



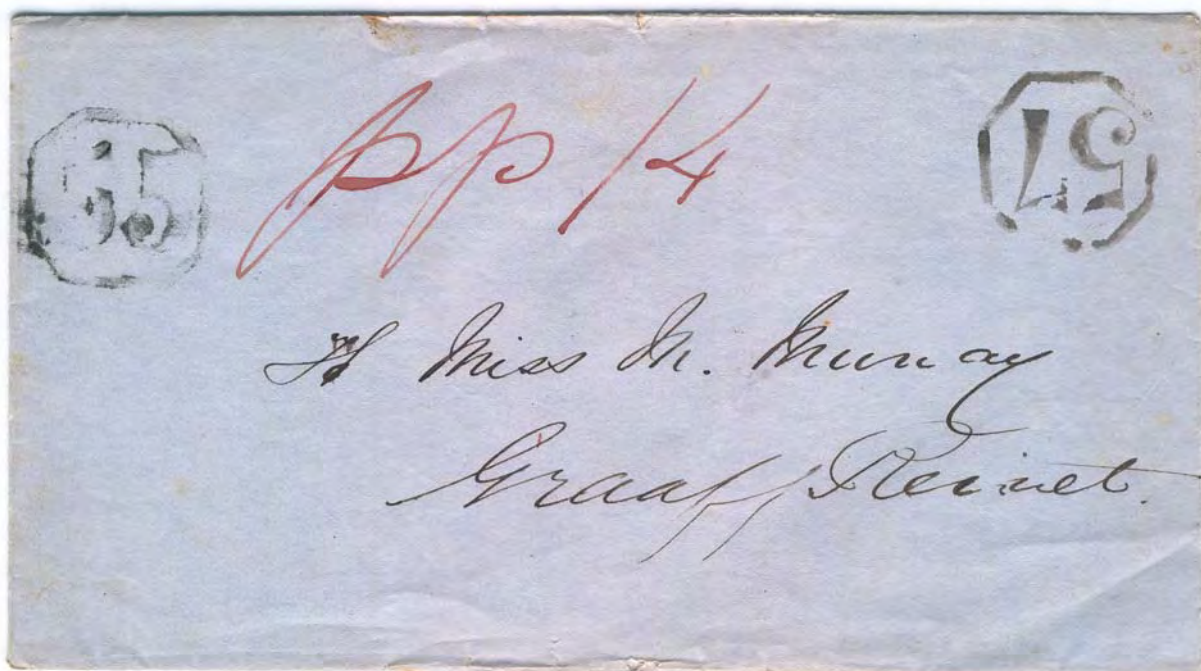
******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

Affiliated with the American Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Volume XXI, Number 2, Whole No. 60

November-February 2007-08



Double use of octagonal postmarks on 1849 wrapper from Colesberg to Graff Reinet.

Highlights

Octagonal Cape Cancellers
Internet Exhibits
Colonial Parcel Post Label
Letter From David Livingstone
Vagaries Valuations
Postmark Discoveries
Tax Marks With Text
Natal-New Republic Combination Covers
OFS Colored Ink Cancellers
The King's Head



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Front Illustration:

Double use of octagonal postmarks on 1849 Wrapper from Colesberg to Graff Reinert. Endorsed "pp/4(d)" as payment for letters under 1/2oz. One of five letters recorded with double octagonal postmarks. See article by Johnny Barth in this issue.

***FORERUNNERS

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Silver at APS Stampshow 2007, Portland; Large Silver at WASHINGTON 2006; Vermeils at STAMPSHOW 2005 and C7NPLE, Toronto; Silver at CHICAGOPEX 2005; Silver-Bronze at LONDON 2000; Silvers at JOPEX 99, STAMPSHOW 99, and COLOPEX 99; Silver-Bronze at PACIFIC 97; Vermeil/Certificate of Merit at OKPEX 96; Large Silver at New Zealand National Philatelic Exhibition 96; Silvers at SESCAL 95, CAPEX 96, WAPEX 93, and HAFNIA 94; Silver-Bronze at ESPAMER 96, SINGAPORE 95, and PHILAKOREA 94.

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Thanks to Ashley Cotter-Cairns for proof reading

Editorial Notes

It is with sadness that we have to report the death of a regular column editor and writer. Chris Miller died recently at his home in the UK. We will miss his regular articles in Forerunners.

It always amazes the Editor when a new issue finally materializes and leaves with the outgoing mails. This issue is

no exception. A few weeks ago I was still pondering over how possibly to fill the pages and now when this is being written, the issue is miraculously full of new and interesting articles. Thanks to the many authors that like the Editor remembered the deadline. This issue contains articles from a number of collectors living in very diverse parts of the globe. We have contributions from Botswana, Denmark, UK, Germany, Belgium, Canada, and USA. Our regular contributors from South Africa have taken a break, but will no doubt be back for next issue. Peter Lodoen writes about the value of the £5 revenue stamp of Bechuanaland. Johnny Barth continues his study of the octagonal cancellers of the Cape of Good Hope. It is the Editor's prediction that there will soon be a Part 3. The conclusion of Keith Klugman's survey of the Natal and New Republic combination covers is also included. Brian Hurst shows and transcribes a letter from David Livingstone written at Kuruman in British Bechuanaland. Werner Seeba continues his expose of new and old postmark discoveries. Jan Stolk this time shows examples of tax marks with simple text. Tim Bartshe has returned after a break with a survey of the colored ink cancels of OFS and promises a continuation. Finally, Ashley Cotter-Cairns has rediscovered the King's Head of South Africa.

The good news this time is that Bob Hisey finally has been able to retire from his position as treasurer. David McNamee has stepped in and taken over the treasury. Welcome to David. The fact that you received this issue shows that the treasury transition went smoothly. You may think that it is the Editor that gets the Forerunners to you. Nothing could be more wrong. It is the Treasurer that provides the mailing labels and pays the bills. The Editor just put the articles together you mail to him and drops the mailings off at his local post office when done.

The deadline for the next issue will be June 15, 2008. Please let me have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

Award to Society Publication

Bob Hisey and Tim Bartshe's monograph on the OFS Telegraphs has won the prestigious 'J H Harvey Pirie Memorial Award' from the Southern African Philatelic Foundation. Congratulations to the authors.

New Treasurer

Our new Treasurer David McNamee was asked to introduce himself. This is what he wrote:

I am recently retired from managerial, financial and strategic planning positions in business and consulting. Primary collecting interests include the stamps and postal history of Tasmania, the KGV stamps of K.U.T., the postal history of the Shenandoah

Valley of Virginia, and the postal history of the Anglo-Zulu War and the absorption of Zululand into Natal and Greater South Africa. Member of numerous philatelic societies, Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London and the British Society of Australian Philately, a member of APS since 1974, and an active exhibitor and philatelic judge. Editor of the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania journal 'The Informer,' and the author of three books on Tasmanian philately.

My collecting interests are limited primarily because I have a deep interest in mastering the history, geography, and economic and political development of my areas of interest to better interpret and understand their postal history and development of postal communications. Oceania and Africa have fascinated me since I was very young; hence my interests developed along those lines. I grew up in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and I have a deep interest in the early history and how it relates to my family's genealogy.

As much as possible, nothing will change operationally for the PSGSA Treasury function except the address where money is sent. Bob Hisey has done a great job in providing sound fiscal advice and implementing good financial practices. Bob will continue to advise and work with me as needed; he has been a big help already helping to make the transition as smooth as possible. I look forward to serving the Society.

Society Affairs

The Forerunners is the official journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa. The journal is published three times per year for the periods July/October, November/February, and March/June. Subscription to the Forerunners is included in the membership fees to the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA). The membership fees are \$25 to North America and \$30 by air to Europe and southern Africa. A sample copy of Forerunners is available from the Editor for \$9. Presentation issue can be freely downloaded together with application form from psgsa.thestampweb.com. Advertising rates can be found in the Market Place section. Payment options are (1) check drawn on a US bank and made payable to PSGSA, (2) £ Sterling checks made payable to Bob Hisey, (3) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (4) PayPal plus \$2 fee to the Society Treasurer at dmcnamee@aol.com. All membership fees and other payments should be mailed directly to the Treasurer. All communications about membership, subscriptions, publications, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Secretary.

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent to the appropriate member of the Editorial Board or directly to one of the Editors. Electronic versions of submissions are preferred either embedded in an email message, email attachments or on a floppy disk or CD. MS Word files are preferred. Avoid complex tables, unless in text format. Illustrations should be scanned at least at 150 dpi and submitted in tif, gif, or jpg formats. Illustrations should not be embedded in manuscript files. Contact the Editors if you have any questions and your submission requires special attention. Needless to say, good old fashioned typed or written manuscripts and photocopies can still be submitted and are most welcome.

Back Issues Available

Back issues of the Forerunners are in stock and available for purchase. These are listed by whole number: #1-4, 6-9, 11-17, 22-27, 28/29,* and 30-57. The price per copy is #1-3, \$2; #4, \$4, #6-11, \$3; #12-13, \$4; #14-15, \$5; #16-17, \$6; #22-27, \$7; #28/29, \$10; #30-33, \$7; #34-60, \$9. Prices include shipping by lowest rate. Many back issues only exist in few remaining copies. Send orders to the Editor together with payment. * Combined as a British Africa Anthology with articles from 15 speciality groups celebrating PSGSA's 10th Anniversary during PACIFIC 97.



President's Corner

Greetings once again from Ontario, where winter has given us another taste of how it was many years ago, with consistent snowfalls, white-outs and multi-car pile-ups on the highways and other undesirable effects. One of these is the necessity for shoveling the snow, which at the age of 77 is a different proposition from earlier years at the age of 40!

One problem which we had been trying to solve for a number of years has finally been resolved. We now have a new Treasurer in the person of David McNamee of Alamo, California, who has replaced the redoubtable Bob Hisey. Bob will now be able to enjoy his "retirement" although he will be serving the society in other ways. David is both collector and exhibitor and it is with pleasure that I welcome him to our ranks.

Barbara and I had decided to attend the AmeriStampExpo in Charlotte and it was most enjoyable, especially as there were a number of PSGSA people there. Bob and Elizabeth Hisey, Tim Bartshe and David McNamee were in attendance and there were exhibits from Elizabeth, Tim, David as well as Ron and Bethel Strawser. The One-Frame Team Competition had eight teams participating and it is always great to see the team names that some groups dream up. We had the "Fab Five" (all ladies of course), the "Not Grumpy Old Men" (all ladies again, including Elizabeth) and the "Untotally Called For" (men in this case, including Tim, David and Ron). It looks as though this competition can be great fun. Charlotte is a nice city with quite a bit of construction ongoing and a light rail link. Also pleasant for Barbara and I was the temperature, which was somewhat warmer than our normal at this time of year. Altogether a most enjoyable nine day trip, since we drove down!

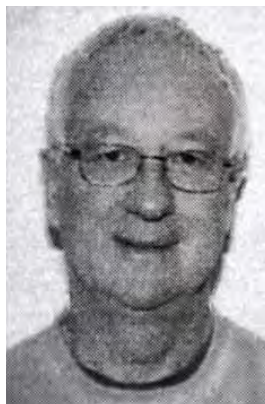
While I am thinking about exhibitions, I am the Exhibits Chair for the American Topical Association show in Portland, Oregon this year. I already have exhibit entries for David McNamee (The Canoe in Pacific Island Culture), Elizabeth Hisey (Christmas Dinner at the Portland Hotel – 1914) and Tim Bartshe (The Rainbow Trout). In addition, Fred Lawrence is serving on the Jury. There must be something about being a PSGSA person that encourages exhibiting or attending stamp shows!

The APS, though CANEJ, is working towards another revision of the Judging Manual, including various exhibit score sheets for the different exhibiting disciplines, to bring them more in line with current practice in other parts of the world. While the last version of the manual was a handy size, it did not hold up very well under repeated use, so it is to be hoped that the new version will have a better binding.

I have recently heard a rumour that plans are afoot in Canada to hold another international show (CAPEX) here, but when and where seem to be unknown at the present time. While I realize that putting on an International stamp show is a MAJOR under-taking, it seems that Canada really ought to have an international show periodically, so I hope that the plans get firmed up and hopefully that I shall be able to participate in the organization in some way.

On that note, I must sign off, not to shovel snow but to take my wife to the store for meat and drink for the weekend! Until next time.....

Closed Albums



Chris Miller died unexpectedly on Saturday, December 1, 2007. Chris was a longtime member of PSGSA and served as a regular column editor. His main philatelic interest was civil censorship and he served as the European Secretary of the Civil Censorship Study Group. Chris took it early on himself to educate us about censorship and wrote our censorship column where he typically illustrated and discussed items in this own collection. Occasionally, the Editor would get a letter saying that he had run out of new material and ideas for the column. Still the manuscripts kept arriving in time for the deadlines after just a little encouragement. Chris was the ideal columnist and journal collaborator and this Editor will miss his constant help and advise. He had just finished writing/editing the Civil Censorship Study Circle's area handbook on Southern America and was at work on the African handbook. His main interest the last years was the censorship of South Africa during World War II. We will miss his very educational writings in Forerunners and the postal history community has lost a prominent member.

Peter Thy

Jon Alger Barry died suddenly of a massive heart attack on September 27, 2007, at the age of 72 in Somerset West, South Africa. Jon was born in Plumtree, Rhodesia, in 1935 and educated at the Agricultural College of Rhodesia. After graduation, he married and bought a piece of land between Salisbury and Bulawayo where he developed a beautiful and productive farm called Long Valley. Jon was a keen ornithologist but was particularly passionate about his postmark collection and wrote with his wife Jenifer the magnificent research book "The Postmarks of Rhodesia 1888 to 1980" published by the Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa. This work is and will remain the standard reference to the postmark of Rhodesia. After the forced acquisition of their farm in Zimbabwe, Jon and Jenifer moved to South Africa in 2006. At the time of his death, they were moving into a new community at Somerset West. Jon was an active member of the Rhodesian Study Circle and other local philatelic societies. He will be remembered by friends and collectors all over the world who use his and Jenifer's postmark book. (Based on Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle, No. 225.)



2007-2008 Dues

Dues for the year 2007/2008 have long been overdue and remain unchanged from last year in spite of radical increases in mailing costs. So now we have only two rates: USA \$25. Rest of World by Air \$30. As always, we can receive payment by US check (payable to PSGSA), UK cheque (payable to Bob Hisey), PayPal to dmcnamee@aol.com, or cash at your risk in dollars. Please also keep us up to date on your email and mail addresses.

Show Reports

My main source for these listings appears to have disappeared from the pages of Linn's. This time I only had a few of my own local achievements to report and decided to keep them for myself. Anybody willing and able to take over?

Address Changes

All address and email changes should be reported to David McNanee to be properly corrected on the membership list. This will assure arrival of the Forerunners in the mail without delay. However, if you want your new address and email also to be included in the Forerunners, please advise the editor.

Bob Taylor's and Morgan Farrell's email addresses have become inactive. Can anybody supply current addresses. Perhaps the two Gentlemen themselves?

The new Treasurer is David McNamee, 15 Woodland Dr., Alamo CA 94507. He can be reached by writing to dmcnamee@aol.com or by telephone 1-925-934-3847. All PayPal payments to the society should be directed to David's email address.

Bob Hisey's addresses remain as previously even with his new and well deserved status of Treasurer Emeritus.

Colonial and Foreign Parcel Post and Customs Declaration Forms Used in British Bechuanaland

by Peter Thy

'COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PARCEL POST/FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION' inscribed 'For use in the case of Parcels sent from British Bechuanaland to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries'.

This form was used on May 15, 1895, affixed to a parcel to the Isle of Man. At the right are three British Bechuanaland 6d Queen Victoria stamps with part Mafeking cancellations and traces of two other stamps. The manuscript endorsement is believed to read 11/5d indicating the postage charged at Mafeking. A Cape of Good Hope 'PARCEL PASSING THROUGH THE G.P.O.' label was affixed in transit.

No information has been found about the 1895 British Bechuanaland parcel rates to U.K.. In 1800 it was only 1/3d per pound. The 1891 Protectorate rate was 2/9d. If this was also the British Bechuanaland rate, it would account for 11/- of the 11/5d endorsement. Parcels to foreign countries were subject to unspecified additional 'forward' postage payable by the Cape Colony

to the U.K. The weight details on the form, marked 'In case of Foreign Parcels only' have been entered, suggesting that the Isle of Man may have been treated as foreign, attracting the extra 5d charge. The Inland Postage of 7 1/2d marked on the Cape label was presumably recoverable from British Bechuanaland.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PARCEL POST.
For use in the case of Parcels sent from British Bechuanaland to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries.

FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION.

Place to which the Parcel is addressed.
Isle of Man

Description of Parcel.
Linen Package

In the case of Foreign Parcels only:-
• Net Weight, lbs. *3* ozs. *1*
+ Gross Weight, " *4* "

Inland Postage
d. *7 1/2*
s. *0*

PARCEL PASSING THROUGH THE G.P.O.

Signature and of Sender
[Signature]

Date of posting *15 5* 189*5*

Caution.—In the event of the above declaration Parcel will be liable to seizure by the Customs authorities if a Parcel contain Diamonds, Specie, Bullion, Gold or other prohibited articles see the Post Office Guide.

For the use of the Post Office only, and to be filled in by the Parcel Bill No. *21* No. of Rates prepaid *17*

Cape of Good Hope.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PARCEL POST.

No. *171*

Cape Town.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND 6d

Southern African Exhibits on the Internet

Several exhibits with southern African themes exist on the internet and can be viewed in detail. The first set is listed on the website of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE). The link is <http://www.aape.org/exhibits.asp>. Another set of exhibits can be found on EXPONET at <http://www.japhila.cz/>. Jerome Kasper's website Aerogramme should also monitored for future posting of exhibits. This site can be found at <http://www.aerogramme.com/>. Please report other postings.

Occupation Stationary of the Transvaal 1900-08. Tim Bartshe (one frame) AAPE

Display the Republican postal stationary issues validated through overprinting and used during and after British occupation post-June 1900 for Colony-wide distribution. Two postal cards and two registered envelopes were so treated with some variations in the setting of the overprint.

Orange Free State - Commando Brief Frank - 1899-1900. Tim Bartshe (one frame) AAPE

Presented as a traditional display of mint and used examples of a military frank showing postmarks and covers from the major centers of conflict along the Cape fronts.

Otto Revisited: Celliers Printings of 1883. 2nd South African Republic (Transvaal). Tim Bartshe (one frame) AAPE

Traditional treatment of the four emissions/three values (two colors of the 3d) issued in 1883. The purpose is to display in some detail the production of these stop-gap issues prior to the introduction of the new Vurtheim designs and how the old Otto plates of 1870-71 were put into use.

The "Vurtheim" Enschede Postcard of Transvaal (ZAR) 1885. Tim Bartshe (one frame) AAPE

This exhibit is designed to develop in detail the story of the first postal card emission for the South African Republic. The story begins with the design of the indicia and the stationary through the various printings and proper usages.

Enschede Essays, Trials and Die Proofs of the South African Republic. Tim Bartshe (one frame) AAPE

Detailed chronology of the items related to the design and production of the dies and the printings of the stamps in their eventual release states.

Orange Free State - Republican Postage Issues, 1868-1900. Tim Bartshe (8 frames) AAPE

Detail the production history of the definitive issues, their numerous printings and usages as well as chronicle the numerous provisional issues made necessary due to shortages and rate changes. Postal rates are dealt with in great detail because these were driving forces to the new values and their accompanying provisional issues.

Southern Rhodesia Military Airletters. Jerome V. V. Kasper (one frame) AAPE & Aerogramme

This exhibit shows mint and used copies of all Southern Rhodesia Military Air Letter Cards. Five different "Active Service Letter

Cards" and one "Air Letter" form were printed from 1941 to 1945. They were initially valid only to certain areas. As the war progressed, the areas of validity were extended and air conveyance was provided to servicemen in these areas. Usage by servicemen to civilians required payment of an additional 3d. After the war, the forms were not demonetized, but were valid for any civilian use with payment of proper additional postage.

Southern African Pioneers in World War II. Peter Thy (1 frame) EXPONET

Surveys the postal history of the African Pioneer Corps recruited in the High Commission Territories of Southern Africa (Swaziland, Basutoland, Bechuanaland) during World War II. Shown are mail to and from the pioneers in the Middle East Forces. Included are air letter sheets, regular letters, registration envelopes, and airgraphs.

The Postal Stationery Cards of Bechuanaland. Peter Thy (4 frames) EXPONET

Display of the postcards issued in British Bechuanaland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Botswana. Emphasis are on the printing and production of the card as well as their usages. A strong showing of essays is included. Part 1 of a comprehensive showing of Bechuanaland and Botswana Postal Stationery.

The Newspaper Wrappers of British Bechuanaland. Peter Thy (one frame). EXPONET

Shown in one frame the issued newspaper wrappers of British Bechuanaland as well as their common usages. Part 2 of a comprehensive showing of Bechuanaland and Botswana Postal Stationery.

The Registration Envelopes of Bechuanaland. Peter Thy (6 frames). EXPONET

The exhibit includes the registration envelopes of British Bechuanaland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, and ends with examples of the stampless envelopes of Botswana. A near complete showing of the large size envelopes, including both mint and used examples, are of particular note for this exhibit. Part 3 of a comprehensive showing of Bechuanaland and Botswana Postal Stationery.

Botswana Aerogrammes. Peter Thy (3 frames) EXPONET

The airletter cards and aerogrammes of Bechuanaland Protectorate and Botswana are illustrated in this exhibit. Part 4 of a comprehensive showing of Bechuanaland and Botswana Postal Stationery.

Bechuanaland and Botswana Postal Orders. Peter Thy (2 frames) EXPONET

This is the most comprehensive collection of the postal orders issued in Bechuanaland Protectorate and Botswana. There are likely only about 15-20 Bechuanaland postal orders known to have survived in private collections. Ten of these are included in the exhibit, including the only examples of Rand denominations. Part 5 of a comprehensive showing of Bechuanaland and Botswana Postal Stationery.

Letter from David Livingstone

by Brian Hurst



Figure 1. Cover front.

David Livingstone was a prolific correspondent who penned more than 2,000 letters. The great majority of these reside in museums and institutions, but there are a few remaining in private hands.

The letter discussed in this article is particularly interesting to students of the postal history of the Bechuanalands in that it was written from Kuruman in the early days of Livingstone's career as a missionary, and also because the cover to the letter has survived.

I am no historian, but in order to place the letter in context I include here a very brief biography of David Livingstone covering the period up to the time when it was written.

David Livingstone, or Livingston (the name by which he was known in his younger years), was born at Blantyre in Scotland in 1813, the second son of a small tea merchant and church deacon. An avid learner, he used his first wages as a cotton worker at the age of ten to purchase a book on Latin. At the age of 19 he learnt of an appeal by Charles Gutzlaff, the medical missionary to China, which inspired him to follow the same path.

By this time his wages were large enough to allow him to attend medical school, and also to study Greek at Glasgow University in the winter and the divinity lectures of Dr. Wardlaw in the summer. In 1838 he moved to London, having offered his services to the London Missionary Society. The opium wars prevented Livingstone from going to China, but a meeting whilst in London with Robert Moffatt, the famous South African Missionary, persuaded him that this was an area where he could perform useful work. Having completed his medical studies, he was ordained in November 1840 and set sail for the Cape of Good Hope on the 8th December that year.

On the 31st July 1841 he arrived by wagon at Kuruman which was the most northerly station of the London Missionary Society in Southern Africa, and the usual residence of Robert Moffat, who was still absent in London at the time. It was never Livingstone's intention to remain at Kuruman and he spent the remainder of the year on a journey of several hundred miles, which took him to the north in search of a suitable site for a new missionary station.

In 1842 he spent several months in relative isolation at Litubaruba (now Molepolole) for the purpose of teaching himself native languages and customs, and to study the natural history of the area before returning to Kuruman in June. He remained there for some time, taking part in the routine work of the station before departing on another journey to the north in February 1843 to spend time among the tribes he had previously visited.

Livingstone returned to Kuruman in June for a short period during which he received final permission to set up a new missionary station. With this in mind he left Kuruman in August for Mabotsa, the place he had chosen for the new station during his earlier exploratory journeys. It was during this short stay in Kuruman, from June to August 1843, that the letter which forms the basis of this article was written, on 14th July 1843. Mabotsa, incidentally, can still be found to this day just off the main Lobatse-Zeerust road.

The cover, the front of which is illustrated above (Figure 1) is addressed in Livingstone's handwriting to the Revd. I. (or J.) McRobert, Cambuslang, Glasgow, and is marked 'Care of Revd. Dr. Phillip. Cape Town'. It was originally taxed 2s.4d. (in red), but this has been deleted and a tax of 8d. applied instead.

Dr. John Philip was at that time the head of the London Missionary Society in Southern Africa. He was based in Cape

Town, and as part of his duties directed all incoming and outgoing mail addressed to and from the Society missionaries. A study of the 1841 census for Scotland reveals a Rev. John McRobert, described as an Independent Minister, living in Cambuslang. He would have been 46 or 47 years old at the time the letter was written, and may well be the addressee.

The rear of the cover (Figure 2) carries a 'SHIP LETTER' stamp and an arrival stamp for Glasgow on the 12th December 1843, thus giving a transit time of virtually five months. There is also a partial red circular cancel, which could possibly be a London transit marking.

The letter itself covers four pages, and it would appear to be written in response to some sort of appendix that the Reverend McRobert added to a letter sent to Livingstone by another correspondent. It is obvious that he is writing to someone he doesn't know, but feels he could have unwittingly come across during Dr. Wardlaw's divinity lectures of 1836-37.

As is to be expected from a letter between two ordained ministers of that time, there is a certain amount of scholarly

religious rhetoric. However, we also get a fascinating account of Livingstone's encounters with the native population and what seems to be his fairly low opinion of their traditional ways and culture; also a sense of frustration at the difficulties he experiences in getting them to understand Christian doctrine. Here we have a man at the beginning of his career, having first arrived in Africa only 18 months earlier, and still full of missionary zeal, far from being the world famous explorer he was later to become.

Towards the end of the letter he mentions the low state into which the Kuruman mission has fallen, but expresses his hope for a revival with the return of Robert Moffatt who had been absent in London for some four or five years, but has already arrived in Cape Colony on his way back with 'new brethren'.

The letter is signed 'D Livingston' which, as already mentioned, is the original way he spelled his name.

A transcript of the letter now follows. Its English is a little archaic, but is typical of the language and sentiments of the period. Spelling follows Livingstone's usage exactly.



Figure 2. Cover reverse.

TRANSCRIPT

Kuruman 14th July 1843

My Dear Brother in Christ

I thank you for the good but little bit you appended to the excellent letter of your partner and I now take a separate sheet in order to provoke you to do the same. I do not remember to have seen you but if you studied at Glasgow we must often have been near each other & very likely we have looked on each other's countenance in our attendance at the academy lectures of Dr. Wardlaw, 1836-7. But that is of little importance compared to the community of feeling which I trust we possess. Our hearts are drawn to the same centre of attraction and they long to see the benefits of the great Redemption realized by all the human family. You make me glad by telling me of the progress of the good cause in Scotland and I wish I could give you as encouraging news from Africa. Here however the chariot of the gospel goes on but slowly. We have other materials to work upon than you, the people with whom you deal know immediately what you wish to hear. But here the minds of the people are so earthly when we become acquainted with their modes of thinking it almost makes us believe we have not got humanity to deal with, our nature cannot sink lower than

it has done in the case of Bechuanas. Their foolish hearts are darkened - their minds and conscience are defiled. As a nation they are the greatest cowards in the world - afraid to speak of death and yet if they can kill without danger of being killed they glory in murder. In some of the interior tribes I have seen men with from 30 to 40 scars - the marks of incisions made after each murder had been committed. They did not seem sorry for it but with an air of triumph have asked me to count the scars as if they were highly meritorious in having so many. The females are the tillers of the ground & have all the heavy burdens assigned to them. A man is not ashamed to say he cannot carry a weight but his wife can & he will go & tell her to do it - their ideas of medicine are that all good is done and evil is prevented by witchcraft, hence they imagine that whatever way we use the medicine it will have the same effect. If a child refuses to drink medicine they will pour it on its head or drink it themselves. If their guns misfire they ask for medicine to heal them & Sechele chief of the Bakwani lately wanted me to give him some to make him run fast in hunting - he shewed me a piece of root which he used for that very purpose. Their music too is still in a state of embryo. Two notes are all they possess and I have heard them droning away at them through the whole night. Their language too is as simple as possible & very easily learned. It is an original tongue & in this respect somewhat resembles the Hebrew. I know more than a dozen words in it which very nearly resemble the Hebrew one of which I may mention as it has caused me to believe the Septuagint rendering of Manna is the right one. Mang yo? What is this? is just what the Bechuanas would say if placed in the same position as the Israelites when they exclaimed (the letter here contains some Hebrew characters which are pronounced 'mang yo') What is it? But of course these instances in which it resembles that language are only accidental - all our Theological terms have been recently coined & are not understood by the natives generally. Some, the manufacture of a very clever missionary are curious enough and I could give you some amusement by them were they not associated with a great disadvantage to the speedy progress of our cause. I shall give you a specimen of a word as good as could have been adopted in order to shew you the difference existing between our work & yours. The word for soul is one used for the breath, air or steam of a pot. The same I believe as in other languages but should we proceed to speak of it as the man without a number of explanations very likely our address would be interrupted by shouts of laughter "What does this man mean by talking about steam? Can we eat it, is it food that he tells us so much about it?" This is not a difficult term to explain to them but some of the others are as unlike the idea we intend to convey as is the sound of a waggon wheel. This Theological language is a great hindrance. It requires a long course of training before they are brought to the state in which you can appeal to them on the subject of religion with the assurance that they are not taking up our words in an opposite sense from what we intend. We know that the spirit is always in the word and that if presented according to His mind he will render it effectual. But the earthly sense in which the natives have always used the words constitutes a great burden to our doing so. If that influence is necessary anywhere and it is absolutely so everywhere, how much more so here where the minds of men are so deplorably degraded. Nothing will pierce through the thick crust of ignorance which envelopes their souls but the power of the Almighty. Let us have your prayers for the manifestation of that power. But you would require to be here to feel the utter hopelessness of our cause without it.

I have occupied so much space with these details I have very little room for anything else. But you may feel interested in our modes of operation in itinerary. We have no railways here. The weary lumbering Dutch waggon drawn by oxen; a pack ox or our own lower extremities are the only modes of conveyance. When we arrive at a village and wish to have a regular service we are obliged to ask the chief to collect his people. The place of concourse is the enclosure for the cattle, sitting down among them we begin by an address generally on one subject to which we confine ourselves as long as they seem attentive to what is said. If we speak on more than one subject they generally forget all we have said, And after the address we have prayer, if they have been accustomed to hear the gospel we sing but if not that is omitted. Those who wish to depart then go away. With those who remain we get into conversation on the subject of the address and I believe more good by conversation than by formal addresses. They seldom ever object to what we have told them but many of them are bitter opponents to the gospel. The old are especially our bitter enemies. They cannot bear the idea of parting with their younger wives nor the impurities to which they have long been accustomed. Of the old however there is as great a proportion converted as of the young, perhaps the proportion of the former is greater. It is certainly such as to strike one from England with surprise. I believe in England the conversion of the old who have long rejected the gospel is rare, but here they have not become gospel hardened and this may account for the fact of their frequent conversion.

I lately saw in the country of the Bamangwato a son of Conrad Buys a runaway dutch boor who did immense mischief to the early missionaries. His father is dead & all his children, 7 in number, are either dead or in slavery to the natives. The mother of the lad I saw was a native, he is in wretched condition, speaks the language & is dressed as a native. He has forgotten all about God & Jesus, but remembers his father was accustomed to read a book kneel down to pray, yet has forgot every word of dutch. His father was a most abandoned character. But like the rest of the Dutch boors he had it seems a portion of our genuine scotch church going formality. I felt sad as I looked on this poor relict. The seed of evil doers shall never be renowned.

The church here is in rather a low state just now and has been so for many months. We have had no stirrings among us since the commencement of the commotions in the interior. The rumours of wars seemed to occupy the minds of the natives to the exclusion of anything better. We hope the arrival of the new brethren with Mr. Moffat may prove a season of revival. They are now in the Colony but it is a long way off from this outlandish quarter. May you enjoy the presence of your Saviour and with Him every Temporal & Spiritual blessing is the prayer of

yours affectionately D Livingston

This transcript has been taken directly from the original letter, which is the property of the author. The article first appeared in the *Runner Post* 69, 1670-1673 (2006). Here reproduced with permission with a slightly different title.

My Dear Brother in Christ
 I thank you for the good but little but you
 appended the excellent letter of your partner and I now take a
 separate sheet in order to prove you to do the same, I do not
 remember to have seen you but upon studied at Glasgow we
 must often have been with each other very likely we have looked
 on each others countenance in our attendance at the Academy
 of Wadlow, 1836-7, but that is of little
 lectures compared to the community of feeling which I trust
 importance but hearts are drawn to the same centre of attraction
 and they long to see the benefits of the great Redemption
 and the banner firmly, you make me glad

Figure 3. Start of letter.

The church here is in rather a low state just now and
 has been so for many months. We have had no stormy
 money in since the commencement of the communion in
 the interior. The numerous squares seemed to occupy the
 minds of the natives to the exclusion of anything better. We
 hope the arrival of the two brethren with Mr. Mopps may
 prove a season of revival. They are now in the colony
 and it is a long way off from this southern quarter.
 May you enjoy the presence of your glorious strength
 every temporal blessing is the prayer of
 your affectionately
 Livingston

Figure 4. End of letter.

The Vagaries of Valuation

by Peter Lodoen

Vagaries indeed. The vagaries of philatelic imagination were liberally stretched when Bechuanaland F2 (Figure 1), one of the Protectorates's three postal-fiscals, gained entry into Stanley Gibbons immutable encyclopaedic listing of the world's postage stamps.

To begin, Gibbons lists practically no other surcharge which so drastically increased the face value of a stamp. From one shilling (SG 15) to five pounds (SG F2) represents an increase of 10,000 %. The catalogue value as a mint stamp is similarly catapulted from 28 pounds to 7,000 pounds.

Next, the 1918 surcharge was obviously destined for Bechuanaland's fiscal sector, the "postage and revenue" inscription notwithstanding. Barefoot and Hall (1990) bluntly describe the issue: "Postage stamp of 1887 surcharged five pounds, for fiscal use."

Gibbons acquiesced in the face of the impossible task of ascribing a catalogue value to a postage stamp that was never used as a postage stamp. An incongruous blank space now stands in the Gibbons catalogue adjacent the evaluation of 7,000 pounds for a mint example, a bizarre juxtaposition of the unobtainable as opposed to the non-existent. Robson Lowe, erstwhile rival of Stanley Gibbons, makes no mention of the five pounds on one shilling in its **Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps** (1948 edition).

The obscure "postal-fiscal" first came into my field of vision in the 1990 edition of Barefoot and Hall's **Revenues of the British Empire**: Bechuanaland No. 22, catalogue value 200 pounds. (The value of the stamp has risen to 350 and 500 pounds in subsequent Barefoot catalogues.)

Outside of Barefoot's illustration (probably an overlay on SG 15), I did not set eyes on a photo of SG F2 until Alan MacGregor sent out a spectacular Bechuanalands price list in July 2001. The list included Lot AB207, SG F2, "very fine used" and "rare," 750 pounds. I do not recall whether I tried to purchase the MacGregor copy or not, but I do remember that the stamp sold quickly.



Figure 1. Three examples of SG F2. First an electronic forgery prepared for this article. Note that no gummed mint copies exist. Second is a typical pen cancelled copy. Third is the example sold by Argyll Etkin in September 2003.

Sometime later a somewhat faded example of F2 appeared for sale in a J. W. Maxwell auction. To my chagrin - I was in the United States at the time - the stamp sold for slightly more than 1,000 rand, then some 100 pounds.

Finally, in late 2003, my ship came in. The Argyll Etkin auction of 24.09.03 offered a nice copy: "very fine fiscally used," and again "rare," estimated at 400 to 500 pounds. The stamp had a typical fiscal cancel (Figure 2). I bid courageously and obtained the lot for 460 pounds plus 15% commission. Queen Victoria as portrayed on SG F2, Barefoot and Hall 22, come Barefoot 23, Trotter and Midwood BP.8, has since rested regally in my British Africa Revenue album.

Recently Victoria has received competition. Apex Philatelic Auctions of March 2007 pictured a neat copy of SG F2: Lot 1207, catalogued at 500 pounds, but estimated to sell at 200 pounds. The estimate placed extreme temptation before me, a collector who had once paid 515 pounds for the same thing. My offer of 260 pounds won the lot with 20 pounds to spare.

Pricing this intriguing stamp is difficult. But 515 plus 240 divided by two = 377.50 pounds seems about right. I already have a buyer at that price, so I need only ask if I am losing or gaining 137 pounds and 50 pence.



Figure 2. Typical period cancel used on Bechuanaland SG F2.

Postscript:

If someone offers you a postally used or a mint copy of F2, request a certificate before you buy it.

To obtain a truly thorough look at Bechuanaland F2, consult the 1994 **Runner Post** article by David Finlay and Alan MacGregor, who estimates that there are less than 50 fiscally used copies in existence.

At a recent auction in the United Kingdom, a fiscally used F2 sold for 715 pounds, which makes my selling price seem quite low indeed.

Background Literature:

Trotter, B. and Midwood, N., 2001. *Revenues of Southern Africa, Part 1. The Bechuanalands*. Published by the authors, N. Midwood, 69 Porlock Lane, Furzton, Milton Keynes, MK4 1JY, UK.

MacGregor, A., and Finley, D., 1994. The 1918 L5 on 1/- green and black postal fiscal (SG F2). *Runner Post* 36, 770-773.

New and Old Postmark Discoveries

by Werner Seeba

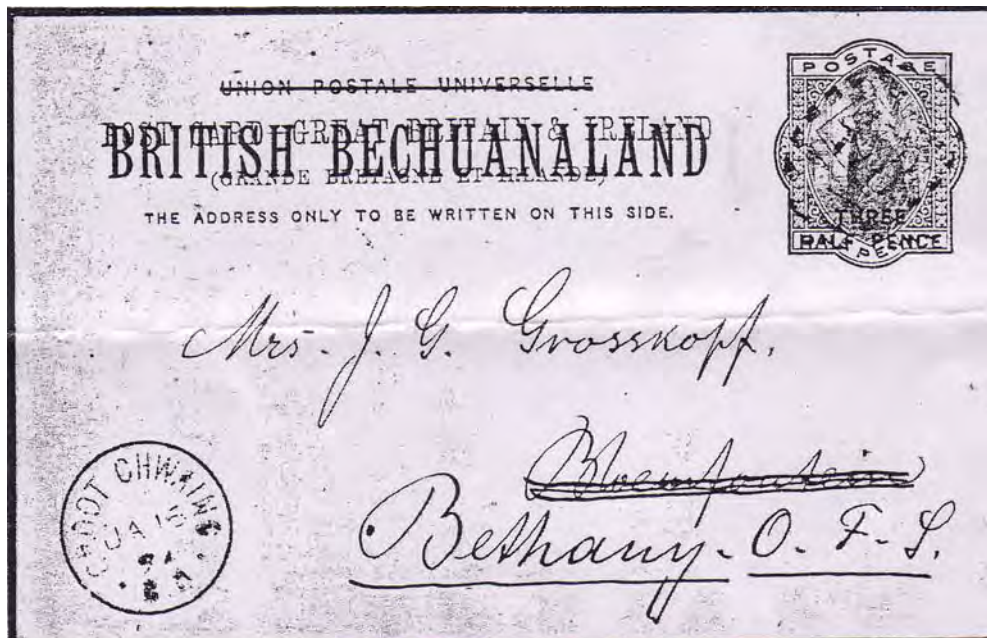
Here we show several new and old Bechuanaland related postmarks which illustrate and supplement the two recent articles by Peter Thy on British Bechuanaland (Forerunners 49, 92-100) and Bechuanaland Protectorate (Forerunners 58, 95-103).

The first is an example of BONC 1000 on a proving postcard with a Gaberones Station circular dated canceller (SEP 23 04). An message on the back is dated 23/9/04 and also display a Mafeking (SP 24 04) receiving mark. The card was readdressed to Bulawayo of Southern Rhodesia. It is a late commercial usage in the Protectorate of the British inland card overprinted for British Bechuanaland in 1894. It is on thin buff card and with a Type 2 stamp die imprint (BBS PC 9). This may be the only known used example of BONC 1000 used at Gaberones. 'BBS' refers to Bechuanalands and Botswana Society numbers,



Werner Seeba and the Editor have had a discussion about this BONC '1000.' Werner thinks that it actually is BONC 1001 known used at Tutura in the Cape. The Editor sees a BONC 1000 known to have been used at Gaberones Station in Bechuanaland. Werner points out the distinctly different '0' as shown by the above two strikes. Any comments from the readers?

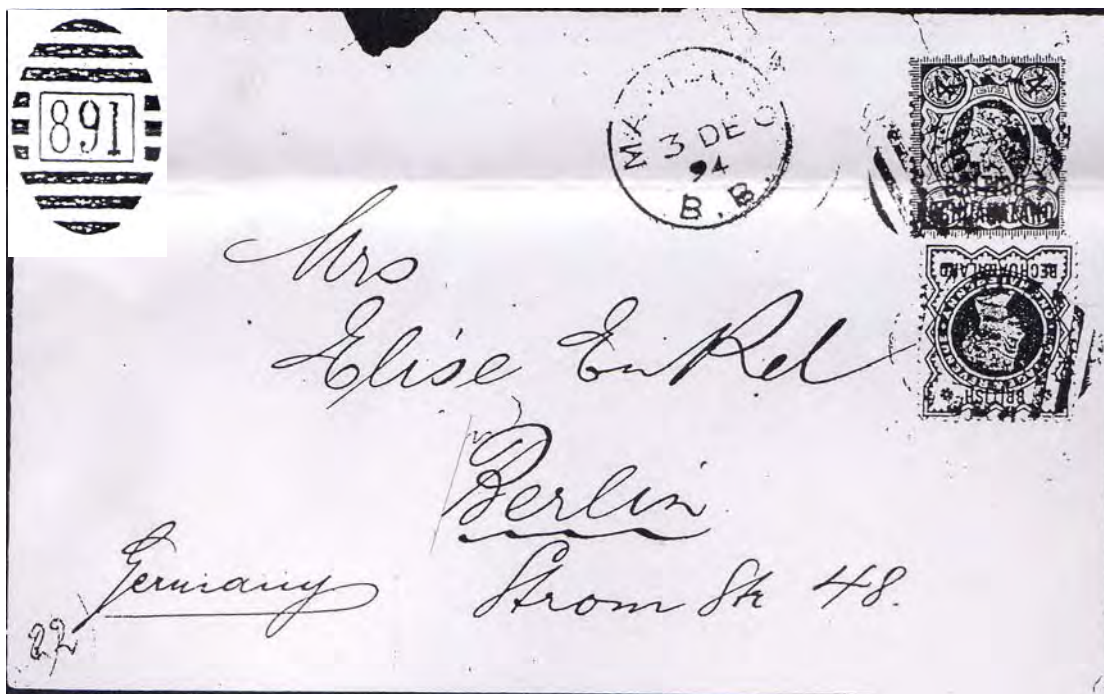
Another British Bechuanaland proving postcard is shown here used at Groot Chwaing with BONC 478. The circular dated canceller was used on JA 16 95 and is the earliest know usage of this canceller. The card is a British UPU card overprinted and surcharged for British Bechuanaland in 1894 (BBS PC 12). See Forerunners #49 for a location map.



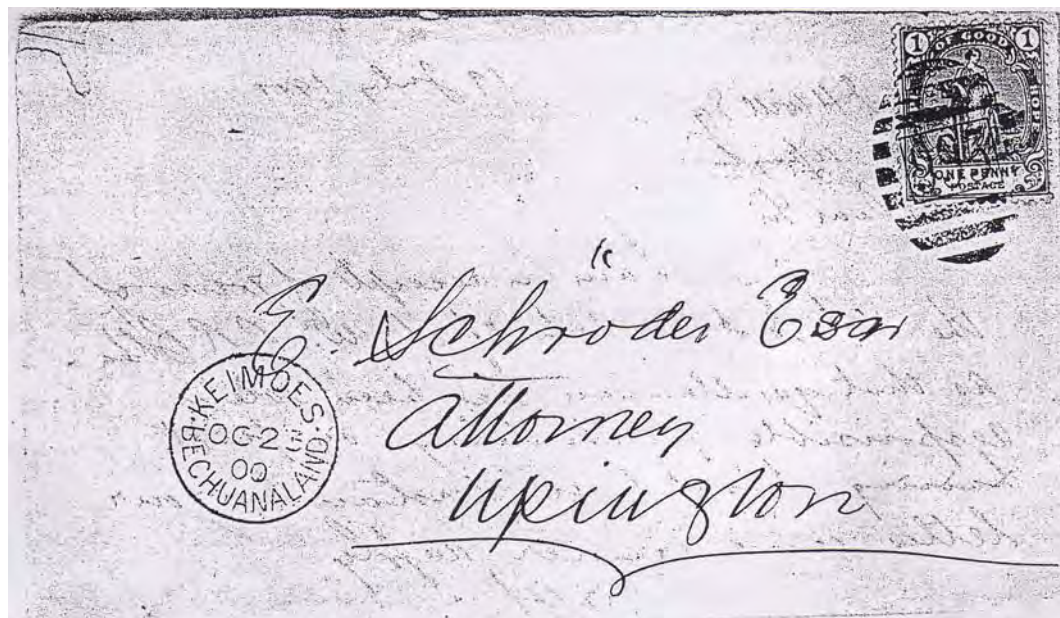
BONC 637 is known to have been used at Taungs in British Bechuanaland. Below is a proving reply card with a Taungs circular canceller dated AP 17 93 and with AP 17 93 Vryburg transit marking, Message is also dated Taungs 17.4.93. The reply card is the 1892 Cape of Good Hope card overprinted the same year for British Bechuanaland (BBS PC6). The card is correctly uprated for overseas use with a 1/2d stamp both on message and reply sections.



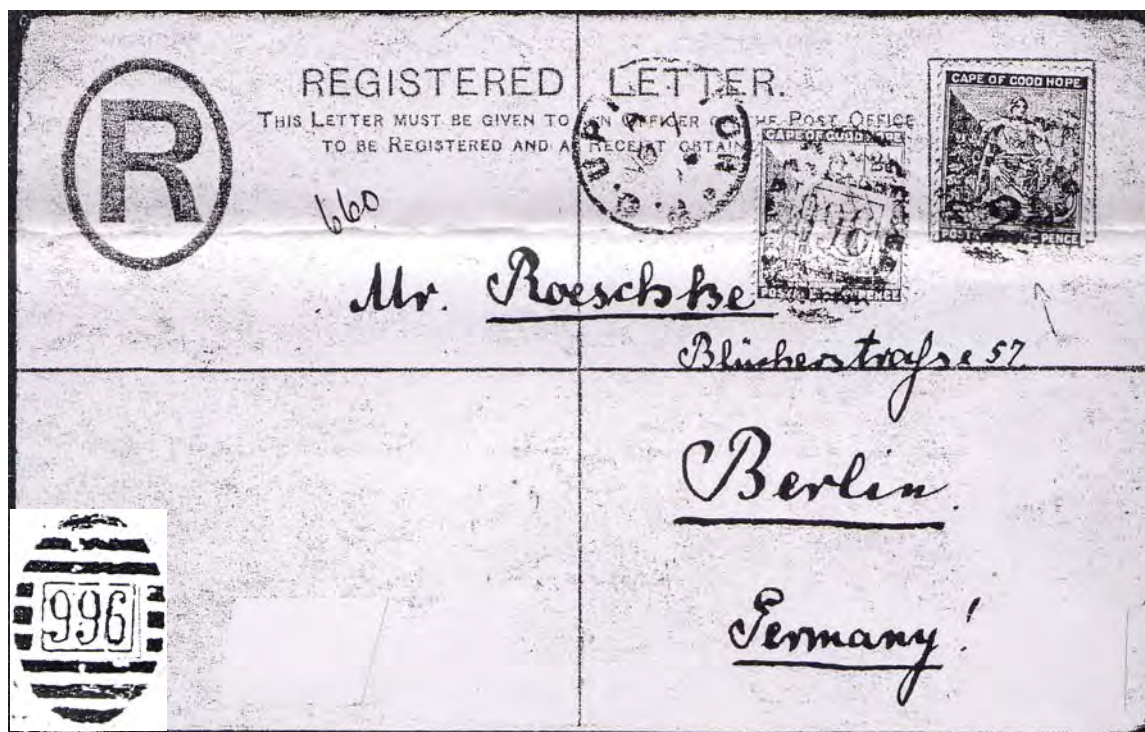
This envelope bears a Maribogo, British Bechuanaland circular dated canceller (3 DE 94) together with as a BONC 891 cancelling the stamps (not clear on the illustration). A receiving Berlin canceller is on the reverse (28/12. 94). This may suggest that BONC 891 was used at Maribogo, where BONC 209 is well established to have been used. It is possible that BONC 891 was used at Kunana just northeast of Mariboga within the South African Republic (Transvaal). The problem is that neither a BONC nor a circular dated canceller is known to have been used at Kunana this early. Werner Seeba provided a related postcard with similar BONC 891 and Maribogo circular dated canceller (18 NO 94) on the front. About this card, he noted that a Kunana cancel exists on the reverse, but was unable to provide an illustration. Things do not add up. If the cover and card originated at Kunana, this canceller should be on the front and the Maribogo canceller on the reverse. Can any reader provide additional information?



The remaining few covers originated in the Gordonia Division of the former British Bechuanaland. The first was mailed from Keimoes (OC 23 00) addressed to the nearby Upington with an Upington arrival marking on the reverse (23 OC 00). The Cape stamp was cancelled by BONC 995 known to have been used at Keimoes. Clearly a proving cover for BONC 995 at Keimoes well after the annexation of British Bechuanaland into the Cape Colony.



The next cover was cancelled by BONC 996 in addition to bearing a Upington circular dated canceller (NO 7, without clear year code). BONC 429 is known to have been used at Upington. BONC 996 is believed to have been used at a nearby small postal agency of Olyvenhout's Drift. Thus, the registration envelopes probably originated in Olyvenhout's Drift and went via Upington and further on to Kenhart for transmission to Germany. Olyvenhout's Drift was never located in British Bechuanaland, despite being very close to Upington.



The Octagonals, Part 2

by Johnny Barth

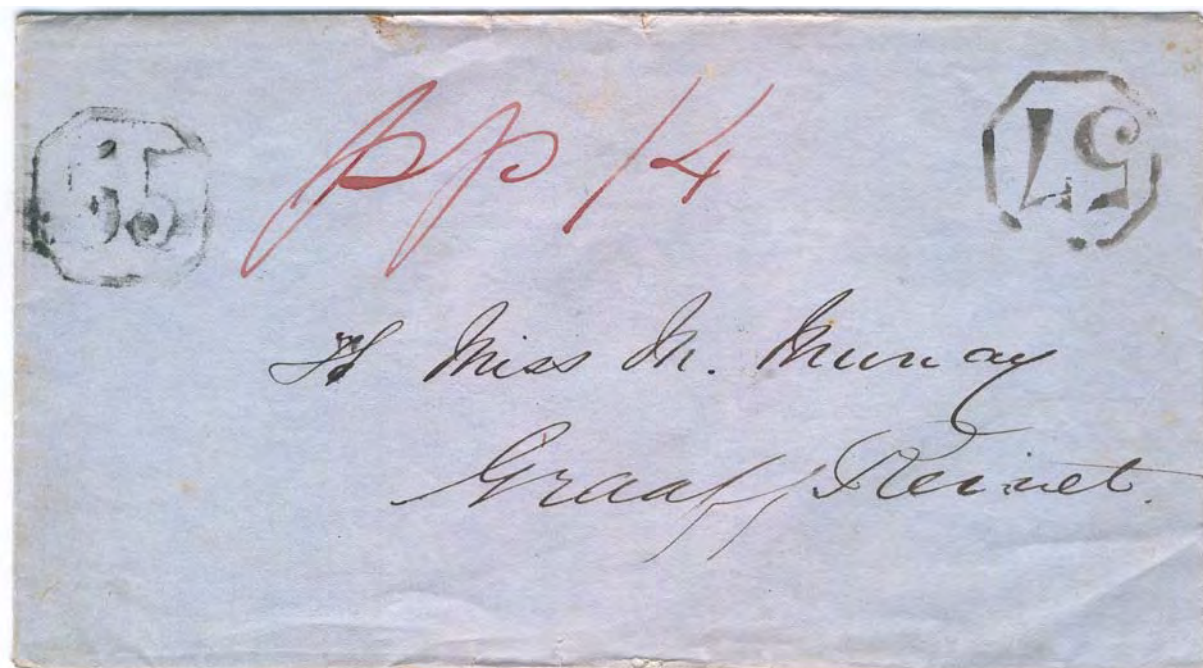


Figure 1.

The first part of this article appeared in Forerunner's July-October 2006 issue (#56). Since that time I have communicated with Werner Seeba, Bob Goldblatt, Franco Frescura, Richard Johnson, Joseph Hackney, Colin Fraser, and John and Marc Taylor. I thank them all for the help they have given me. This time I will like to add to my first article and will further discuss the allocations of the octagonal cancellers.

New Coloured Postmark

I have seen octagonal 59 in red and have now registered octagonal 43, 57, and 59 in red.

New "Double Use Covers"

In Stephan Welz & Co.'s auction in April 2007 (lot 263), a cover from Colesberg sent to Graaff Reinnet was offered for sale. Both the Colesberg octagonal 57 and the Graaff Reinnet octagonal 55 were on the cover, as can be seen on Figure 1 above.

I have seen a cover sent from Pacaltsdorp near George with octagonal 34 – George – to Graaff Reynett. From here it was redirected to Colesberg, and Graff Reynett applied the octagonal 55 (Figure 2).

I have now recorded six "double use covers." Do any reader know of more?

A New Forgery

Octagonal 51 have also been forged. If you look at Figure 3 (the good one) and compare it to Figure 4 (the forgery), you will see that the forged one have a much thinner outer line, and that the food of "1" is more square. So far have I seen 5 copies of the forged one.

Allocations of the Nine Remaining Numbers

In my first article I wrote: "This can not be determined for certain, but I will try to make a qualified guess". This time I hope to do better. After a closer examination of the distribution of the postmarks, it seems as if there might be a system after all.

To start with, lets have a look at octagonal 1 to 8. In Goldblatts book he allocate octagonal 1–2 and 5–8 to named towns. If we look at a map, we can see that they all are on the route between Cape Town and Simonstown. Wouldn't it be a good guess that number 3 and 4 should be on the same route? In Frescura's book he has allocated octagonal 4 to Claremont (which is on the route between Cape Town and Simonstown), so we only have to see if there is a candidate for octagonal 3. In the "Cape of Good Hope Almanac and Annual Register" for 1848, there is a list of 51 postmasters/mistresses and deputy postmasters. Here we find one and only one possible town from that area, Three Cups (later Mowbray) that seems to be a very good candidate for octagonal 3.

Could Mowbray be octagonal 4 and Claremont octagonal 3? I have been told that the Cultural History Museum in Cape Town (Slave Lodge) has a cover with a faint number 4. Do any readers know about this? I hope to be able to see the collection - and perhaps solve this problem - on my next visit to South Africa.

The next group of postmarks are 9 to 29. They are all from the area west of Swellendam and only four numbers from this group are not yet allocated (14, 18, 22 and 24). Before we find suitable towns for them, we must confront two major problems.

The first problem is octagonal 9. Jurgens and Goldblatt both tells us that it is from Ceres. Frescura writes (page 175) that the Post Office was opened on 5 June 1852, which is almost three

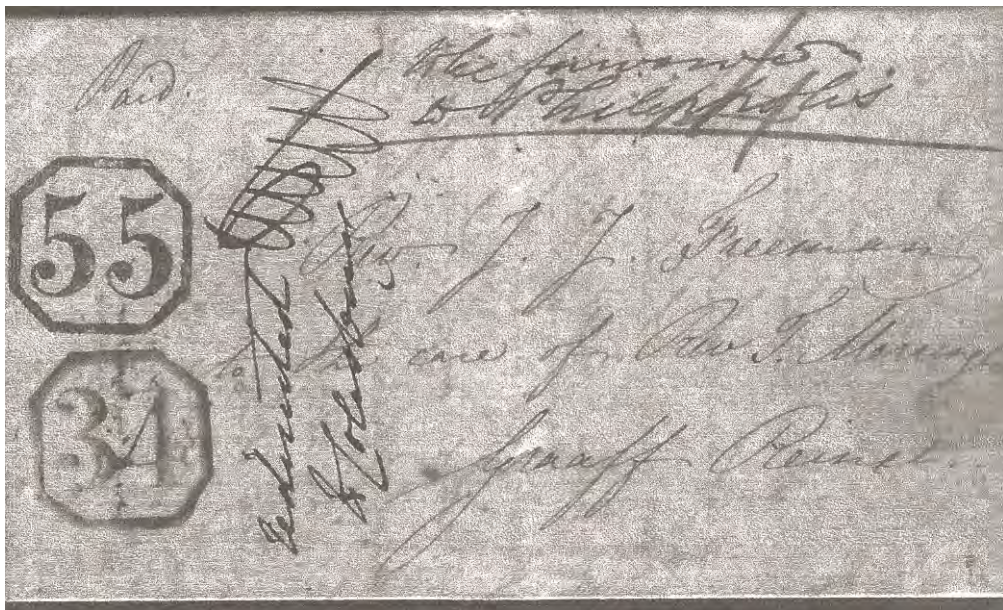


Figure 2.

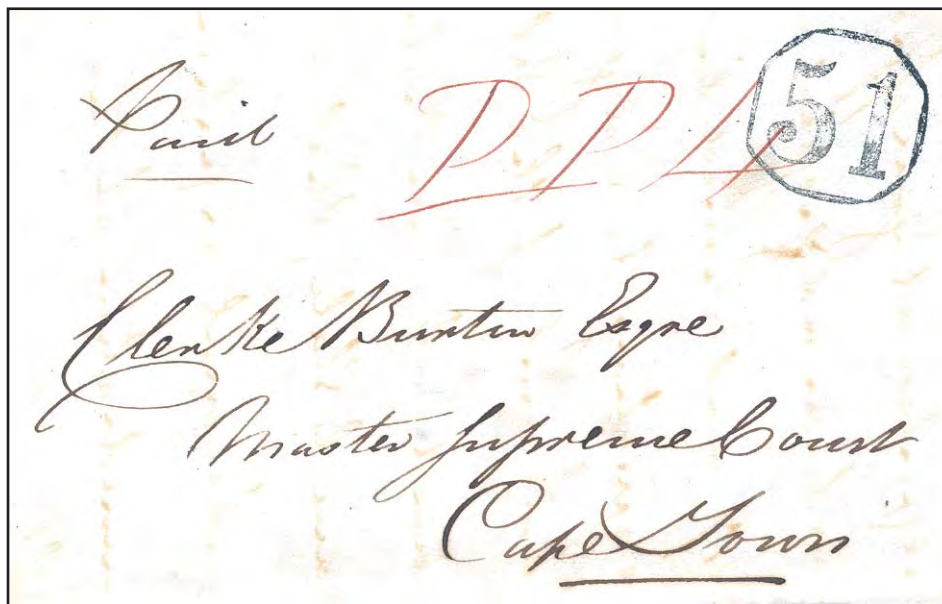
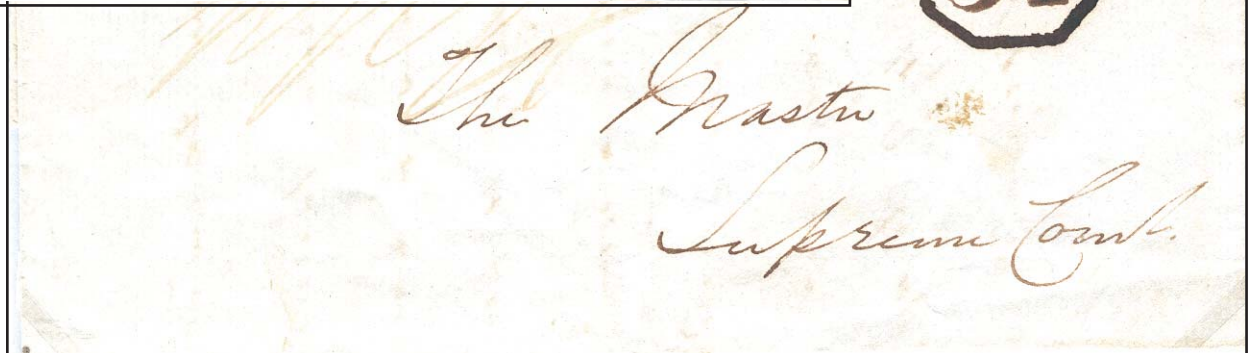


Figure 4.

Figure 3.



years after the first issue of the octagonals. How can we explain this? So far I have not found a good explanation. Do any of the members have, or know of, a cover with octagonal 9? I don't have any, and there are none in the Taylor collection.

The second problem is octagonal 50 (Figure 5). In Jurgens' book it is allocated to Fort Peddie, but Goldblatt changed it to Mamre in Western Cape (this is the only octagonal where Goldblatt didn't follow Jurgens). If Goldblatt is right, it will give

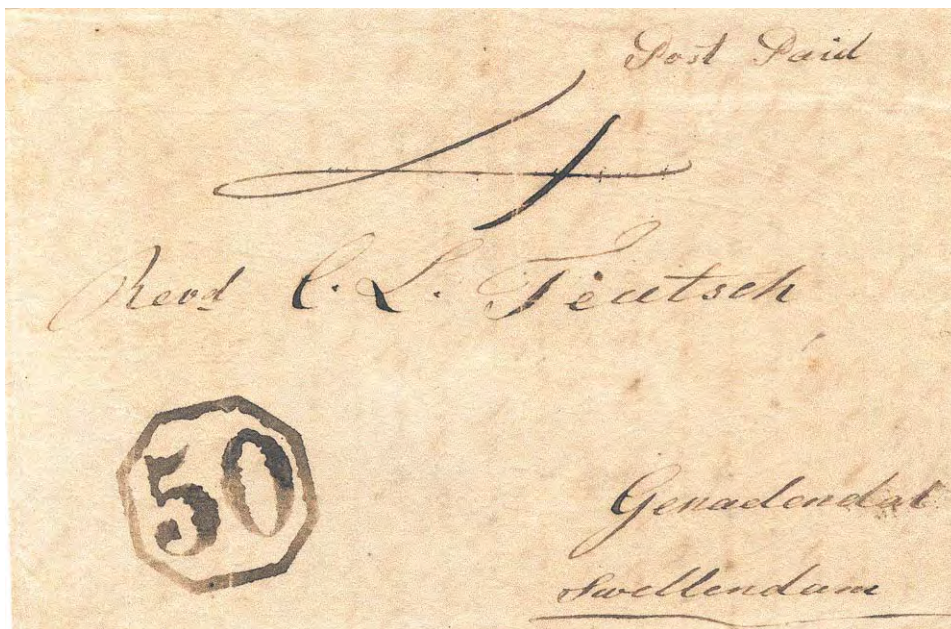


Figure 5.

us octagonal 50 in the area where the numbers are below 30, and that is a serious argument against the system I try to present. Unfortunately, Goldblatt has not kept information about why he changed the allocation.

In the S.A. Philatelist for August 1977, Douglas Roth had a paragraph about the Cape octagonal 50 (Figure 6) that he allocated it to Mamre. The cover he mentioned might be the cover shown as Figure 5. When Jurgens allocated octagonal 50 to Fort Peddie, he must have seen a cover to substantiate it, but a dating in Mamre at 18 November 1849, as the Figure 5 cover has, is a relatively early use. If we consider the possibility of a transfer from Fort Peddie to Mamre, it must have been before November 1849, which gives a very short period in Fort Peddie. Not an easy nut to crack, so I will leave the question open for the moment, and hope for help from the readers.

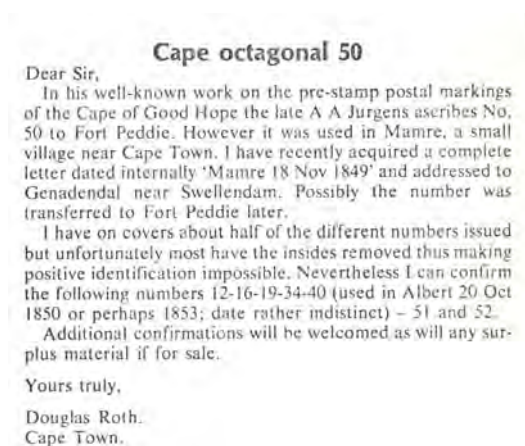


Figure 6.

Returning to the 9 to 29 group, we can see that the numbers between 9 and 21 are allocated to towns north-east of Cape Town, while the numbers between 23 and 29 are allocated to towns along the southern coast. The best candidate for the four not allocated

numbers must then be Worcester (14), Kuils River (18) (or as it was called in the 1848 Almanac “Halfway House”), Eerste River (22) and Sir Lowry’s Pass (24), but we can’t totally ignore the candidature of Bredasdorp.

If we now look to the southern part of the colony, we find octagonal 30 to 36 from Swellendam to Plettenberg Bay. On this route, we have passed Belvidere with octagonal 44, which is another problem. In Jurgens and Goldblatt, the octagonal 44 was allocated to Knysna, but Pauw Steyl has in the S.A. Philatelist for August 1996 proven that it should be moved to Belvidere, which is very close to Knysna. Anyway it doesn’t follow the scheme I try to establish.

Octagonal 37 is the next unallocated number. Octagonal 36 is from Plettenberg Bay and 38 is from Uitenhage, so Jagersbosch is a good candidate for octagonal 37. Frescura informs us that the post office was opened on 1 January 1845, so it is surprising that it is not mentioned in the Almanac from 1848. Still, it is the only good candidate between Plettenberg Bay and Uitenhage.

On the route between Jagersbosch and Uitenhage, we pass Gamtoos River with octagonal 43. Again a puzzle.

After octagonal 38 (Uitenhage), only two numbers are unallocated, 42 and 45. We have already dealt with octagonal 43 and 44, and the rest until 51 are all allocated to towns east of Uitenhage. The last group (52–60) are all allocated, and all to towns north and northwest of Uitenhage.

If we return to the two unallocated numbers, 42 and 45, we have the problem that not many towns existed in that part of the colony. Port Elizabeth must be a candidate and the only other possibility is Matjesfontein near Uitenhage.

Was octagonal 42 issued to a town “out of order” like octagonal 43 and 44, so that octagonal 42 to 44 create a little group of postmarks issued outside the system? If it was so, then perhaps 42 was issued to Jagersbosch, but that is only speculation.

A good guess for octagonal 45 is then Port Elizabeth, but why have we not seen any covers from such a relative big town? The

dated Post Elizabeth postmark was not issued until 1852.

My revised guess for the distribution of the unallocated postmarks is:

3	Mowbray
4	Claremont
14	Worcester
18	Kuils River
22	Eerste River
24	Sir Lowry's Pass
37	Jagersbosch
42	Matjesfontein
45	Port Elizabeth

If we compare this list to the list in my first article, I have eliminated Hartenbosch and Bredasdorp and included Matjesfontein and Port Elizabeth.

Werner Seeba has suggested the following allocation:

3	Mowbray
4	Claremont
14	Worcester
18	Hooi Kraal
22	Kuils River
24	Eerste River
37	Woodside
42	Jagersbosch
45	Port Elizabeth

The following towns are in Werner Seeba's list, but not in mine: Hooi Kraal and Woodside.

Hooi Kraal in the Stellenbosch district got its first postmaster on 15 June 1846 and is listed until 1850 (Frescura. p. 330). No cancellers are known from the town, but it can't be completely ignored, and if it had an octagonal postmark, number 18 would be the most logical one. So far I think Sir Lowry's Pass is a better candidate.

The post office in Woodside – George, later Knysna district - was opened on 15 March 1846. Its name was then Knysna, Woodside (Frescura, p. 791). It is possible that the Knysna area had two post offices with each an octagonal postmark (44 – see above, and 37), but not likely. If they had, why were the numbers not next to each other? On the other hand, I am not totally happy with my candidate, Matjesfontein.

To add up, this may be a little step in the right direction, but help is needed from fellow collectors if we shall ever solve the octagonal distribution problem.

Use of Octagonals after the Introduction of Stamps in 1853

Goldblatt informs us that triangular stamps are known cancelled with octagonals, but are extremely rare, and that rectangulars are known with number 10, 13, 17, 30, 40, 46, 51, 53, and 59.

It is also known that at least four (octagonal 10, 30, 51 and 53) was brought into use again during the end of the century (Figure 7). Three of the four numbers were used in towns to which they were originally issued, but 51 was now used in Port Alfred (issued in 1849 to Bathurst).

Figure 8 shows a cover sent from Bloemfontein (Orange Free State) to Beaufort West in 1863. There is a transit postmark from Cradock dated 29 JY 1863, and an octagonal 6 (or 9). Originally octagonal 6 was issued to Wynberg near Cape Town (and octagonal 9 to Ceres (?)). It has been suggested that the octagonal postmark was applied in Colesberg, but there is no good proof of this.

It would be nice to have some comments from the Orange Free State experts. Any comments and/or supplements is most welcome by mail or email to Johnny Barth, Nivavaenge 25, DK 2990 Niva, Denmark; Email:barth@post3.tele.dk

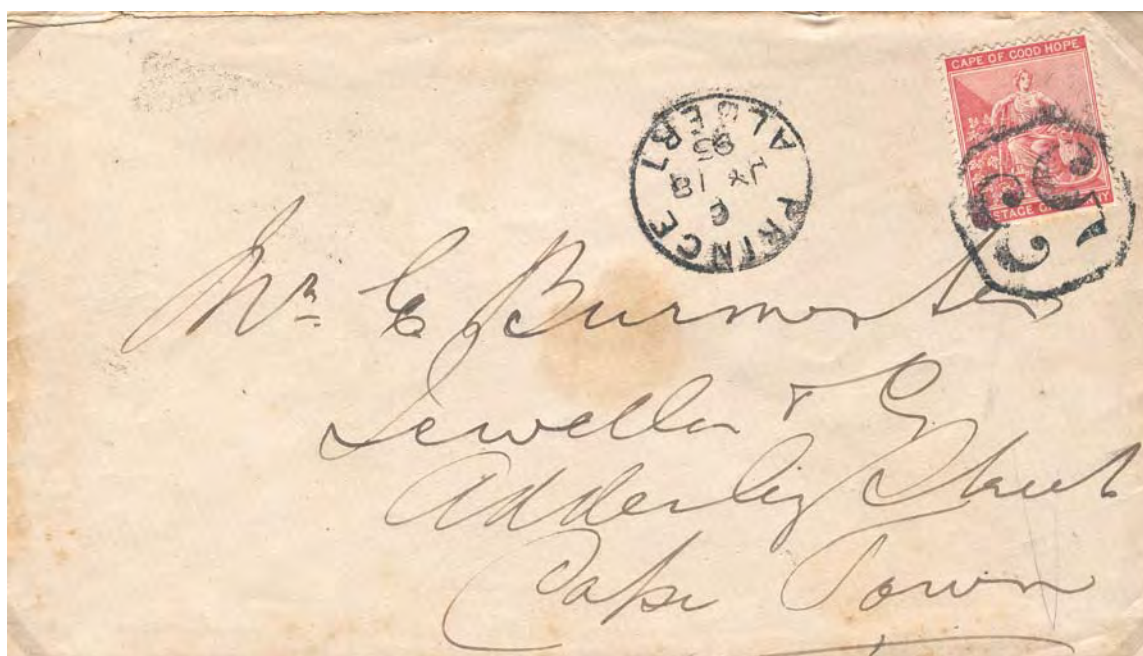


Figure 7.

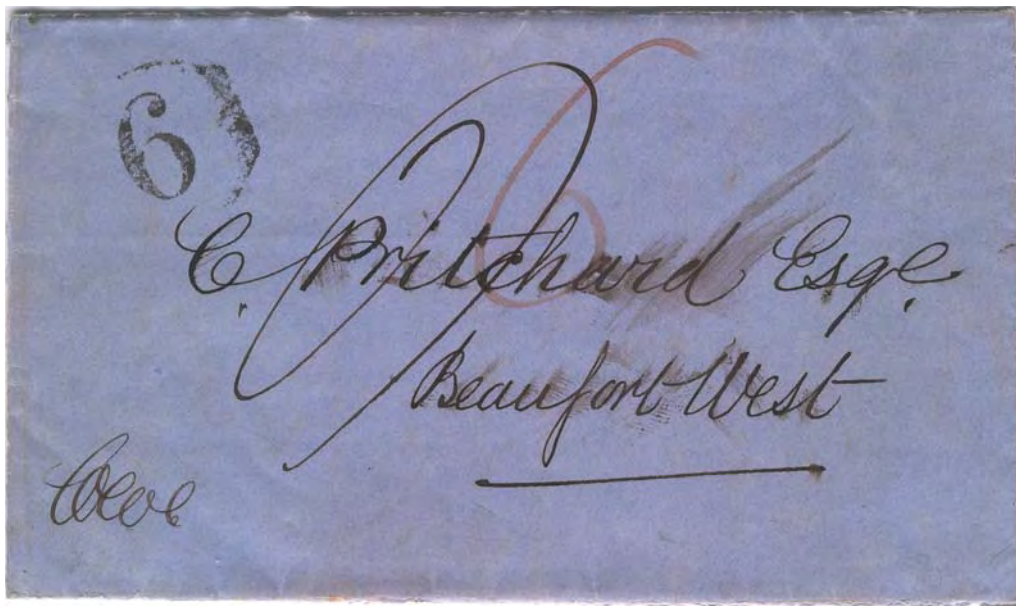


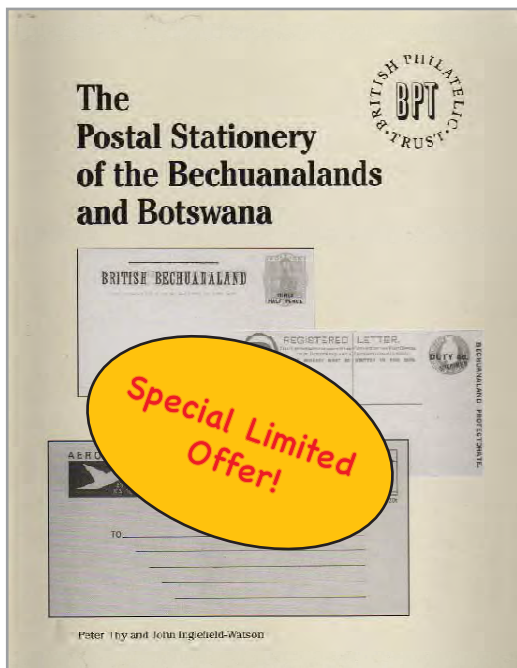
Figure 8.

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The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanalands and Botswana

New Distributor



"The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanalands and Botswana" by Peter Thy and John Inglefield-Watson was published in 2004 by the British Philatelic Trust in conjunction with the Bechuanalands & Botswana Society. The Society has now assumed responsibility for distribution of the book, and wishes to make it available for a limited period at a special promotional price, coupled with an optional offer of free Society membership.

Non-members in the US and Canada may purchase a copy for US \$45, plus postage and packing (\$25 by air mail and \$13 by surface mail). All purchasers will be given the option of a free one year membership of the Society (usually \$25) which will include issues of the magazine 'Runner Post' and the opportunity to participate in the Society's Postal Bid Sales. Just send a check for either \$58 or \$70 (for surface or air mail), made payable to 'Peter Thy' to P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617.

Non-members in the UK and Europe may purchase a copy for £20, plus postage and packing (£5.50 for UK, £6.50 for rest of Europe). Once again, all purchasers will be offered a free one year membership of the Society (usually £10). Just send a cheque or bank draft for the correct amount (must be drawable on a UK Bank), made payable to 'Bechuanalands & Botswana Society' to Brian Hurst, 54B Pease Hill Road, Ripley, DE5 3JH, UK.

Non-members residing in other countries should contact Brian Hurst for details of pricing and payment arrangements, either at the address above, or by e-mail: jbhurst@btinternet.com

Current members of the Society should consult Runner Post #68, to be published in March/April 2007, for a special offer.

For enquiries and further information, please e-mail jbhurst@btinternet.com

The Bechuanalands & Botswana Society

Combination Usages of Natal and New Republic Stamps, 1886–1888 (Part 2)

by Keith P. Klugman

This article illustrates Natal/New Republic (NR) combination covers. It is a continuation of Part 1 in Forerunners 59 (p. 19-31). The covers are numbered 15 and up and refer to the covers in Table 1 of that article. Missing numbers mean that no illustration of the cover is currently available to the author. The covers illustrated are from the period August 1887 until the last date of use of these combinations via Natal on 20 July 1888.

Notable covers included in these illustrations are Cover 17, the only recorded use of a Natal 4d in the NR - the pair of the 4d overpay the 7 1/2d rate to Germany by 1/2d. This is the only recorded NR / Natal use recorded to Germany.

Cover 20 is the only registered example of NR via Natal and shows not only the correct 6d additional franking for registration in Natal, but also the fact that additional NR stamps were not required as registration facilities were not established in the NR post office.

Cover 25 represents a cover franked at 8 times the normal 1d rate to Natal - yet only is franked with a single NR 2d suggesting that multiple weight covers did not require additional postage in the NR. Covers 28 and 41 show double rates to Natal (2d) and to the Cape (4d), yet similar to Cover 25, no additional NR stamps were required.

Covers 36 and 20 are the only recorded covers to the Free State.

Finally, covers 39 and 40 are the only recorded covers via Natal to Holland. Cover 40 is missing a Natal 6d stamp. Cover 39 is perhaps the most famous of these combinations. It is mailed to the father, in Holland, of the NR postmaster, Duiven and bears his personal oval handstamp as well as his attempt to use an old 6d Natal stamp no longer valid for postage (these stamps were overprinted Postage in 1869 and unoverprinted stamps were demonetized at that time for postage purposes). The cover should have been franked 7 1/2d and was thus 5 1/2d deficient - double this deficiency or 11d appears to have been charged in crayon but in Holland the 5d accountancy stamp (5d of 7 1/2d went to the the UK and 2 1/2d to Natal) appears to have been read as the amount due so only 50c was charged of the recipient. The irony is that the Postmaster used an invalid Natal stamp and ended up costing his own father postage due!

The author would welcome at keith.klugman@emory.edu illustrations of any other NR/Natal covers which must exist. Because many of the covers shown here are from printed and photocopied illustrations, their dimensions as illustrated here may not be exactly to scale.



Cover 15.

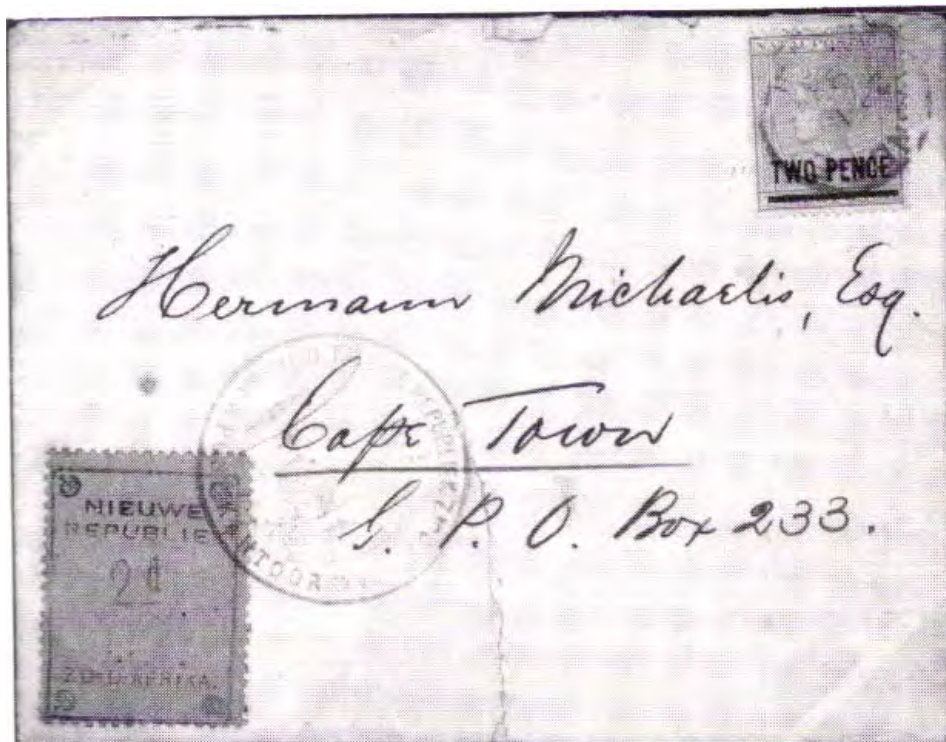
Postscript at the end of article adds recent discovery.



Cover 16.



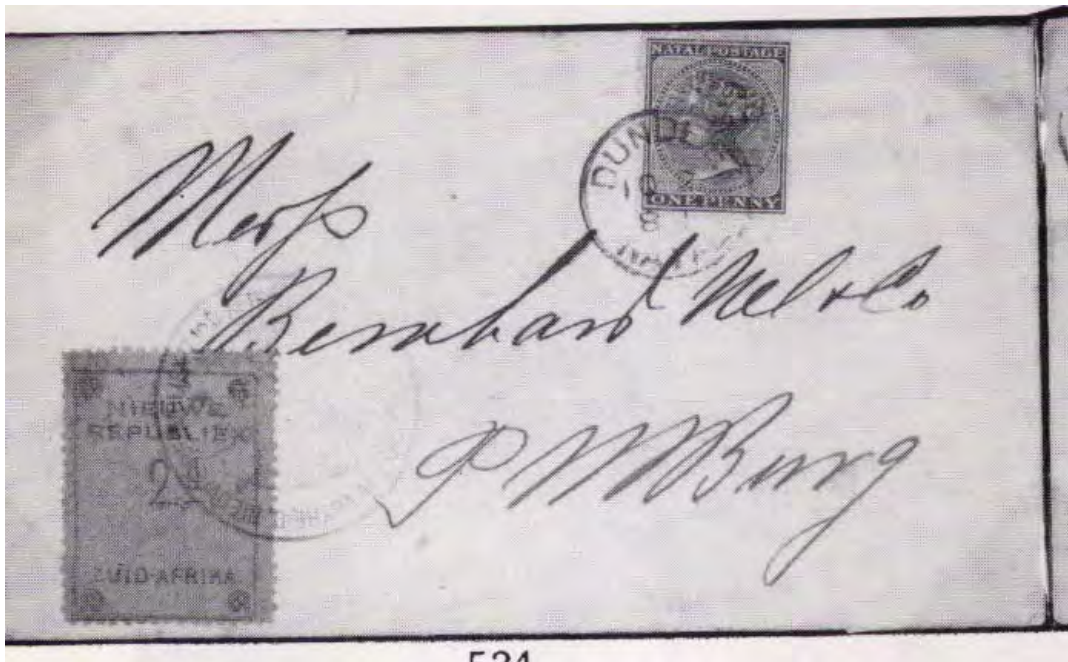
Cover 17.



Cover 19.



Cover 20.



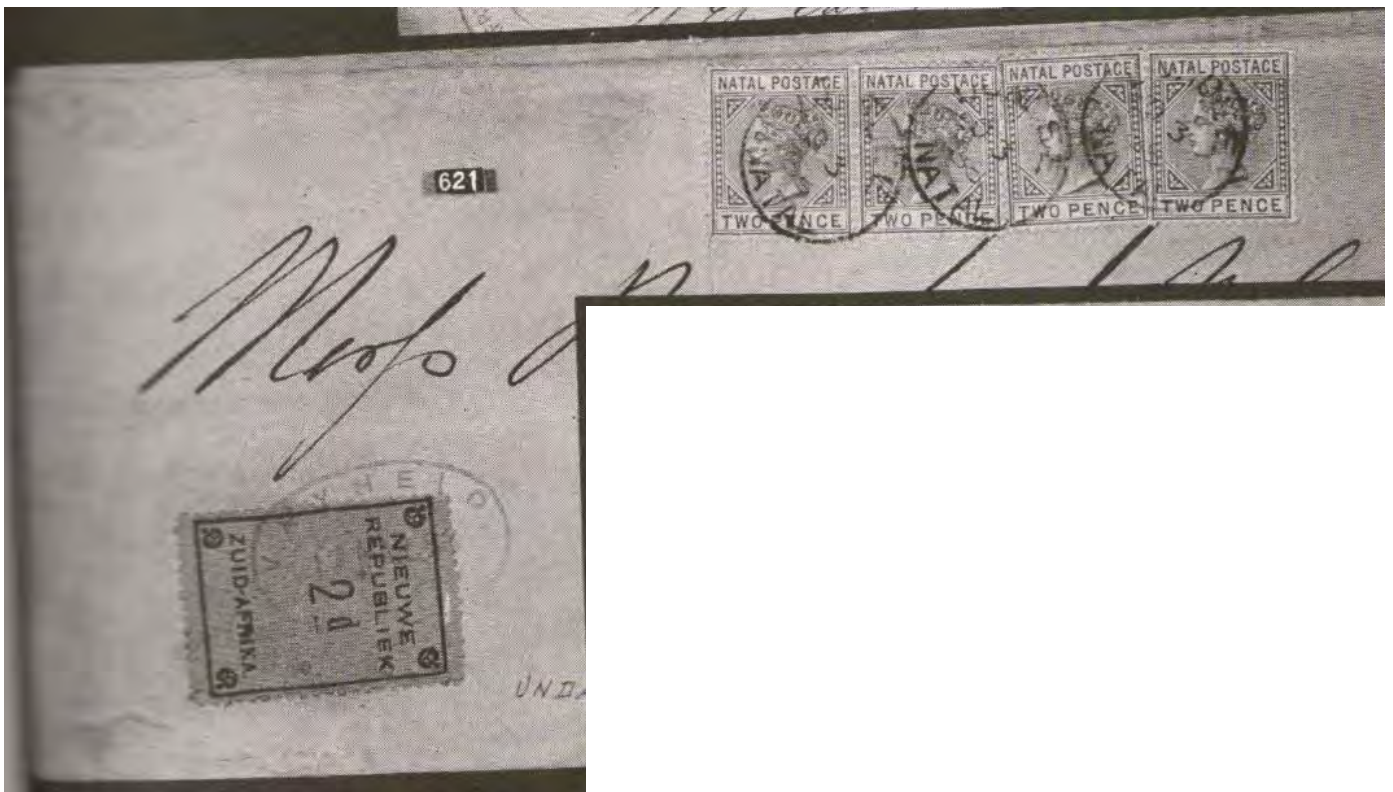
524
Cover 21.



Cover 22.



Cover 24.



Cover 25.



Cover 27.



Cover 28.



Cover 29.



Cover 34.



Cover 35.



Cover 36.



Cover 37.



Cover 38.



Cover 39



Cover 40.



Cover 41.

Postscript

A 42nd New Republic/Natal combination cover has been discovered in Europe. In the sequence of covers listed in Table 1 of Part 1 of this article it would be numbered 14a. It is undoubtedly genuine and dated July 1877 to H. Michaelis in Cape Town. This cover thus becomes the 11th recorded combination via Natal to the Cape and the 5th of the Michaelis correspondence. The New Republic stamp is a 2nd Issue 2d Blue; the Natal 2d overprint

on 3d is the 6th recorded example of Natal SG105 used in the New Republic; the NR cancel of pK2 fits within the recorded period when it was used alone (April 1887 – Feb 1888); the Dundee cancellation is 7 Jul and although the description mentions a transit or arrival cancel this is not illustrated; This cover was not listed by Dr. Jonkers and appears in the Christoph Gärtner sale in Bietigheim, Germany on 11- 14 December 2007 as lot 2219.



Tax Marks

Tax Marks With Simple Text

by Jan Stolk

First I would like to thank Werner K. Seeba, Johan Diesveld, and Steve Wells for their contributions throughout 2007 and hope they will continue to support me with information again in 2008.

This chapter will cover all postage due markings with text stating reason of tax like:

- 'Insufficient postage for transmission by airmail'
- 'Posted out of course', 'P.O.O.C.'
- 'overoz', 'overgrammes'
- 'Insufficient prepaid'
- 'Non-standardised item'
- 'Unpaid'

This first installment shows the markings just stating TAX or BOETE without any reason stated.

The V1 and V6 were used in Cape Town to cancel the additional stamps affixed for payment of the tax on registered covers 'posted out of course'. These are registered stationery

covers that were posted in a mailbox instead of being handed in at the post office counter. Or letters found containing money or other valuables. These were applied in red ink.

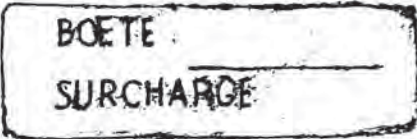


The V3, V4 and V5 were all used in Mpumalanga (Eastern Transvaal). The amount of tax was written next to the marking.

The V9 is a recent circular tax marking with the word tax at the top of the circle, thus leaving space below for the tax to be added in manuscript. This marking is still in use at Durmail (Durban Mail Sorting Centre) and is mainly used on overseas mail. The value is with a bracket, in this case 1, 60/1, 90 x inland postage rate (of country of destination). The marking is in red ink.

The V7 and V8 both have a space for the amount of tax to be written in.

The illustrated tax marks has been reduced to 97 % of the original.

P.D.MARKING	SIZE	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
BOETE/TAX V1	25 x 6 mm	ex-Allen		
TAX V2	27 x 12 mm	Capetown	13-apr-89	13-oct-89
TAX V3	20 x 12 mm	Perdekop	15-jun-89	
TAX V4	17 x 8 mm	Witrivier	20-jul-89	
TAX V5	12 x 5 mm	Hazyview	1991	
TAX BOETE V6	32 x 24 mm	Capetown	22-feb-84	

P.D.MARKING	SIZE	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
 ✓7	41 x 20 mm	Maidstone	06-sep-91	
 ✓8	58 x 18 mm	Mitchells-Plain	09-apr-87	
 ✓9	D = 28 mm	Durmail	18-jan-99	



The Colored Inks of the Orange Free State: Part 1, Bloemfontein Cancels of 1880–1892

by Tim Bartshe

About a decade ago, I began an inventory of Orange Free State cancellations which used inks other than black. I received some information from Bob Allison in England regarding his 16-bar numeral cancels and then put it aside, promising to work on it in more detail later. Much to my surprise all these many years later there was quite a bit of new material that I had acquired so I set out to incorporate it all and try to make some sense to it. This part will be the first of three separate articles dealing with the colored ink cancellations used in the Orange Free State from 1880 to 1900. The present part deals with a specific pair of cancels used in Bloemfontein from 1880 until 1892. The other two will deal with the colored cancels from other post offices during the same time period and the final one will look at the 16-bar numeral cancels issued to 20 separate post offices and in use from 1872 into occupation and till 1902.

The two individual cancels used as a sort of duplex (though not really a duplex in the classic sense) on virtually all outgoing mail from Bloemfontein are listed as Batten's numbers 50 and 51 (see Figures 1, 2 and 3). The double circle cancel (no. 50) is composed of 25 and 16 mm diameter circles with Bloemfontein at the top without the country name at base and almost always with a three-line date in the center slug. The three center lines are composed of a time code in a capital letter ranging from A to Z, totaling 19 different, date invariably as month/day although day/month is noted and followed by the year in full until 1889. This cancel was always used as a receiving date stamp for incoming mail.

The other cancel (no. 51) was used as the killer for the postage and is the 11-bar cancel. As you will notice from the following tables from my database, I have 80 covers/cards with

Type 50



Figure 1.

Type 51



Figure 2.

either one or both of these cancels and some 52 stamps with legible dates for #50 (see Appendix A and B). Bob Allison add another 36 covers and cards in Appendix C.

I will only mention the time codes in a casual fashion as my data base is too small to indicate any pattern of value. With the 19 different codes used, notably A, D, reverse D, E, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, T, U, V, inverted V, W, and Z, the most commonly seen are D, M, inverted V, and Z. Bob Allison can also add the letters B, C, F, S, X, and Y leaving only J, Q, and R not yet seen adding up to 23 different letters. Bob surmises with the post office open from 7 am until 8 pm that would leave the 26 letters being changed every one-half hour. This seems logical though quite cumbersome. The inverted V in only seen in the short period of May-November 1889 and the reversed D from June-November 1888 in red. In keeping with the common use of letters to indicate a time period when the mail was handled, it will be assumed that the letters up to early 1887 were used for that very purpose. However, it seems that beginning in mid-1889 (and possibly as early as 1887 where the use of letters went to 90 % using only 4 different) and

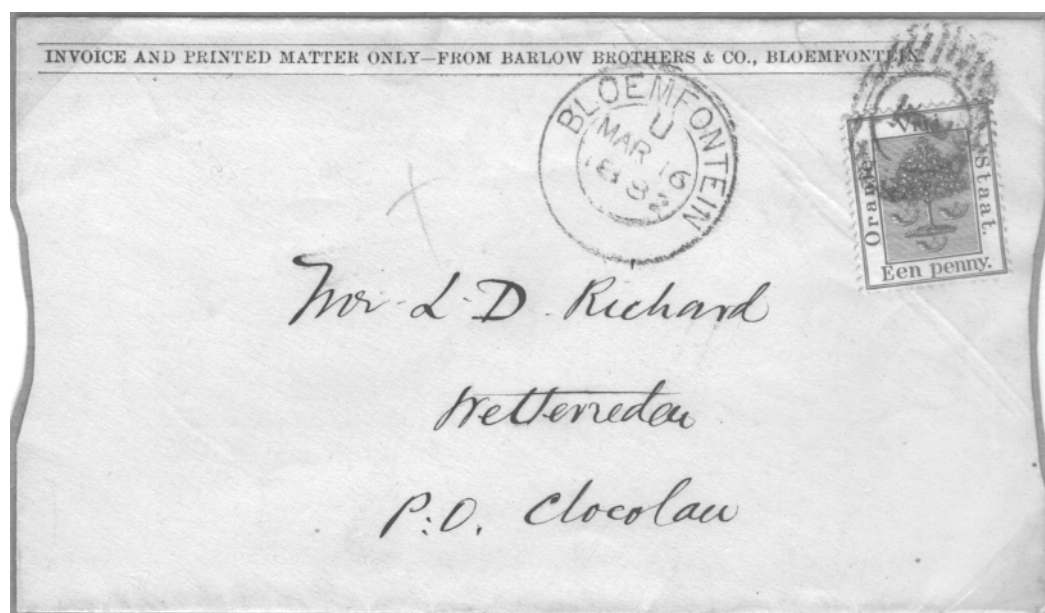


Figure 3. Outgoing printed matter rate 1882.

onwards only the inverted V, M, and Z are found indicating that the practice fell by the wayside and the time periods were made much broader than the suggested half hour.

The stamps with the year as "18" are listed as a "?" due to the fact that there is no corroborating evidence as there is with the covers and cards. Also since use on the 9th issue telegraph stamps would indicate an 1891 usage.

From this small, but rather interesting population, one can not help but notice a very distinct trend of colored inks used for canceling the mail either outgoing or incoming. Except for on single item, there is no mixing of colors across the spectrum of ink usages. This would lead one to state that at least in the central Post Office of Bloemfontein, the postmaster ordered, supplied and used a specified color of ink during a specific time period. The color progression is black, blue, purple/violet, red, and finally black once again. The following table shows the earliest and latest dates of color use based upon my collection. As we

progress in this series of articles, it will become apparent that this color sequence was not just used in the main post office, but throughout the country as well.

This study is obviously very preliminary and I would invite any other information to try to pin this down. Being rather common cancels, I am sure that there are hundreds more examples, particularly on the postal cards used during the 80's. As an aside, Bob Allison's list of examples in his collection has some information that contradicts the above period use range. He has an example of "dark purple" used earlier 1 February 84 and a single blue example used 19 March 85. He also has a black example which would indicate the black ink switch over was mid December 1888. As we only have two examples of the blue usage, we will have to await more examples to determine if there really is a use window for this ink or just rare chance. Hope to hear from all of you cancel collectors.

COLOR	EKU	LKU	EST DATES OF USE
Black	80/04/09	84/03/06	1880-Mar 1884
blue violet/ purple	84/05/01	84/05/01	Apr-May 1884
red	84/06/24	87/03/18	Jun 1884-Apr 1887
black	87/05/08	88/12/08	May 1887-Dec 1888
	89/01/2	92/09/29	Jan 1889-Dec 1892

Appendix A

CARDS AND COVERS

SOURCE	COLOR	DATE	CODE
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	81/2/24	"P"
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	81/3/17	"P"
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	81/06/15	"X"
INCOMING LETTER #50	BLACK	82/02/21	"H"
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	82/03/06	"U"
OUTGOING LETTER #51	BLACK	82/06/15	
OUTGOING LETTER #51	BLACK	82/07/27	
OUTGOING LETTER #51	BLACK	82/09/21	
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	82/10/28	"X"
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	82/12/07	"E"
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	82/12/21	"P"
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	83/10/04	"V"
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	83/11/22	"O"
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	84/1/17	"M"
OUTGOING LETTER	BLACK	84/03/06	"W"
CARD	BLUE	84/05/01	"M"
OUTGOING LETTER	PURPLE	84/06/24	"N"
OUTGOING LETTER #51	PURPLE	84/10/31	
OUTGOING LETTER	PURPLE	85/3/8	"E"
CARD	PURPLE	85/4/10	"Z"
INCOMING CARD #50	PURPLE	85/04/13	"D"
CARD	PURPLE	85/04/21	"Z"
CARD	PURPLE	85/04/29	"Z"
INCOMING CARD #50	PURPLE	85/5/5	"L"?

INCOMING CARD #50	PURPLE	85/11/17	"K"
INCOMING CARD #50	PURPLE	85/12/10	"G"
INCOMING CARD #50	PURPLE	85/12/10	"V"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	85/12/17	"T"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	86/3/24	"V"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	86/3/30	"I"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	86/4/8	NONE
CARD	PURPLE	86/4/15	"L"
OUTGOING LETTER	PURPLE	86/05/06	"L"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	86/6/21	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	86/7/29	"I"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	86/9/6	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	86/10/12	"V"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	87/1/3	"M"
INCOMING COVER #50	PURPLE	87/02/27	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	PURPLE	87/2/3	"Z"
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	87/2/27	"Z"
CARD	PURPLE	87/3/18	"V"
INCOMING CARD #50	RED	87/5/8	"Z"
CARD	RED	87/11/29	"V"
CARD	RED	87/12/6	"V"
CARD	RED	87/12/13	"V"
INCOMING CARD #50	RED	88/1/8	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	RED	88/3/11	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	RED	88/4/23	"M"
INCOMING COVER #50	RED	88/4/25	"M"

CARD	RED	88/05/28	"V" "D"
CARD	RED	88/6/12	bkwds
CARD #50 ONLY	RED	88/07/26	"T"
CARD #50 ONLY	RED	88/08/28	"D"
CARD	RED	88/9/24	"D"
CARD #50 ONLY	RED	88/12/08	"A"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/1/2	"D"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/2/23	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/3/19	"D"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/05/07	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/07/28	"V" invtd
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/8/20	"V" invtd
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/09/19	"V" invtd
COVER #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/11/16	"V" invtd
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/11/20	"V" invtd

CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/12/10	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	89/12/30	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/1/14	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/1/21	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/02/04	"Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/3/29	sideways "Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/4/1	sideways "Z"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/6/23	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/07/05	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/08/12	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/8/26	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/10/21	?
COVER #50 ONLY	BLACK	90/10/28	"M"
CARD #50 ONLY	BLACK	91/6/6	"M"
CARD #51 & #57	BLACK	92/09/29	NONE

Appendix B

STAMPS W/ #50

SOURCE	COLOR	DATE	CODE
SG 1	BLACK	80/4/9	"M"
SG 18	BLACK	80/5/27	"M"
SG 18	BLACK	80/7/22	"H"
SG 18	BLACK	81/6/9	"A"
SG 21	BLACK	81/6/9	"P"
SG 22	BLACK	81/09/15	"I"
SG 56	RED	88/5/8	"D"
SG 49	RED	88/6/10	"Z"
SG 49	RED	88/6/12	"D" bkwds
SG 49	RED	88/7/3	"D"
SG 49	RED	88/7/4	"M"
SG 49	RED	88/7/7	"Z"
SG 13	RED	88/7/14	"Z"
SG 49	RED	88/8/2	"D"
SG 49	RED	88/8/7	"D"
SG 52	RED	88/8/16	"D"
SG 1	RED	88/9/5	"M"
SG 5	RED	88/9/15	"Z"
SG 53	RED	88/9/15	"Z"
SG 55	RED	88/10/4	"D" bkwds
SG 54	RED	88/12/7	"D"
SG48	BLACK	89/01/08	"D"
SG 5	BLACK	89/3/30	"M"
SG 5	BLACK	89/4/3	"M"
SG 5	BLACK	89/04/23	"D"
SG 49	BLACK	89/5/10	?

SG 52	BLACK	89/5/18	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/5/21	"V" invtd
SG 5	BLACK	89/6/14	"V" invtd
SG 5	BLACK	89/06/22	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/7/2	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/7/09	"V" invtd
SG 5	BLACK	89/7/22	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/7/23	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/7/9	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/8/6	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/9/3	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/9/06	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/9/11	"V" invtd
SG 2	BLACK	89/9/23	"V" invtd
SG 2	BLACK	89/10/1	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/10/13	"V" invtd
SG 49	BLACK	89/12/08	"Z"
CARD CUTOUT	BLACK	89/12/10	"Z"
SG 49	BLACK	89/12/28	"Z"
SG 1	BLACK	?/06/23	"M"
SG 2	BLACK	?/09/03	?
SG 49	BLACK	?/09/23	"M"
SG 20	BLACK	?/10/08	"M"
1/ "TF"	BLACK	?/03/30	"M"
6d "TF"	BLACK	?/10/09	"M"
1/ "TF"	BLACK	?/10/12	"M"
1/ "TF"	BLACK	?/10/13	"M"
1/ "TF"	BLACK	?/10/28	"M"

Appendix C (Allison Data)

CARDS AND COVERS

SOURCE	COLOR	DATE	CODE
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	81/1/27	B
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	81/4/28	P
OUTGOING LETTER #50 (TRANSIT)	BLACK	81/8/22	A
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	81/9/22	U
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	82/4/6	U
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	82/9/5	V
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	82/11/2	D
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	83/5/8	N
OUTGOING LETTER #50	DARK PURPLE	84/2/1	H
OUTGOING LETTER #50	DARK PURPLE	84/8/7	F
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	84/11/20	D
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	85/1/8	M
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	85/2/3	T
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLUE	85/3/19	X
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	85/4/6	U
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	85/7/18	W
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	85/10/13	S
OUTGOING LETTER #50 (TRANSIT)	PURPLE	86/1/25	?
CARD #50 (ARRIVAL)	PURPLE	86/2/24	W
OUTGOING LETTER #50 (TRANSIT)	PURPLE	86/4/5	M
CARD #50	PURPLE	86/4/8	W
CARD #50 (TRANSIT)	PURPLE	86/5/27	L
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	86/8/14	Z
OUTGOING LETTER #50	PURPLE	87/1/5	W
OUTGOING LETTER #126a + #128	PURPLE	87/3/1	-
CARD #51	RED	87/10/4	-
OUTGOING LETTER #51	RED	87/10/15	-
CARD #50	RED	88/9/21	W
OUTGOING LETTER #50 (TRANSIT)	RED	88/10/23	D
OUTGOING LETTER #50	RED	88/11/17	?
CARD #50	BLACK	88/12/18	M
CARD #50	BLACK	89/1/8	D
CARD #50	BLACK	89/12/31	Z
CARD #50	BLACK	90/2/11	N
OUTGOING LETTER #50	BLACK	90/4/12	N
OUTGOING LETTER #50 (TRANSIT)	BLACK	90/4/18	M Inv.

The Editor's Most Urgent Wantlist

It is a constant struggle to fill the pages of Forerunners. The problem is not so much feature articles and the regular columns. The problem is more the smaller items related to news from the collecting community, stamps issues, significant auctions, books and books reviews, major articles in other journals, and development in the postal services covering southern Africa. Also needed are reports of changes of addresses and email, requests for help with research projects, requests for the free membership adds, and simple or complex questions for our expert panel. In fact it is a long time since the editor has received a letter or email that was not solicited. Even correspondences with complaints and corrections to an article are rare occurrences. It cannot be that everything written and shown in Forerunners is perfect and that nobody has better and unknown covers and new information. Please let the letter and emails come. Forerunners is for you - the reader.

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The King's Head

by Ashley Cotter-Cairns

This time I look at the first South African King George V definitive issue and discover enough collecting depth to last a lifetime.

Once upon a time, I was not a postmark collector. In fact I was a general world collector who quickly realised that there were too many stamps and not enough salary to buy them all. I needed to specialise. Browsing through my world collection, I discovered a passion lurking under S for South Africa. There, I found the King's head.

Well, more than one of course! In fact, I had a nice run of King's heads. The ones I refer to specifically are the 1913-24 definitives from the Union of South Africa (SG 2-17, plus the coil values, SG 18-21). From the mono-colour halfpenny through to the really attractive, mostly bi-colour higher values, culminating in a Pound value with two listed shades, this series has real visual appeal.



And if you're one of those collectors who, like myself, likes a challenge, you could do far worse than specialise in this fascinating set. In fact, assuming you're not a multi-millionaire with no other hobbies, it could keep you busy for the rest of your collecting life.

The Basic Set

Let's start with the ½d. (In fact, you could begin and end here right away, as you'll see when we get into the varieties later.) The halfpenny is a green mono-colour stamp. Available in several shades, most of them cheap, it's a good starting point. The apparent simplicity of this design hides quite a number of little shields and other fine points, so spend some time with a mint copy of the stamp and get familiar with the look of this appealing issue.

The penny red is quite similar, with several shades, none of them rare, available for you to identify.

The 1½d is a brownish chestnut colour. The main point of interest, apart from a single cheap shade, is the availability of

tete-beche pairs. These are not especially rare, but tracking down a very fine used pair will still present you with a bit of a hunt.

The 2d is equally common, mint or used, with some listed shades but nothing exciting in the basic stamp to look out for.

The 2½d is the last of the low-value mono-colour stamps, even though it was printed in two passes, the head and frame separately. It's an attractive ultramarine style blue, with one listed shade.

There are two different 3d values, both bi-colour, although one is printed in two different blues! Which is why they replaced it with the orange and black version. The blue one is slightly scarcer, especially fine, while the orange is available in two shades.

The 4d is only unusual in that it is as common with an inverted watermark as with an upright one. There are the usual two listed shades.

The 6d is a black and violet stamp which is the easiest colour combination to grow tired of when you're sorting through huge lots of them.

The 1s reverts to a mono colour design, an appealing orange, which is of course available in two shades. Because so many of this value franked parcels, it's quite tricky to find a nicely used example.

Next the 1s3d, again mono, this time a bright violet, in two shades, fairly scarce, especially very fine used or unmounted mint.

Now we jump up to the high values. The 2s6d is green and purple, again in two shades.

The 5s is a very attractive blue and violet, with two shades.



The 10s is my favourite, a superb green and blue combo that really catches the eye, especially mint. Two shades? *Bien sur!*

Finally comes the Pound value, an imposing red and green, with (you guessed it) two shades listed, one significantly more expensive.

Putting together a complete set in very fine used and unmounted mint, even if you ignore the shades, will be quite an expensive prospect, mainly due to the top four values. The basic Pound value used often fetches around 120-140 Pounds on eBay, which is about right for an auction too, before buyer's commission anyway.

The Fun Begins Here...

Now the real fun of this set begins. Once you have built a basic set (or decided to focus on a more affordable aspect of the King's head series), you can begin searching for the basic varieties.

Throw away your perf gauge! If, like me, you cannot stand checking perforations, don't worry. There aren't any perf varieties here. What we are looking for are watermark errors and some of the more common printing flaws and errors. With a few major exceptions, these can all be affordable.

The halfpenny is available with watermark inverted. Slightly more affordable than the design doubly printed error, priced at 10,000 Pounds. Plus a printed on the gummed side variety.

The penny has an inverted watermark error and recently has been listed in SG printed on the gummed side.

The 1½d is also available with sideways watermark, but this is even rarer than the ½d. Meanwhile, the inverted watermark is extremely common due to the *tete-beche* pairs that got broken up. It's also known printed on the gummed side.

The 2d has inverted watermark varieties, plus printed on the gummed side.

The 2½d is very scarce with inverted watermark and the price reflects this. A very fine unmounted mint example will be

in huge demand and set you back three figures, whatever Gibbons prices it at.

Both 3d values are available with inverted watermark, the blue being scarcer.

As well as having an inverted watermark variety, the 6d has an excitingly common yet scarce enough printing flaw, "Z" of Zuid wholly or partially missing. Wholly missing is more desirable, of course.

The 1s is relatively difficult to find unused with inverted watermark, especially unmounted mint.

The 1s3d is exceptionally hard to find with inverted watermark in unmounted mint condition. You'll be asked to part with a three-figure sum for this, mint or used.

The 5s is very pricey with inverted watermark and will certainly cause you some difficulty to find a fine one. It's actually higher priced than the 10s, which surprises me.

The 10s is one of the rarest inverted watermarks on British Commonwealth KGV definitives, with less than a dozen known, listed at 4,000 Pounds mint (way under-catalogued) and 1,800 fine used.

But the Fun Doesn't Stop There

We now move beyond Gibbons to the more focused scope of the South African Colour Catalogue (SACC). Here's where collecting King's heads gets seriously fun (and expensive, not to mention difficult).

Just the shades alone get more complicated. The ½d has a dark mossy green shade, which it's advised you only buy with a certificate and is priced much higher than other shades. As well as the doubly-printed design mentioned in SG, it's also known with parts of the design missing due to paper intrusions or a fold-over during perforations, with offset on reverse due to wet sheets being stacked too quickly during drying, with repaired paper, with over-inked deformed letters in the design, or with a missing



or broken horn in the watermark! (Many of these varieties are known on higher values. I'll only list additional varieties where they have not been formerly mentioned.)

The 1d comes in a deep lake-carmine shade that's not as expensive, but probably as difficult to identify without a certified mint example to compare it against. It also has an impressive list of minor varieties, including the very rare watermark omitted (only 48 were printed and a handful are known).

As well as the regular tete-beche pair, the 1½d is listed in gutter tete-beche form, much more expensive (and very hard to track down). The very rare sideways watermark, ex booklet, is listed here, but unpriced.

The 2d has its own rare shade, a deep plum colour that again should be purchased with a certificate. It's also known without watermark, with only 80 printed. Again, not many are known to have survived.

The 2½d is known with a long arm to "U" of Unie, which is fairly common. It's also the first value printed from two plates (in the same colour!), which introduces a shifted medallion variety.

Where the centre and frame did not align properly, the shifted medallion formed a 'new moon' in unprinted paper between the head and the frame. To qualify, part of the head portion must touch the frame design, but it's quite easy to find lesser shifted ones if you search through enough bulk material.

The next item of interest occurs on the 1s3d, which has two minor varieties, a top curl to the "3" and a cracked medallion.

The 5s is available with "UNIE" or "VAN" completely omitted. There's also a rather comical 'purple nose' variety! This is not desperately expensive, so you should be able to add one to your specialist collection.

Finally, wouldn't you know it, they found some varieties in the Quid. A white blob in the crown occurs on one stamp per sheet, while there's a frame offset on the back known also. KA-CHING!

I've not touched on the coils or the plate numbers, which are probably meat enough for another article. But I hope you are salivating at the thought of beginning your King's head collection. Just do yourself a favour and ignore the postmarks!

For the Record

36. **Stephan Welz** in association with Sotheby's of Johannesburg released their latest catalogue for an auction conducted on November 27, 2007. The auction showed strong Anglo-Boer war, Cape of Good Hope, Rhodesian, and other southern Africa offerings. Stephan Welz can be reached via their newly redesigned website <http://www.swelco.co.za>.
37. **Victoria Stamp Company** released the catalogue for their Public Auction #23 conducted on December 8, 2007. Included is the "Star" Collection of Rhodesian Double Heads. Visit www.victoriastampco.com.
38. **Auktionshaus Christoph Gärtner** has distributed the catalogues for their 6th auction to be conducted February 20-22, 2008. Visit www.auction-gaertner.de for details of this sale as well as upcoming auctions.
39. **South African Airlines (SAA)** retired the last Boeing 747-400 of their fleet on 1st November 2007. Last commercial flight of B747 with SAA colors was SA-055 route Luanda – Johannesburg that landed at JNB on 18:25 with registration ZS-SAK. SAA is replacing after 36 years "Jumbo" service the aircraft for long haul routes by Airbus A340. See <http://www.airtransportnews.aero/article.pl?mcateg=&id=7065> for further details.
40. The **Postal Order Society** has organized an internet discussion forum at <http://postalorders.informe.com>. Topics will include southern Africa postal orders and related subjects.
41. **Alex Visser** has completed further 75 pages of postmark updates to the Putzel-Visser monographs, including the letters L and N, but has skipped the letter M for the moment. The updated lists can be downloaded using these links:
<http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/AddletterLA.pdf>,
<http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/AddletterLI.pdf>,
<http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/AddletterNA.pdf>,



<http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/AddletterNO.pdf>.

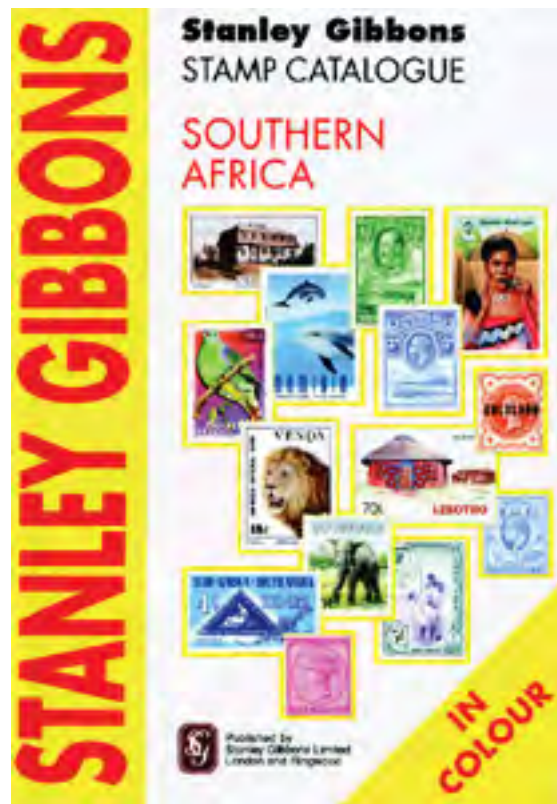
Copy the links into your internet browser to download the files. See Forerunners #59 (For the Record No. 34) for links to the other letters. Note that the files are placed on an ftp site and will not appear on a Google search. Additions to the postmark lists are always most welcome at alex.visser@up.ac.

za (300 dpi in jpeg format, color if required).

42. An extensive **Rhodesia Postal Bid Sale** list (#5) has been distributed by W. O'Connell. The closing date was 31st October 2007 but interested Rhodesia collectors should contact O'Connell at No. 3; Viking Hill, Ballakillowey, Colby, Isle of Man, IM9 4BJ, UK. Email address woc@manx.net.
43. The **Philatelic collections** of the **British Library** have issued their Newsletter no. 12. It includes brief articles on the Center for Conservation, the Fitz Gerald Airmail Collection, and playing card duty labels.
44. The **Philatelic Literature Review** of the American Philatelic Research Library has continued the **index of forgery literature** in Volume 56, nos. 3 and 4. This time New Republic, Nyasaland Protectorate, Nyassa, Orange River Colony, and Rhodesia are included.



45. **Sport-O-Net 2007 Exhibition.** The Czech Society for Sports and Olympic Philately of the Union of Czech Philatelists has completed a virtual, competitive philatelic exhibition termed SPORT-O-NET 2007. According to Special Regulations, a 5-member Jury judged participating exhibits. Two judges was FIP accredited jurors for the thematic philately class: Eliseo Ruben Otero from Argentina and Roman Babut from Poland. To evaluate the exhibits from the different countries and continents look at <http://www.japhila.cz/sportonet/> for details. A first for philately.
46. You will be very pleased to know that **Stanley Gibbons** is soon to publish its second edition **Southern Africa**; after the phenomenal success of the first edition back in 2005 that edition has now long sold out and many collectors are awaiting for a new edition. This second edition will feature all the stamp issues of the countries South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland and Lesotho. All prices are fully revised and new issues added have bought this second edition up to date. The catalogue will again be in full colour and size A4; scheduled for publication in early Autumn 2007, will be distributed through all the normal Stanley Gibbons distribution outlets. (From a press release from Stanley Gibbons.)



Society Auction Manager

Since our previous auction manager retired after having managed our society auctions for many years, we have been unable to locate a replacement. A society auction is clearly one of the most important benefits of being a member of a specialist society like PSGSA. The lack of an auction may therefore hurt us in the long run. Traditionally society auctions are done using printed lists that are distributed to members as part of a newsletter or separately. Several specialist societies similar to ours are able to maintain auctions at regular or intermittent intervals. Most of these are done purely using printed auction lists. However, times have changed and emails and web pages have become common and should be considered. If anybody is in for the fun - there is a challenging society board position available. Contact any board member or the editor if you feel the urge and excitement.

New Books

- Wills, W.H., 1907. The Anglo-African Who's Who and Biographical Sketchbook 1907. Reissued 2006 by Jeppestown Press, London. Available on www.amazon.com.
- Oates, C.G., 1881. Matabeleland and the Victoria Falls. The Diaries and Letters of Frank Oates, 1873-1875. Reissued 2006 by Jeppestown Press, London. Available on www.amazon.com.

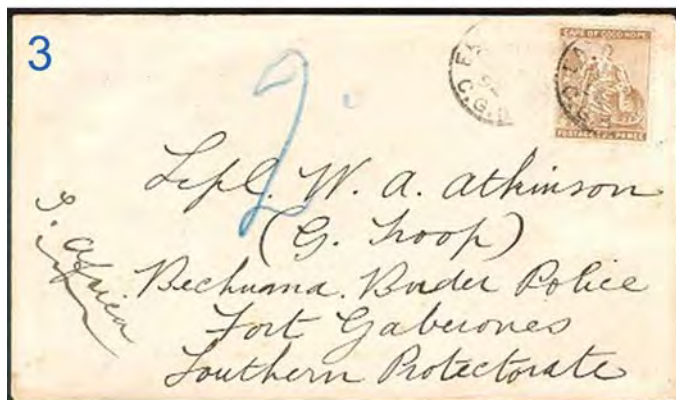
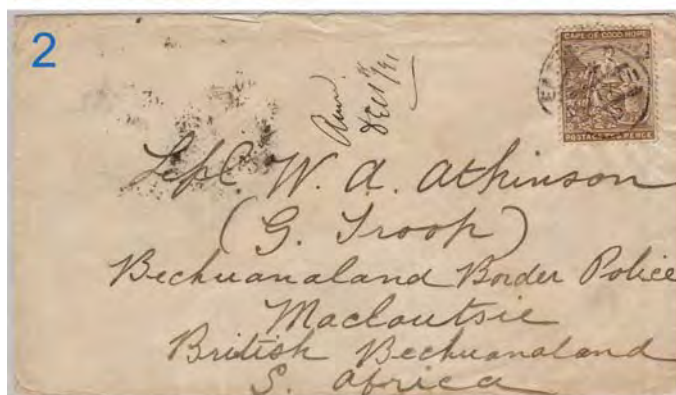


Forerunners Forum

Questions, Comments, and Answers

The Atkinson Correspondence

Johnny Barth showed in last issue three covers all mailed from Port Elizabeth in 1892-3 addressed to a Lcpl W.A. Atkinson, G Troop, Bechuana Border Police, Fort Gaberones, Southern Protectorate. He was asking about the different tax amounts of either 2d or 4d. Although I have not yet an answer to Johnny's question, I have searched my own collection as well as references in the Runner Post (journal of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society). In addition to the three covers all addressed to Fort Gaberones (1), I have found a similar cover addressed to Fort Gaberones (3) and another addressed to Macloutsi (2), Can any reader add to these sightings? Please contact the Editor or Johnny Barth (barth@post3.tele.dk).



Bechuanaland Protectorate Postmark

The following postmark was found on Alan McGregors website (www.rhodesia.co.za) described as "RAMAQUABANE/S. RHODESIA skeleton type datestamp, struck twice on a block of six Protectorate 1/2d vermilion. The Ramaquabane railway-telegraph office was located in Bechuanaland, though administered by Southern Rhodesia." The date is 12 MAR 13. A new Bechuanaland postmark find?



Army Telegraph Cancellor used in Bechuanaland

Frederick Lawrence writes "In yours, 'Early Bechuanaland Postmarks,' in the March-June 2007 Forerunners, on p. 101, you wrote: an 'ARMY TELEGRAPHS' canceller has been reported to have been used at Outsi. In the Anglo-Boer War Philatelist (vol. 29, no. 1, March 1986, pp. 21-22) there is a Mafeking siege runner cover, with a May 15, 1900, backstamp of the Outsi Army Telegraphs cancel. This was two days before the relief of the Mafeking siege. Also in the Anglo-Boer War Philatelist (vol.



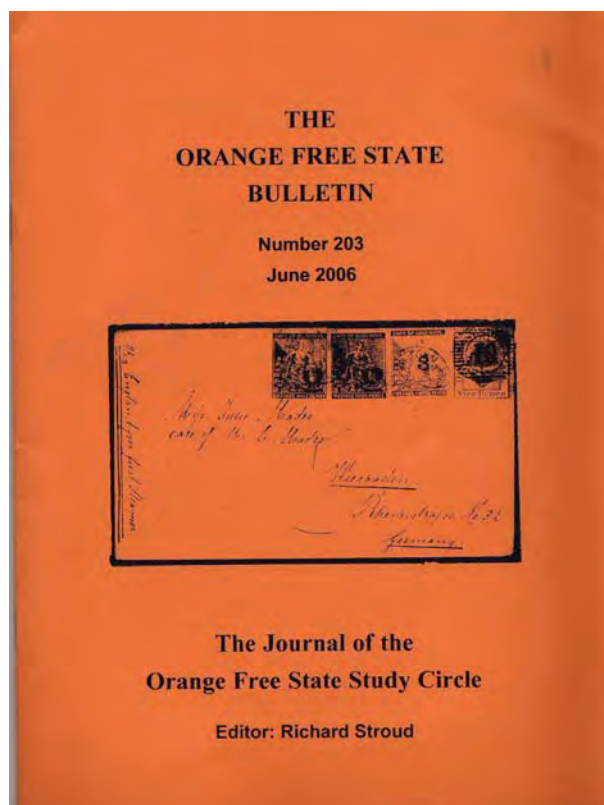
30, no. 1, March 1987, p. 6) there is a cover with May 16, 1900, Outsi Army Telegraphs cancels, used as postal cancels." Lawrence gives other details on the Mafeking Siege mails that we will return to at a later date. Shown here is an illustration of the Outsi telegraph mark (from the second cover mentioned above).

Zimbabwe Inflation Stamp

Bob Hisey (bobbisey@comcast.net) writes to show a Zimbabwe stamp that came free in the last issue of SA Philatelist. He writes "Its face is \$20,000! So I researched the exchange rate. Last month it was 500,000 Zdollars per 1 USD, but now it is 1,000,000 to 1. Originally \$1 Zimbaabwe was about \$1 US. So the stamp is now 2 cents, and by next month will probably be 1c or less. Lots of people study the inflation issues of Germany and Hungary, now how about Zimbabwe?" See illustration on next page.



Orange Free State Bulletin



The Orange Free State Bulletin is published four times a year by the Orange Free State Study Circle. The editor is Richard Stroud (28 Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset TA8 1LQ, UK; richardstroudph@gofast.co.uk). He is also the Secretary and receive membership applications. The last issue seen (No. 203, June 2006) contains a long feature article on 'revenues and revenue documents' by Bob Allison that should interest revenue collectors far outside the narrow field of Orange Free State. Another article deals with 'late combination covers to Europe' and are written by the editor Richard Stroud. The Orange Free State Study Circle is a small specialist society with major accomplishments (the Orange Free State Handbook). The Study Circle suffers from the same problems as many other small specialist societies (low and falling membership and difficulties with recruiting new officers to key circle functions). If your interests include OFS, you should consider joining.



SWA Wheel Tax Token

Here is another of the Editor's favorite tax tokens. This time a 1950-51 token downloaded from eBay without information on dimensions. The inscription is in English and Africans: "S.W.A. WHEEL TAX / S.W.A. WIELBELASTING / No. 30 / 4 WHEEL - WIEL".

News From Botswana

by Peter Thy

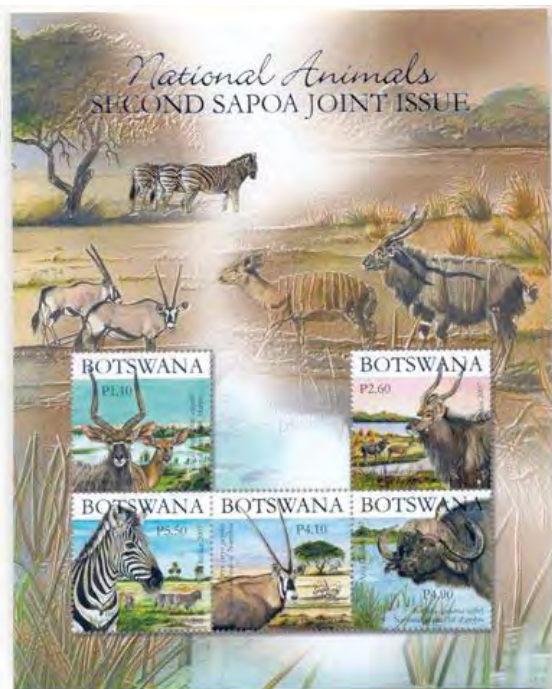
This picture of a satisfied postal customer appears on Post Botswana's website (www.botspost.co.bw). It refreshed my memories of a stay in Botswana now some years ago. Except for the lush green surroundings that I do not recall, the parcel in the front reminds me of the first time I tried to mail a parcel from the main Gaborone Post Office on the Mall. The parcel seen is very authentic. It has an address label and is franked with stamps. But note that it is wrapped in brown wrapping paper and is held together by a flimsy string that now clearly is broken (obviously some 'treating' with tape to hold things together).

I can document that this parcel is prepared according to



postal regulations. A parcel must be wrapped in sturdy paper held together by a crossing string. I learned this the hard way now nearly 20 years ago. My first parcel was rejected for lacking the wrapping paper and I had to carry it all the way home, find some paper (not easy) and return it to the post office. My second attempt was rejected because of missing string. I had to take my rather heavy parcel and go out in town to find some string. Fortunately the hardware store was open and could sell me a few kilometers of cotton string. My third parcel was finally accepted and shipped off after proper payment of fees. It looked

like the one illustrated when received - with broken string. Strangely, these requirements are not included in the Postal Service Guide, but certainly still enforced to the irritation to foreign visitors.



Post Botswana has issued three series of stamps in the past. The second SAPOA issue, jointly with Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, was issued on October 9, 2006. SAPOA stands for Southern African Postal Operators Association and includes in addition Angola, Lesotho, Mozambique, and South Africa. In July 2003, the Association formed a Philately Taskforce with the mandate to promote the regions identity, symbols and development goals, and to reflect the cultures within Southern African Development Community Countries. The stamps show the national animals of the participating countries (Burchell's zebra for Botswana). The five different designs were issued in sheets of 50 stamps (two panes of 25) as well as a miniature sheet with all fine designs. The stamps were designed by Anja Denker and printed in offset by Enschede Security Printing.

The second issue was released on October 13, 2007, commemorating the 25th Anniversary of University of Botswana (UB). Four stamps were issued each in sheets of 50 (two panes of 25) and offset printed by Österreichische Staatsdruckerei. The design was by Jack Mazebedi. The stamps show library services, campus appeal, Okavango Research Center, university growth (lot of changes since the Editor taught at UB).

A new set of definitive stamps replaced on November 1, 2007. This is the 9th set of definitive stamps that replaces the previous 2002 set of mammals. The new set shows as something new: but-



terflies of Botswana. A total of 14 stamps was issued in sheets of 50 (two panes of 25). The stamps were offset printed by Enschede Security Printers. The designs are by Philip Huebsch. Perhaps the most interesting about this set of stamps is that its issue was not associated with a rate increase. The rates of 2006 is still in effect. The butterflies illustrated on the stamps were found in their natural habitat in Botswana and the stamp designer photographed them going about their normal daily activities. The smallest butterfly occurring in Botswana is the Dwarf Blue. It was once thought to be the smallest in the world but a slightly smaller butterfly has been found in Afghanistan. A charming set of stamps that no doubt will make it into many thematic collections.



Book Reviews

AEROFILIA ITALIANA – Catalogo Storico Descritto 1898-1941 (Italian Aerophilately - Described Historical Catalogue) - Second Edition, by Fiorenzo Longhi. Published by the Author, 2007, 630 pages, hardcover, A4 format.

This is the second edition of the Italian Airmail Catalog, which covers all aspects of Italian aerophilately. It starts out by describing and showing early balloon documents & cards from as early as 1898. The next section covers early pioneer aircraft flights, air meets, demonstration flights, etc. Then comes the first official airmail service in Italy, which started in 1917. The rest of the catalog describes and shows all known first & special flights within Italy and from Italy to other countries up until 1941. There is even a section listing all known Italian newspapers, which have been carried by air.

Many of the covers and documents are shown in color. The amount of detail in the Catalog is amazing, and it has been considerably expanded from the first edition. The Catalog is in the Italian language, but with an Italian dictionary, it should be fairly easy to understand the listings. The Catalog comes with a pricing supplement, which values all documents and covers in Euros (€). The Catalog is rather expensive. The cost is 100 euros (US\$140.00) plus postage. The postage to Europe is from 10 to 15 euros,

depending on the country of destination. The postage cost to USA & Asia is 25 euros (US\$35.00) via surface. Orders should be sent to: Mr. Fiorenzo Longhi, Via alla Masseria 12, I-28832 Belgirate (VB), Italy. Fax +39 0322 29271, Email: longhif@tin.it.
Ken Sanford



Society Publications

Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 1, The Postage Stamps. Hardbound, 280 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 2, The Telegraphs. Hardbound, 250 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$25 plus \$5 s/h.
Taylor, Robert. *Early Postal Services of the Cape of Good Hope PSGSA Exhibit Series* (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.
Lodoen, Peter. *Accepted - Rejected: Life of a Botswana Stamp Designer*. \$25 full color print, \$10 on CD-ROM. Postage paid.
Hisey, B. (compiler), 2006. *Postal Office Names of Southern Africa According to Ralph Putzel* (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.
To order contact David McNamee at the addresses given on page 1.

The Market Place

Cape of Good Hope. I buy postal history material, specially the period 1652 - 1853. Please send scan or photocopy with price. Johnny Barth, Nivavaenge 25, DK 2990 Niva, Denmark. E-mail: barth@post3.tele.dk.

SA Homelands used. Seeking postally used stamps and covers (larger lots with duplication OK). Have used Homelands and GB, Commonwealth (Australia, NZ, others) to trade. Send description/scan/price to Chris Oberholster, 2013 Yancy Drive, Bessemer, AL 35022; pangolin100@aol.com.

For Sale: Postmarks of Zululand by H. Joseph and Tony Davis, copy no. 7 of 250. US\$ 55.00. Very fine condition, autographed. Postpaid. Contact Jim Ryan at 4419 17 Avenue NW, Calgary, AB T3B ON7, Canada, or jfsipryan@hotmail.com.

Wanted: Aerogrammes reproducing the 6d Rhodes Centenary stamps for Northern Rhodesia and for Nyasaland Protectorate. Please state condition and price. Contact Jim Ryan at 4419 17 Avenue NW, Calgary, AB T3B ON7, Canada, or jfsipryan@hotmail.com.

Wanted: Postal Savings Books and related items from any southern African territories and countries. Send photocopies/scans and descriptions to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis CA 95617-3112, thy@kronestamps.dk.

Bophuthatswana used. Wish to trade for used in/off cover,

including revenues and postal stationery. Have all Homelands used, some mint and older general worldwide to trade. Write Will Ross, 4120 Schuylkill Dr., Calabasas, CA 91302.

South West Africa postal stationery. I am seeking pre-1969 items. Please send offer to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Mafeking covers. Want to purchase or trade for covers to/from, or through Mafeking, 1885 to present. Send photocopies, prices or trade want list to Frederick Lawrence, 658 W. Douglas Ave., Gilbert, AZ 85233-3219; ieconsulting@cox.net.

South African postage due covers. Looking for postage due mail from and to South Africa, all periods welcome. Please send offers to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Bechuanaland and Botswana postal stationery. Used, stamped and unstamped, stationery from any territory and any period are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

Postmarks. Specialist collector seeks trading partners and unsorted low value duplicates in quantity. I collect pre-Union to 1935. Anything later is available to swap with you. Please contact before sending material. Ashley Cotter-Cairns, P.O. Box 603, Hudson, QC, JOP 1HO, Canada, or acottercairns@hotmail.com.

Join the American Philatelic Society. Membership applications and benefits information: APS, 100 Match Factory Place, College, PA 16803, USA.

Madagascar postal stationery. Used and unused, stamped and unstamped, stationery from the greater Madagascar area. Any period and type are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

Send request for your free non-dealer membership ad to the Editor. Multiple ads per issue per member are admitted as long as space is available. Ads will run for several issues unless specified otherwise. Limits of 40 words plus name and postal and email addresses.

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49

No.

BW
BECHUANALAND EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

The Interior Line of Royal Mail and Passenger Coaches and Carts
Between **KIMBERLEY** and **BAMANGWATO** via Taung, Vrijburg, Mafeking,
Malmani, Kanya, Molopolole and Motshodi.

PASSENGER TICKET.

Ramoutse Date *August 2nd* 1892

From **BARKLY WEST** to *Fort Tuli*

Name *W. E. Thomas*

Fare £ *17.0.0* *Seventeen Pounds* Seat No.

Overweight Luggage lbs., at s. d.

FOR CONDITIONS ON WHICH THIS TICKET IS ISSUED
SEE OVER.

for J. W. Decker Agent.

TOWNSEND & SON, PRINTERS, CAPE TOWN AND VRYBURG.

The Bechuanaland Exploration Company operated mail and passenger coaches and carts from Vryburg to Fort Tuli at the Bechuanaland and Mashonaland border from the late 1891. In the late 1892, the concession passed over to the Virsing Brothers of Vryburg. The coaches and carts were drawn by mules or oxen. The trip between Vryburg and Tuli would take over a week of suffering for the unseasoned traveller. In 1892, the journey through Bechuanaland on the main coaches was described by R. S. Godley: "Our road from Mafeking ... lay along the old coach road ... On this road ... coaches, with their spans of twelve mules apiece, used to travel with passengers and mails. Such coaches were huge 'Buffalo Bill' affairs, swinging on enormous leather springs and carrying twelve passengers, the driver, and a Cape boy to assist him. Teams were changed every seven or ten miles ... A Journey in one of these conveyances meant days of trial and tribulation. Passengers were of all sorts and conditions. Ladies of doubtful reputation, commercial travellers, prospectors, business men, and parsons were packed like herrings for days on end. Inside there were no room to move or stretch one's legs; one was also choked with dust. Outside one was surrounded by mail bags, and exposed either to glaring sun or torrents of tropical rain."

Membership Application

Membership fees are \$25 US and Canada and \$30 Europe and southern Africa (contact the Treasurer for other destinations). Initial membership includes all back issues for the year joined (July to June). Payment options are as follows: (1) US dollar check drawn on a US bank, (2) dollar money order, (3) PayPal to dmcnamee@aol.com, (4) pound sterling bank check drawn on a UK bank and payable to E.M. Hisey, and (5) US \$, pound sterling, or Euro currency sent registered mail. Complete the following form and mail to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, 15 Woodland Dr., Alamo CA 94507. Or email to dmcnamee@aol.com.

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Address:

Email address:

Collecting interests:

Comments:

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by P. Lodoen

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Philately of the Orange Free State

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