

## PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE SIEGE OF MAFEKING

These photographs would have been made in a manner identical to the famous 3d.Baden-Powell and 1d.Sgt.Major Goodyear stamps of the siege. They are produced from a glass-slide negative by contact printing on ordinary blue-print paper and were developed by washing through successive changes of water. The paper is a good quality "Croxley" rag paper with a horizontally laid bātonné character and produced by Dickenson & Co (Pty) Ltd in England. It bore the watermark OCEANA FINE in double-lined characters, the first word being in old English and the second in Roman capitals. It was locally sensitised with ferro-prussiate as was the wont in those days.

Despite what EJ Ross claimed to be the case with the Mafeking Siege Stamps – and his recounting is disputed by this author, Stephen G Rich and Bertram W H Poole - it is reasonable to presume that David Taylor was the photographer.

These photographs are considered by some to be unique. They illustrate:

1. Sgt Peter Stuart, late Military Chief Constable of Mafeking, in uniform together with an infant suffering from marasmic-kwashiorkor. He is identifiable also in the Cape Police Corp No.2 Regiment group photograph taken in Mafeking at the time of the siege by D Taylor and published in "Souvenir of the Siege of Mafeking 1899-1900".



2. A stretcher party removing a wounded man



3. Men rushing to enter an underground bunker



PROVENANCE: estate of Peter Stuart late Military Chief Constable, Mafeking

References:

1. Philately of the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902 Stephen G Rich Publ: Chambers Publishing, Kalamazoo. 1943The South African Provisional War Stamps. Bertram W H Poole Publ: D Field, London. 1901
2. Pelteret R M. Letter to the Editor - Mafeking and Taylor's photograph of Baden-Powell. SA Philatelist 1999:75(2);39 / 1999:75(3); 67 / 1999:75(4); 94-95