

**Answer:** Based upon my assumption that Scott #57 is meant, that would be the five shilling, rose pink issue of 1878. One of two cases could exist if this is the stamp in mind. Robson Lowe mentions a scarce variety on *Bleute Paper*. Whether this is a laid paper, I do not know. Also, die proofs on the issued

colors exist or this stamp, perforated. I do not know what paper they were printed upon as Robson Lowe does not say.

**Question #3:** (This question comes from our Answer Man. Responses should be forwarded to him. They will be included in the next issue.) Does anyone have any information on the De Waal & Company forwarding agent I mentioned above? I have two of their labels, one on piece and tied with a POINT (Natal) cds and a one penny QV Natal stamp; the other has a partial POINT postmark also, but is not on piece or cover. Dates are in the mid-1890's.

**Question #4:** What does the abbreviation cds stand for? (Bill Brooks/California)  
**Answer:** CDS means "circular date stamp" and is used to indicate what would be like our postmark. Usually town/province in the outer circle, day/month/year in the center. CDS's from Natal exist in single circle and double circle - Kantey's Type M (double circle, of which there are several.) I refer you to *The Postal Markings of Natal*, by Hart, Kantey and Leon. (For the record, in Pre-Union South Africa, there often appears the term BONC, which means *Barrel Oval Numerical Cancel*. South African auction houses sometimes use this in their listings.  
Send your questions to Syl C. Tully, P.O. Box 5627, Hamden, CT 06518, USA. Any member wishing to expand on one or more of his answers are also invited to do so. All responses will be published in the next issue if possible. (Well done for the first go-round Syl.)

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**"Call For Papers"**  
If you were wondering about a

topic to write on, Bill Wallace of San Francisco mentions that his specialty is Rhodesian postmarks. He would be very interested in a list of them in *Forerunners*. How the mail was carried would also be of interest, e.g., stagecoach lines in Transvaal. It is also hoped that the articles contained in this issue will provide some "food for thought" for other topics that members will want to write about in the future.

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**\*\*\*\*\* "Bits and Pieces"**  
Member T. P. McDermott/New York, contacted the Editor a few weeks ago and mentioned a couple items that may be of interest.;. The recent Australian bi-centennial issue contains one stamp focusing on the Cape of Good Hope... Britain's recent Queen Victoria issue set contains a high value commemorating the "Siege of Mafeking Lifted".  
On the subject of members being able to meet

with one another, T.P. suggested that if a member plans on attending an exhibition or show, he/she could let other members know by placing a notice in *Forerunners*. For example, the Editor will be attending SANDICAL, in San Diego, February 12-14, and would look forward to hearing from any members who also plan on being there.

If all goes well, PUSASG will apply for affiliate status with the American Philatelic Society(APS) in 1989. The requirements are that we must have 25 members arld been in existence for two years. Most likely our application would be approved at APS's annual STAMPSHOW which is scheduled to be held at the Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, California that year. We could plan to hold our first formal meeting at the show. Perhaps we may want to consider placing frames in the exhibition portion and highlight further the interests and achievements of our group. This could certainly go a long way toward increasing membership and interest in Pre-Union collecting. Perhaps the time would be right to also elect officers, talk by-laws and the like. **WOULD ANY MEMBERS BE WILLING TO FORM A PLANNING COMMITTEE TO WORK ON A MEETING AT THE 1989 STAMPSHOW?** Those members that would be, should contact the Editor who is willing to coordinate communications between those that are interested. It would be a wonderful experience. if we could create an opportunity to meet one another and share our collecting and other related interests.

**"Classified Ads"**

Advertising space is available on a "per issue" basis. The Editor reserves the right to modify any ad to correct spelling, etc.

Members: First 25 words free, five cents per additional word thereafter, payable in advance. Dealers and non-members: business card size (3.5" x 2") ads, \$ 7.50 per issue or three issues for \$20, payable in advance. Advertisers should insure that their copy reaches the Editor by the dates specified below. Make checks or international postal money orders payable to the PRE-UNION SOUTH AFRICA STUDY GROUP-NOT THE EDITOR.

For Jan-Apr issue, Dec 1st; for May-Aug issue, April 1st; and Sep-Dec issue, Aug 1st. -----  
-----Bill Wallace is interested in purchasing anything unusual of Rhodesia, e.g., revenues, proofs, cinderellas, etc. Write Bill **at P.O. Box 16381**, San Francisco, CA 94116.

-----  
Eugene Plummer desires information on the Robemark Philatelic Catalogue last Issued in '82, and the South African Colour **Catalogue, '82-87. Write Gene at 122 Valley Road, Neptune, NJ. 01153**



## "LOOKING AT PRE-UNION LITERATURE"

By  
George van den Hurk

Obviously, members of our study group have more than a casual interest in the philately of Southern Africa. It would be therefore be of great help to most of us to know what material, handbooks, journals, catalogues, etc., relating to Pre-Union are available from the American Philatelic Research Library. I hope that it is possible to publish in *Forerunners* a computer listing of their holdings relating to Pre-Union philately. (The Editor has communicated with APRL on this matter.) After my spontaneous offer (and our Editor's acceptance) to write on South African philatelic literature, I hope that fellow members will also come forward with information because the field covered by our study group is enormous, and my knowledge and material are relatively limited.

I believe that any serious student would probably start to survey the availability of worthwhile journals and newsletters, of which in many cases back numbers or even complete volumes are still obtainable from the original publishers. The *SA Philatelist*, published by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, is of course indispensable! Subscriptions are about \$12 and available from J. Michelson, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa.

In the *SA Philatelist* 1987 July; 63(7): 144-46, there are full details of all affiliated specialist societies and study groups: Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society, Orange Free State Study Circle, Postmark & Postal History Society of Southern Africa, Southern Africa Post Card Research Group, South African Stamp Study Circle, South West Africa Stamp Study Group and the Transvaal Study Circle.

Most of the specialist societies issue their own regular journals, and in most cases back numbers are available. There are still, I believe, bound volumes of the *SA Philatelist* available with excellent series of articles on such varied topics as the Travelling Post Offices of Southern Africa, (1957), The Postal History of the Hottentot and Herero Campaigns in German S.W.A., 1903 to 1907, (1963), Postage Due Marks and many other subjects.

The Postmark & Postal History Society of S.A. also has a proud record of publishing a regular journal and monographs, of which many concern Pre-Union philately, are available to members.

Another source of philatelic knowledge is the special library of philately in the Johannesburg Public Library. In 1938, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirle arranged for the Philatelic Society of

J. J. ILLIGS  
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f m1

to this library where it is being kept as a unit in the Reference Department. The collection was considerably strengthened in 1946 when the Library purchased the philatelic library of Emil Tamsen, of Nylstroom, consisting of more than 1,000 volumes and several rare items. In the report to the City Council recommending the purchase, it is stated that with the acquisition of the Tamsen Library, the Public Library of Johannesburg will have the most outstanding philatelic book collection in Southern Africa. During UNIPEX in 1960, the Catalogue of the Philatelic Collection, a catalogue of the Library's holdings, with a full index consisting of 298 pages was published.

With two National Philatelic Exhibitions being planned in Johannesburg in 1989 and 1990, it is suggested that it might be possible to take steps to bring the activities of the Philatelic Unit of the Public Library in Johannesburg on a more active basis with new acquisitions, philatelic oriented administration and promotion, not forgetting the CURLE collection of Transvaal postage stamps, and possibly an up-dated catalogue and description of the Library Collection, which is probably an appropriate effort and time, 30 years after UNIPEX in 1990.

As an example of reference materials from the *South African Philatelist*, listed below are some of the Travelling Post Office Marks from the Cape of Good Hope (January, 1957 issue) and O.V.S./Z.A.R./BRITISH ARMY/O.R.C./NATAL and Transvaal (March 1957 issue).

### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.



### Z. A. R.

### O.V.S.



### BRITISH ARMY



### NATAL

### O. R. C.



### TRANSVAAL





*"Basutoland Forerunners" By*  
Morgan T. Farrell  
Recently I went to a local stamp

show in San Diego. At one of the dealer bourses I bought a used pair of Cape of Good Hope #51 for a dollar. Not a purchase to brag about normally, but this used pair had a full clear "Mori ja" postmark on it; and so I added another Basutoland forerunner to my collection.

Probably one of the more challenging aspects of stamp collecting for me is to find those elusive postmarks on what first appear to be common stamps. I think the most elusive and most rewarding to find are forerunners. Forerunners are those stamps that were used in a place before it was a stamp issuing entity in itself. This usually translates to mean the stamps used in a country before it was an independent country and was part of another country before independence. The two major areas of forerunner stamps in our group's area of interests are Basutoland and Swaziland. I am by no means an expert on these stamps, but would like to write a little about the forerunners of Basutoland for those individuals who may know even less than I do of this subject.

**PRE STAMP PERIOD** - It appears that actual postal service began in Basutoland in the 1870's. My only reference book that may differ with this somewhat is a 1952 copy of the *Handbook Catalogue of Union of South Africa Stamps*. In its section of Philatelic History, a chart indicates that British stamps were or could have been used in Basutoland from 1843 - 1871. From other reference literature though, it appears that although mail did move from Basutoland to the outer Cape Province and beyond, mail was not franked by British or any stamps before the 1870's. If anyone can offer more precise information on this period, I would be very interested. I would be especially interested to hear of any known covers franked with British stamps. In the meantime, it is my belief that none exist.

**CAPE STAMPS** - In the 1870's, postal service began officially and this included the use of the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope. It follows that the Cape postmarks were also used and this at first consisted of the numerical postmarks. The following are known:

133 - Quthing, 156 - Mafeteng, 281 - Maeru,

210\* - Mohalieschoek, 277\* - Morija,

317 - Thlotse Heights, 688 - Teyateyaneng

\*These numbers may be attributed to other Cape offices also.

As in the Cape of Good Hope, town cancels later appeared (1880's ?) and the above town along with the following are all to be found: Butha Buthe, Leribe, Peka and Qacha's Nek.

Although other post offices opened later, the above are probably the only cancels that would appear on Cape stamps up through the: Interprovisional period.

**INTERPROVISIONALS** - When the Union came to be, definitives were not yet available and the stamps of all four provinces were declared valid for postage in any province of the Union.. The official date for this usage was 15 August: 1910, although in fact the interprovincial usage; was tolerated from 31 May 1910. The! interprovisional usage was considered, in most: cases, to extend to 31 August 1913, or the day before the issue of Union definitives.

As interprovincial usage was officially' sanctioned for all of the provinces, so too was it allowed in both Basutoland and Swaziland.. Here we find the most possible different: varieties of Basutoland forerunners, as well as,, some of the most elusive. I have never seen any claim to a complete list of different stamps: used during this period. On the contrary,, everything that is written of this period) stresses the fact that probably new usages still are yet to be discovered. An example would the five shilling Orange River Colony Edwardian. I have never heard of one used in Basutoland during the Interprovincial Period and yet it was very much valid for use there. (Does anyone have one?) Additionally, stamps of all provinces that were issued earlier than the then current Edwardians were also valid for use - in most cases. Some of these must have been used on occasion. Which ones and how many still exist is anyone's guess. The possibilities are many.

If I were to place Basutoland forerunners of the interprovisional Period in an order of rarity - commonest first - I would place them as follows:

- 1). Cape of Good Hope Edwardians
- 2) Transvaal Edwardian, 1/2p green and 1p carmine
- 3) All other Transvaal Edwardians 4) Natal Edwardians
- 5) Orange River Colony Edwardians 6) Transvaal postage dues 7) All earlier provincials

After 1 September 1913, Union issues were used in Basutoland until 1933. Provincial stamps were also still valid, but here ends the Group's area of study.

And so ends the story. I hope that this little bit of information will make searching through a dealer's stock a little more interesting for some. I only hope that you don't get there before me, All corrections, questions or further information on this subject would be very welcome in future articles by other members.



## "The Minor Republics"

By  
Sidney Goldfield

While most philatelists probably are familiar with Transvaal, Orange Free State, Natal and Cape Province, very few are aware of the two minor republics that appeared and disappeared during the first half of the 1880's.

**STELLALAND** - The first of the two stamp issuing entities was Stellaland which was established in 1882 on the frontier with Bechuanaland (Botswana). The land was awarded to a group of Africaner frontiersmen by a group of Tswana tribesmen in payment for their services as mercenaries. Stellaland, which bordered Transvaal on the west, tried unsuccessfully to annex itself to the ZAR (Transvaal) due to pressure exerted on that country by the British missionary lobby and the trader's lobby led by Cecil Rhodes. In 1884, President Kruger of the ZAR nevertheless annexed Stellaland together with Goshen, a non-stamp issuing republic.

The Imperial Government protested the annexation as a violation of a treaty signed by the two governments the previous February and President Kruger backed down. The British government sent a small military force into the area in January of 1885, thus ending the career of the tiny state.

On February 1, 1884, Stellaland issued its only set of stamps. They were lithographed by Van Der Sandt de Villiers & Co., Capetown and consist of five denominations: 1p Red, 3p Orange, 4p Gray, 6p Lilac and 1/ Green. They are all unwatermarked and perforated 12. Imperforated varieties are listed for all but the 1/ and are believed to be proofs. In 1885, the 4p Gray was overprinted "Twee" with a hand stamp in blackish violet. The stamps were cancelled with the initials of the postal official in charge without a date. They were not date stamped until they arrived in Barkley West or Kimberley. I have never seen a used stamp or cover from Stellaland nor have I seen any values given for used copies in Scotts.

**NEW REPUBLIC** - A dispute among Zulu chieftains in May 1884 led to the murder of Cetshwayo. The Afrikaner settlers in the area supported Dinuzulu as chief of the Zulus and were rewarded with a strip of land on the southern border of the ZAR. The British were not pleased but when they annexed Zululand in 1887, they left the New Republic untouched which was incorporated into the ZAR in 1887.

The stamps of the New Republic are all perforated 11 1/2 and unwatermarked. They are all handstamped in violet. The paper used was yellowish or granite textured. The paper was already perforated and gummed when it reached the New Republic. The stamps can be

easily divided into six categories:

### 1886 Design

**Yellow Paper:** 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 6p, 9p, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 4/-, 5/-, 5/6, 7/6, 10/-, 13/-, L1, and 30/-.  
There was one exception as regards the color. The 1p in this series was also printed in black and is extremely rare.

**Granite Paper:** 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 6p, 9p, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 4/-, 5/6, 7/6, 10/-, 12/-, 13/-, L1, 30/-.

### Arms Embossed

**Yellow Paper:** 1p, 2p, 4p, 6p.  
**Granite Paper:** 1p, 2p.

The dates on the above design vary from 9 January 1886 through 20 January 1887.

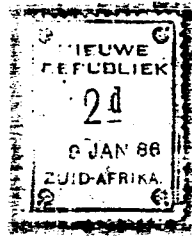
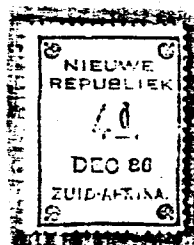
### 1887 Design

### Arms Embossed

**Yellow Paper:** 3p, 4p, 6p, 9p, 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 5/6, 7/6, 10/-, 10/6, L1, 30/-.

**Granite Paper:** 1p, 2p, 4p, 6p, 1/6.

Innumerable varieties in this design exist involving inverted arms and arms omissions. The New Republic was incorporated into the ZAR in 1887. Shown below are a few examples of stamp issues from both Republics.



"Weather Report To The Editor"


By



Louise van Ingen

in our search for postal stationery of the Union of South africa, we started picking up some forerunners such as this card of the Orange River Colony. It is dated August 31, 1914, but it did get through without Union postage. We have seen one other, dated 3-1914. The Editor's address was pre-printed. It is interesting to note that the card was sent from a farm, "Lion's Rump", and reports a very light rainfall for that August.

I

WEATHER REPORT TO THE EDITOR

POST  CARD  
ORANGE RIVER COLONY  
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

**THE EDITOR,**  
**The Farmer's Weekly,**  
**P.O. Box 387,**  
**BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.**

Date 1-9-14 Farm Lion's Rump  
District Leeuport Province O. F. S.  
Details \_\_\_\_\_  
The rainfall for August  
was 1.45. which fell on  
the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
H. F. Gelhardt  
Please write distinctly.

**"Photographic Comparisons of Transvaal Originals vs Forgeries"**

By  
Chuck Lupo

*(Editor's Note: In this short article, Chuck has graciously provided us with actual photos that clearly identify the differences between "the real thing" vs forgeries for two Transvaal issues. Chuck's presentation is an example of the value of photographic skills and equipment as powerful philatelic research tools. Chuck's efforts to demonstrate this are certainly appreciated.)*

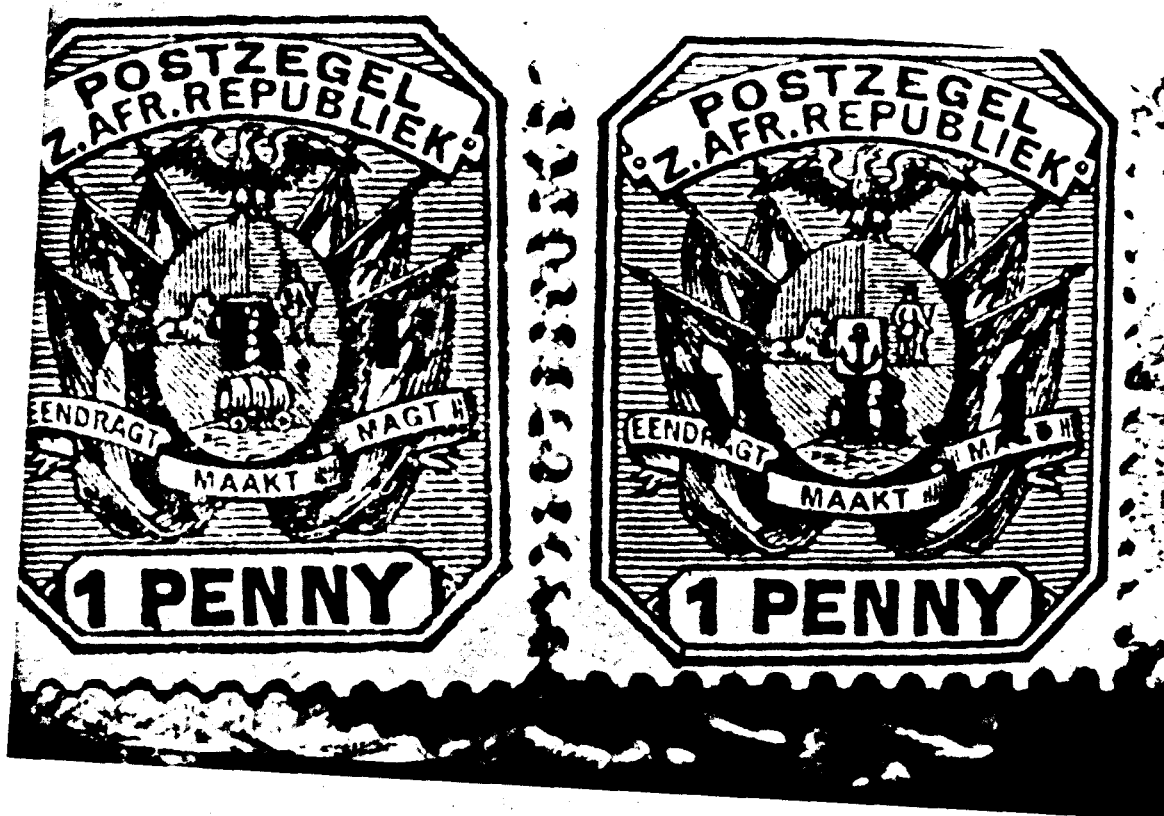
Comparison #1 - Scott No. 164: The 6p revenue of 1898

The counterfeit, on the left, is dark red in color and has a shiny dark green ink.



**Comparison #2 - Scott No. 203: 1p rose and green of the 2nd British Occupation.**

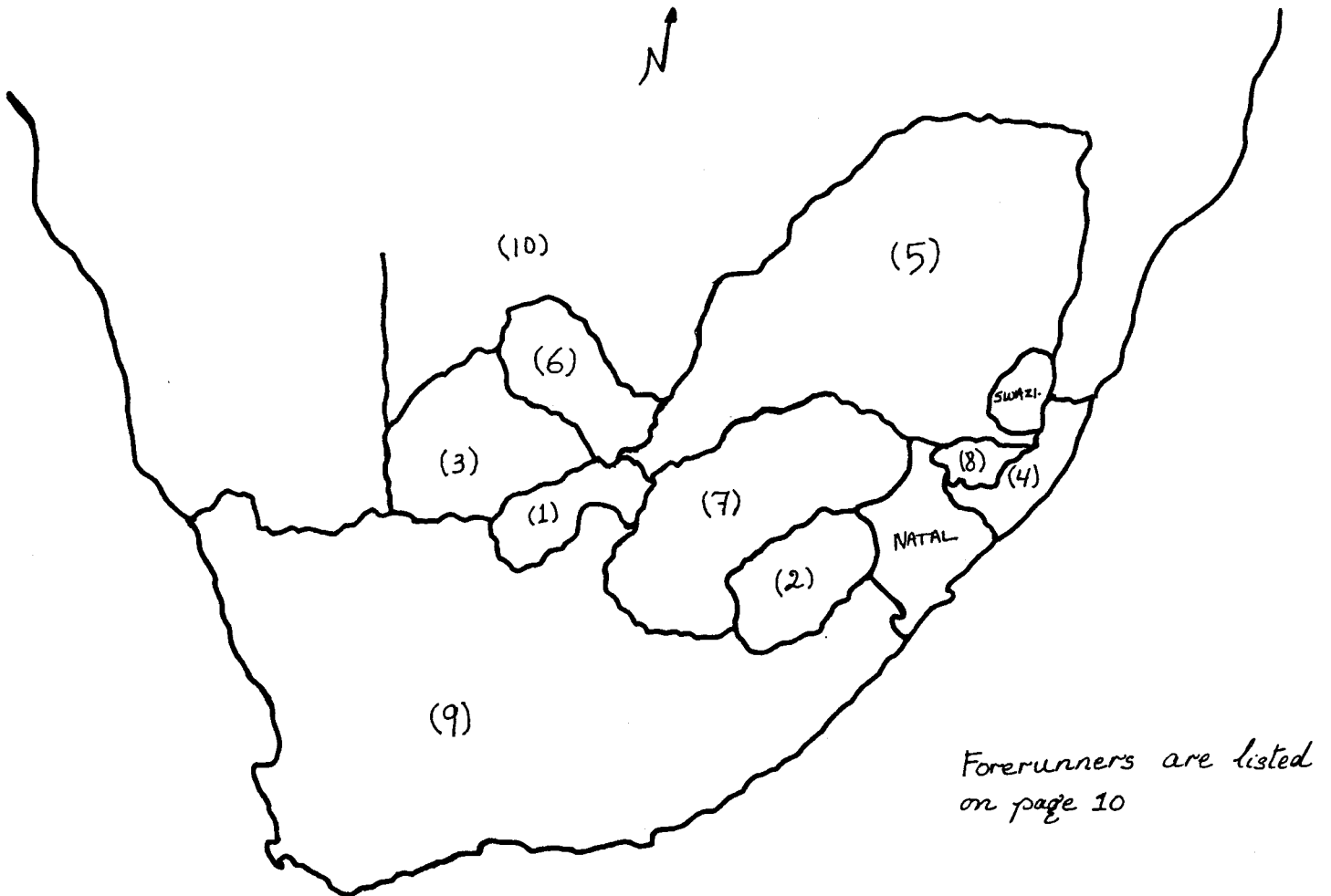
The original, shown on the left, has serifs and letters which are uneven and broken. The periods are usually oval vertically or misshapen. The forgery on the right has sharp, clear periods which are large and relatively perfect in shape.





"PRE-UNION SNAPSHOTS"  
By. Chuck Lupo

Philatelically speaking, it is helpful to geographically illustrate the location of stamp issuing entities. Maps are useful ways to highlight the Pre-Union States so we may better appreciate them. Shown below is such a map, followed by a very brief description of the various Forerunners.



*Forerunners are listed  
on page 10*

## **(1) Crown Colony of Griqualand West**

Annexed to Great Britain in 1871, it was made a crown colony in 1873 until it was merged into the Cape of Good Hope in 1880. Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were overprinted "G" for use in the colony.

## **(2) Crown Colony of Basutoland**

Basutoland was a British crown colony enclaved in southern Africa from 1883. Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were used in the colony from 1871 to 1910 and stamps of the Union of South Africa from 1910 to 1933 when stamps inscribed "Basutoland" went into use. It became independent as the Kingdom of Lesotho in 1966.

## **(3) Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland**

A crown colony, British Bechuanaland was annexed to the Cape of Good Hope Colony in 1895. It is now part of the R.S.A. Stamps were issued from 1886 to 1897.

## **(4) Zululand**

Zululand came under British control in 1887 and was made part of the colony of Natal in 1897, now in the Republic of South Africa. Stamps were first issued in 1888 and consisted of stamps of Great Britain overprinted "ZULULAND". Key type stamps inscribed for the colony were issued in 1894.

## **(5) Transvaal**

The first settlement in the Transvaal was by Boers in 1838. The South African Republic was formed in 1856. It was annexed by Britain in 1877-81, but independence was again granted. It became a British crown colony in 1900 and joined the Union of South Africa in 1910. It is now part of the Republic of South Africa.

## **(6) Stellaland**

The Republic of Stellaland was established in 1884 by the Boers of South Africa. It was an attempt to annex territory belonging to the Bechuana People. The state was dis-established by the British and became part of the British Bechuanaland in 1885. Stamps were issued in 1884-85.

## **(7) Orange Free State**

An area to the south of the Transvaal, the Orange Free State was set up as a Boer Republic in 1854. It joined the Transvaal in the Boer War against the British and was annexed by Britain as the Orange River Colony in 1900. Now it is part of the Republic of South Africa.

## **(8) New Republic**

An area in what is now the South African province of Transvaal, the New Republic existed from 1884 to 1888. It had been established by Boers from Transvaal who gained it from the Zulu people. When the South African colony of Natal annexed Zululand in 1887, it had been excluded from the annexation and later went to Transvaal. Stamps were issued in 1886 and 1887.

## **(9) Colony of Cape of Good Hope**

The Cape of Good Hope was a British colony at the southern tip of Africa. It existed as a colony from 1814 to the formation of the Union of South Africa on May 31, 1910. Stamps were first issued in 1853. These were the famous "Cape Triangles". Stamps continued until replaced by those of South Africa.

## **(10) Bechuanaland Protectorate**

This area was that part of Bechuanaland to the north of the Molopo River that had been established in 1885. The part to the south of the river eventually became British Bechuanaland and was absorbed into the Union of South Africa. It became independent as the Republic of Botswana on September 30th, 1966.