

H. Stephens  
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Baratar's L.L.L.  
Winbury  
South Africa  
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My dear Sir,

Doubtless you will  
have heard long ere this that  
"Mapech" or rather Mapech's  
son "Niabel" has been taken  
by the Boers. You must understand  
that the original "Mapech" has  
been dead some years but his  
son "Niabel" is the present -  
"Mapech". I haven't time to  
write you more than a few  
lines but I wish to let you know  
that "Mapech" as we call him  
was taken by treachery. You  
must know that Mapech  
several times sent messengers



to treat for peace with General  
Joubert, but Joubert's answer  
was that he would not treat  
unless "Mapeoch" came in person.

Mapeoch ~~was~~ refused to  
come for a long time saying  
that he could not trust the  
boers. At last under a flag  
of truce he came into the boer  
camp to arrange terms of  
peace but while there saw  
some of his huts burning  
(arbiters set on fire by the boers)  
& said he must go & see what  
was the cause of it. When he  
attempted to leave however  
he was ~~seize~~ seized & told he  
was a prisoner. Mapeoch  
was furious at this treachery  
but was of course unable to  
do anything, being alone &  
unharned unable to resist.  
He is to be tried at Pretoria for



the  
are  
dark  
sides  
was  
closed  
rooms

rebellion, altho' now he can be  
a rebel no one can understand  
as he has never acknowledged  
any allegiance to the laws & altho'  
surrounded by Kansas Territory  
is the chief of a tribe who up  
to the present have been independent.

His old men & women have  
been taken as prisoners to Pulaski  
many of them dying of starvation  
on the road, & are to be apprenticed  
to poor families for 5 years.

Of the two thousand of his  
fighting men under his brother  
are still unsubdued however.  
so that the victory, if victory it  
can be called, is a very poor  
one. I trust you will make  
known these facts & please  
bear in mind that what  
has come out is not likely to  
be all the villainy which has  
been perpetrated. Only by  
interviewing the natives would



it be possible to know the  
whole truth! The boers are  
are keeping everything as dark  
as possible as to their misdeeds,  
they will take care that  
poor Napier's mouth is closed

In haste

Faithfully Yours  
J. Stephens



## A TRIUMPH IN THE TRANSVAAL.

The special reporter of the *Volksstem* gives the following spirited description of the triumph accorded to General Joubert and his burghers on their return from the successful Mapoch campaign:—"The triumphal arch on Caledon-square was handsome and effective. There were shields of swords and bayonets, stands of rifles, cannons, and shells, flowers, flags, streamers, evergreens and draperies, and to enhance the whole a bevy of little girls, dressed at their prettiest, and ladies occupying the platforms. At about 11 A.M. the cannon began to boom, and at twelve o'clock precisely, the General, Commandant Piet Joubert, with his staff, commandants, officers, and burghers, defiled up Church-street, deafened with the cheers of the multitude. They were not a smart lot, they were not showy and pretty; but they were a manly lot. Hardy, wiry, the picture of health and strength, they sat their horses and held their rifles every inch "ready," and we saw the picture of the pioneers that have conquered South Africa from Table Bay to the Lebombo Mountains. The General, on reaching the grand arch, was evidently moved, and his officers closed and clung around him. The loud cheering and boisterous demonstrations of joy now gave place to a dead silence as Mr. J. S. Joubert, sen., read the address from the inhabitants and burghers of Pretoria. On arrival at the platform in front of the Volksraad Hall, the chairman read an address from the Volksraad. In one passage the signatories say:—"You have undoubtedly excited admiration and sympathy in other States, and South Africa will be thankful to you for this act, which will very greatly contribute to the realization of a united South Africa." The President then asked the British Resident to say a few words, in response to which Mr. Hudson said that he had been associated with General Joubert on the Native Commission, in their strenuous efforts to bring the differences with Njabel to a peaceful termination, but they were unsuccessful through no fault of their own, and therefore, throughout the trials of the State in reducing the chief to subjection, the country had had his full sympathies. He felt sure that the subjugation of Njabel and Mampoor would have an important and beneficial effect throughout South Africa upon the relations which have of late subsisted between the white and native races. It also gave him great satisfaction to find that, along with their success, the Government of the country had exercised a sound and generous policy in committing the trial of the chiefs and offenders to the ordinary court of the land, and not to the military tribunals. Mr. Hudson concluded a well-received address by expressing an earnest hope that the country might now have a long peace and a prosperous future. The ladies then came forward with another address, during the reading of which a banner was handed over to the General by Mrs. J. C. Preller. The mass of men after this adjourned to the Dutch Church. The building was full to overflowing, and a crowd stood outside unable to get in. The Rev. —Bosman prayed and preached in an earnest tone, evidencing that he was under much emotion, and the congregation sang with great feeling and emphasis the hymns and psalms specially selected for the occasion. This was, perhaps, the most impressive ceremony of the day; the heavy beards and *kaal-kops* there assembled singing lustily, bending their heads and worshipping, was, to us, worth the whole pageant. After the quasi Te Deum the mass was invited to the Union Club by many members, his honour the British Resident, their honours the judges, the honourable members of the Volksraad and the executive being present. Champagne flowed like water. In the evening a torch-light procession escorted the Commandant-General, officers, and burghers to the market-square to witness the display of fireworks. The festivities of the day were in every way and sense a great success, and we have never yet witnessed in our country such general and hearty rejoicings as were evinced by the entire population at the good news of peace—peace to us, peace to our neighbours, and peace to all men."