R Urry, Manager of Standard Bank and Capt. Greener, Chief Paymaster. They were hand-numbered at a rate of 20 per day. A total of 683 were issued.

Because of an acute shortage of paper, a few 10/- and £.1 notes were printed on the back of letterheads of the Rhodesia Railways Ltd and the Bechuanaland Government.

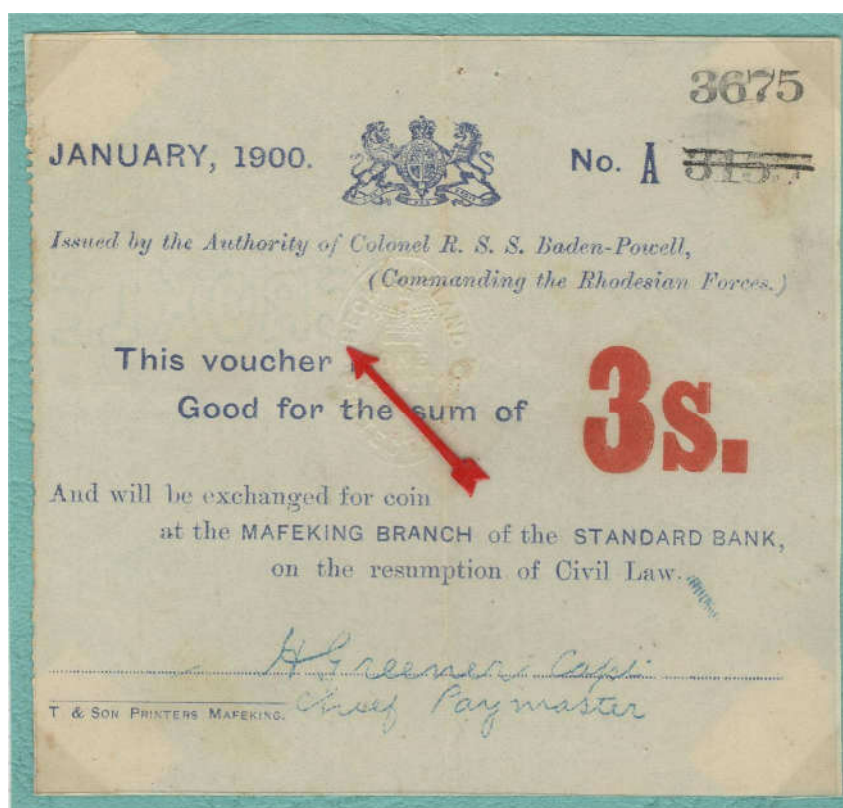
1/- series A 5000 printed  
1/- series B 1950 printed  
2/- series A 2000 printed  
2/- series A 3700 printed  
3/- series A 850 printed  
10/- series 7000 printed  
£.1 series 683 printed

### DEFINITIONS

Uncirculated (UNC)  
Almost uncirculated (AU)  
Extremely fine (XF / EF)  
Very Fine (VF)  
Fine (F)  
Very Good (VG)  
Good (G)

1/-	A 1609 January 1900 Variety1	G
1/-	A 1804 January 1900 Variety1	VF+
1/-	A 4750 January 1900 Variety1	VF
1/-	B 7888 February 1900 error MafekIng Variety 2 : no dot first “I” in CIVIL	EF

- 2/- B 8272 February 1900 Variety1 G
- 2/- B 9097 February 1900 Variety1 F
- 3/- A 3002 January 1900 error MafekIng VF-  
Variety 2 : no dot first "I" in CIVIL
- 3/- A 3155 obliterated, perforated left border, re-struck as A 3675 January 1900 Croxley watermark evident; 21 known in toto, only known example of this recorded in Variety1 EF



- 3/- A 3070 January 1900 error MafekIng VF  
Variety 2 : no dot first "I" in CIVIL

Photographs: 1900 Mafeking Siege Issue 10/- B&W photographs of essays (2)

- 10/- 313 March 1900 error no "I" in MAFEK\*NG; unrecorded by Ineson (see his letter 20<sup>th</sup> January 1999) F
- 10/- 1918 March 1900 error Commaning VF

Photographs: 1900 Mafeking Siege Issue £.1 B&W photographs of essays (4)

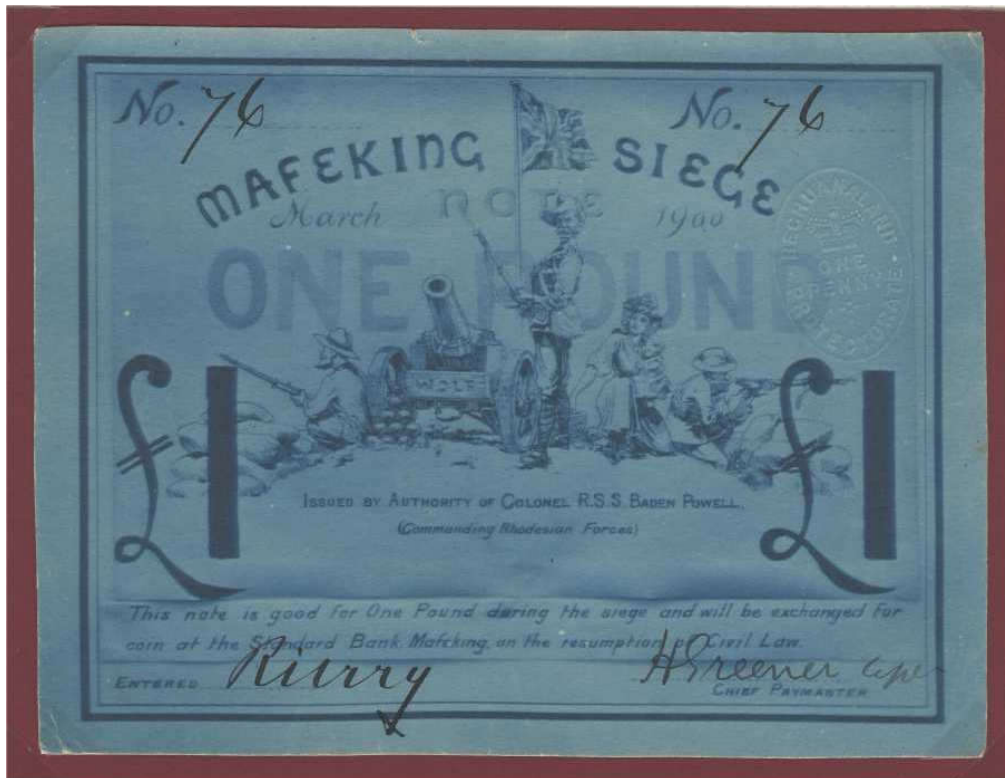
£.1 : 1900 Mafeking Siege Issue £.1 Light blue "Issued by Authority of Colonel R S S Baden Powell". Superb example numbered 467. Where lightly folded the surface slightly damaged; has fresh clean and attractive appearance. Good exhibition piece.

VF

£.1 : 1900 Mafeking £.1 Blue "Issued by Authority of Colonel R S S Baden Powell". Superb example numbered 254. Where lightly folded the surface remains undamaged; has fresh bright colour and very attractive appearance. Very fine exhibition piece.

EF

£.1 : 1900 Mafeking £.1 Deep blue "Issued by Authority of Colonel R S S Baden Powell". Superb example numbered 76. Undamaged and virtually as new; has fresh bright colour and exceptionally attractive appearance. Rarity and important exhibition piece. AU/UNC



## References:

1. Catalogue of South African Paper Money since 1900 etc. Harold P Levius. 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 1972
2. Standard Catalogue of World Paper Money. Volume 1. Specialized issues Author: Albert Pick. Editors: Neil Shafer and George S. Cuhaj. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2002.
3. Paper Currency of the Anglo-Boer War 1899 – 1902. Ineson, J. Spink. 1999