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## South Africa: Cape of Good Hope during the Anglo-Boer War

Dietz, A.J.

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# African Postal Heritage

APH Paper Nr 9, part 2

Ton Dietz

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE DURING THE ANGLO-BOER WAR

Version January 2017

## Introduction

Postage stamps and related objects are miniature communication tools, and they tell a story about cultural and political identities and about artistic forms of identity expressions. They are part of the world's material heritage, and part of history. Ever more of this postal heritage becomes available online, published by stamp collectors' organizations, auction houses, commercial stamp shops, online catalogues, and individual collectors. Virtually collecting postage stamps and postal history has recently become a possibility. These working papers about Africa are examples of what can be done. But they are work-in-progress! Everyone who would like to contribute, by sending corrections, additions, and new area studies can do so by sending an email message to the APH editor: Ton Dietz ([dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl)). You are welcome!

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African Studies Centre Leiden  
P.O. Box 9555  
2300 RB Leiden  
The Netherlands

Telephone	+31-71-5273372
E-mail	asc@asc.leidenuniv.nl
Website	<a href="http://www.ascleiden.nl">http://www.ascleiden.nl</a>
Facebook	<a href="http://www.facebook.nl/ascleiden">www.facebook.nl/ascleiden</a>
Twitter	<a href="http://www.twitter.com/ascleiden">www.twitter.com/ascleiden</a>
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Illustrations cover page:

ASC Leiden postage stamp Nederland (2011): ©African Studies Centre Leiden

Cape of Good Hope postage stamp 1853:

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape\\_Triangular\\_Postage\\_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape\\_Triangular\\_Postage\\_Stamp.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg)

Egypt postage stamp 1914:

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post\\_Stamp\\_Egypt.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post_Stamp_Egypt.jpg)

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## Part 2: CAPE OF GOOD HOPE DURING THE BOER WAR

### MAFEKING during the Anglo-Boer War, 1900

#### Introduction

From: <https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.wordpress.com/2014/09/27/collectibles-historical-memorabilia-from-the-siege-of-mafeking-boer-war/>

“The Siege of Mafeking took place at the town of Mahikeng (called Mafeking by the British) in South Africa over a period of 217 days, from October 1899 to May 1900, and turned Robert Baden-Powell, who went on to found the Scouting Movement, into a national hero. The Relief of Mafeking (the lifting of the siege) was a decisive victory for the British and ‘the beginning of the end’ for the Boers. The war was littered with incidents in which British contingents became lost or were ambushed often unnecessarily and forced to surrender. The Boer War was followed by a complete re-organisation of the British Army....

Shortly before the outbreak of the Second Boer War in 1899, Lord Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, who had failed to persuade the British government to send troops to the region, instead sent Colonel Baden-Powell, accompanied by a handful of officers, to the Cape Colony to raise two Regiments of Mounted Rifles from Rhodesia. Their aims were

- to resist the expected Boer invasion of the Natal Colony (now KwaZulu-Natal Province),
- to draw the Boers away from the coasts to facilitate the landing of British troops,
- and, through a demonstrable British presence, deter the local people from siding with the Boers.”



[https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/robert\\_baden-powell\\_and\\_staff\\_at\\_mafeking.jpg?w=582&h=360](https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/robert_baden-powell_and_staff_at_mafeking.jpg?w=582&h=360)



Robert Baden-Powell

<http://www.vanceauctions.com/images/icons/baden-powell.jpg>

“Like the British government, the local politicians feared that increased military activity might provoke a Boer attack, so Baden-Powell decided to obtain many of his own stores, organise his own transport and recruit in secret. With barely trained forces and aware of the Boers’ greatly superior numbers, their ‘hit and run’ commando tactics and the failure of the earlier Jameson Raid, Baden-Powell decided that the best way to tie down Boer troops would be through defence rather than attack. Consequently he chose to hold the town of Mafeking due to its location – both near the border and on the railway between Bulawayo and Kimberley – and because of its status as a local administrative centre. As well, the town had good stocks of food and other necessities.

The Mafeking forces comprised:

- the Protectorate Regiment of around 500 men,
- around 300 men from the Bechuanaland Rifles and the Cape Police,
- and a further 300 men from the town of Mafeking itself.
- A cadet corps of boys aged 12 to 15, later to be one of the inspirations for the Scouting Movement, was also formed to act as messengers and orderlies.

The recruitment of these cadets released men to fight, bringing the total engaged in the military effort to around 2,000 men. They were initially confronted by 8,000 Boer fighters, so a solid line of defence was imperative. Under Baden-Powell’s command the small besieged community at Mafeking established a newspaper (siege slips), which were printed on thin paper in an underground printing press.....

Prior to the Boer attack, they built a 6-mile (10 km) defensive perimeter, including an extensive network of trenches and gun emplacements – as such, the British knew well in advance of the Great War what trench warfare was about and how devastating machine gun emplacements would be on advancing infantry or cavalry.

In addition to the real defences, Baden-Powell also improvised with some brilliant military deception tactics, including :-

- Fake landmines were laid around the town in view of the Boers and their spies within the town
- His soldiers were ordered to simulate avoiding barbed wire (non-existent) when moving between trenches
- Guns and a searchlight (improvised from an acetylene lamp and biscuit tin) were moved around the town to increase their apparent number
- Soldiers were asked to dress as women undertaking normal activities such as fetching water and sewing to disillusion the enemy

#### The Siege of Mafeking. October 1899

President Kruger of the independent Boer South African Republic declared war on 12 October 1899. Under the orders of General Cronje, the Mafeking railway and telegraph lines were cut the same day, and the town began to be besieged from 13 October.

As in the case of the nearby Siege of Kimberley, the Boers decided that the town was too heavily defended to take. As such, the Boers did not make a huge effort to take the town as it was of little strategic value to them. The heroic and much fabled defence, however, made it of huge propaganda value to the British who, up until the Relief of Mafeking, were not doing so well in military terms, i.e. their Crimean War style tactics were out of date and better suited to facing native tribesmen who did not have modern, accurate rifles.

On 19 November, Piet Cronje withdrew with two-thirds of his men, leaving the rest under Commandant J.P. Snyman to continue shelling the town and trying to starve it into surrender.

By mutual agreement there was no action on Sundays, when everyone relaxed, picnicked and played cricket and polo. Baden-Powell adopted a carefree and confident demeanour to keep morale high

In November 1899 Baden-Powell launched a series of raids on the Boers lines that caused him some casualties but made the Boers wary of the garrison.

#### December 1899

Initially the Mafeking garrison had no artillery. Baden-Powell improvised various items to look like real guns and trains, while engineers manufactured a gun, known as the “Wolf”, from a length of steel pipe.

In sharp contrast to the indolent Ladysmith garrison, Baden-Powell kept his men constantly on the move, raiding the Boer lines and keeping the besiegers on their toes.

Noticing the Boers had failed to remove any of the railway tracks, Baden-Powell had an armoured train from the Mafeking rail yard loaded with sharpshooters sent up the rail line in a daring attack right into the heart of the Boer camp, followed by a safe return to Mafeking.

On 26th December 1899 Baden-Powell launched an attack on Game Tree Fort, a Boer strongpoint to the North of Mafeking. Unknown to the garrison the fort had been significantly strengthened and the attack was an expensive failure....

### January 1900

As normal commerce was interrupted and rationing ordered, Baden-Powell issued 1 shilling, 2 shilling and 3 shilling coupons, as well as ten-shilling and one-pound banknotes. From January to March 1900, these notes were printed in an underground shelter on ordinary writing paper. As the notes were released into circulation, the Army Paymaster, Capt. Greener, "collateralized" the notes by depositing cheques of an equivalent amount into the Mafeking branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa, which were accepted by Robert Bradshaw Urry, the bank manager. Urry co-signed the ten-shilling and one-pound siege notes with the "Army Pay master", Captain Greener. These banknotes are scarce but very collectible.

### February 1900

Defenders expand their network of trenches and defensive positions in the area known as The Brickfields

Feb 14th : the first Boer attack on The Brickfields is repulsed

Feb 28th : the second Boer attack on The Brickfields is repulsed

### March 1900

Several successful cattle-raiding forays on the part of the Baralongs (after their rations were cut by Baden-Powell)

On 31st March 1900 Plumer attempted to fight his way into Mafeking with the Rhodesian regiment but was repelled with heavy losses.

By the end of March, postage stamps were in short supply and the local overprinted issues of British Bechuanaland and Cape of Good Hope were overprinted with a provisional Mafeking Besieged overprint. These temporary issues are much sought after by collectors due to their relative scarcity and the notoriety of the siege.

### April 1900

On 9 April 1900, to keep up morale, Baden-Powell set up a local Bicycle Post to enable the troops to communicate with each other.



A corps of cadets mounted on bicycles delivered the mail inside Mafeking while runners slipped through enemy lines to deliver mail to post offices from where they could be dispatched to friends and relatives.

When the stamps ran out they made their own.

The 1d design was drawn by Dr. W.A. Hayes, a local medico, and showed Sergeant-Major Goodyear of the Cyclist Cadet Corps riding on his bicycle. He had been entrusted with local post deliveries.

The 3d value, which appeared in two sizes, was designed by Captain Greener and depicted a portrait of Colonel Baden-Powell himself.

The stamps were photographically produced by Dr. D. Taylor on horizontally laid paper with a sheet watermark "Oceana Fine". Since they were produced in a process similar to that used in the manufacture of draughtsman's blueprint plans the stamps themselves were blue.

After a few thousand were issued they were discontinued when the siege ended about a month later.

Because Baden-Powell had implemented the makeshift stamp solution without reference to higher command, and particularly because he had replaced the Queen's official portrait with his own, he was severely reprimanded by Queen Victoria who, allegedly, was not amused.

The GB Overprint Society has a nice page devoted to the Siege of Mafeking overprints at [http://www.gbos.org.uk/index.php/Country\\_List/26](http://www.gbos.org.uk/index.php/Country_List/26) and it is very well illustrated with normal issues, overprint varieties and some (sadly inevitable) forgeries.

### May 1900

Aware of the approaching British relief columns, the Boers launched a final major attack early in the morning of 12 May that succeeded in breaching the perimeter defences and setting fire to some of the town, but were finally beaten back. The following Wednesday, 16th May 1900, Colonel Mahon's flying column of Imperial Light Horse and Royal Horse Artillery rode into Mafeking after an epic ride, and the siege had ended.

### The Relief of Mafeking

Colonel Mahon, an officer of Egyptian renown, was in command, and with him rode a force of picked men.

There were 900 selected troopers of the Imperial Light Horse and of the Kimberley Mounted Force,

100 infantry from the Scots, Welsh, Irish, and Royal (English) Fusiliers of Barton's brigade; four guns of M Battery of Horse Artillery; two "Pom-poms"; three Maxims;

and last, but not least, 55 wagons laden with forage and supplies for the long journey of 230 miles over the arid veldt

Though attempts had been made to maintain complete secrecy as to the composition and movements of the column, the Boers were, as usual, perfectly informed on every vital point, and the younger Cronje, with a force 1,500 strong, was directed to arrest its march. Since Colonel Mahon could not dispose of more than 1,200 men, the odds were distinctly against him, and it was only by his rapidity of progress and his dexterous tactics that he succeeded in his perilous mission.

On May 13th the Boers pushed forward to a hill on the Metsima Spruit, which bore the familiar name of Koodoesrand, hoping thus to bar the way. But Mahon was by no means eager for a fight. He heard that the enemy were throwing up entrenchments with their usual lightning speed, and decided that it would be best to leave them alone. Accordingly, he turned westward, and marched in that direction nine miles before resuming his northward course. Maneuver was met by counter-maneuver. By now, runners had come in to the British camp from the north. Mahon rode swiftly north-westward all the 14th and early 15th, and as day of the 15th broke, struck the first outposts of Colonel Plumer's force at the Kaffir kraal known as Jan Masibi's. As the column from the south appeared on one side, that from the north marched in amid clouds of dust from the other. The two columns combined to form :-

350 soldiers of the Rhodesian Regiment, who for seven weary months had been incessantly skirmishing with the Boers

200 Queenslanders

6 quick-firing guns of the C Canadian Battery, manned by militiamen of the Canadian Far West. Their guns were an invaluable reinforcement to Mahon, who could now dispose of 1,500 men and 15 pieces of artillery

Though both forces were eating their last rations, and retreat was out of the question, the men were absolutely determined to force their way into Mafeking or perish trying.

On the 16th the combined force struck south-westward down the Molopo, on the last stage of its great march – Mafeking came into sight. At mid-day a halt was called, 7 miles from Mafeking, on the northern bank of the Molopo, while the mules were watered. An artillery duel ensued and the Boers broke before they could dig in / entrench.

The rapidity and energy of the British attack stood Mahon in good stead. Spades and picks were found in numbers just to the rear of the line which the Boers had held, whence it was plain that they had intended to entrench themselves. Behind earthworks, such as they were capable of constructing, with the advantage of superior numbers, their defeat would have been no easy task, especially when it is remembered that the British had not sufficient supplies or provisions to permit of any elaborate maneuvering. Even now the tenacious Cronje did not feel thoroughly beaten.

The siege was finally lifted on 17 May 1900, when British forces commanded by Colonel B.T. Mahon of the army of Lord Roberts relieved the town after fighting their way in. Among the relief forces was one of Baden-Powell's brothers, Major Baden Fletcher Smyth Baden-Powell.

In all, 212 people were killed (10%) during the siege, with over 600 (30%) wounded.

Boer losses were significantly higher.

The British made a huge propaganda campaign out of Mafeking and, the event occurring at the beginning of the Edwardian postcard craze, there are hundreds of different picture postcards depicting the Second Boer War and these too are very collectible – albeit at much lower prices than the stamps and banknotes illustrated earlier in this post.”

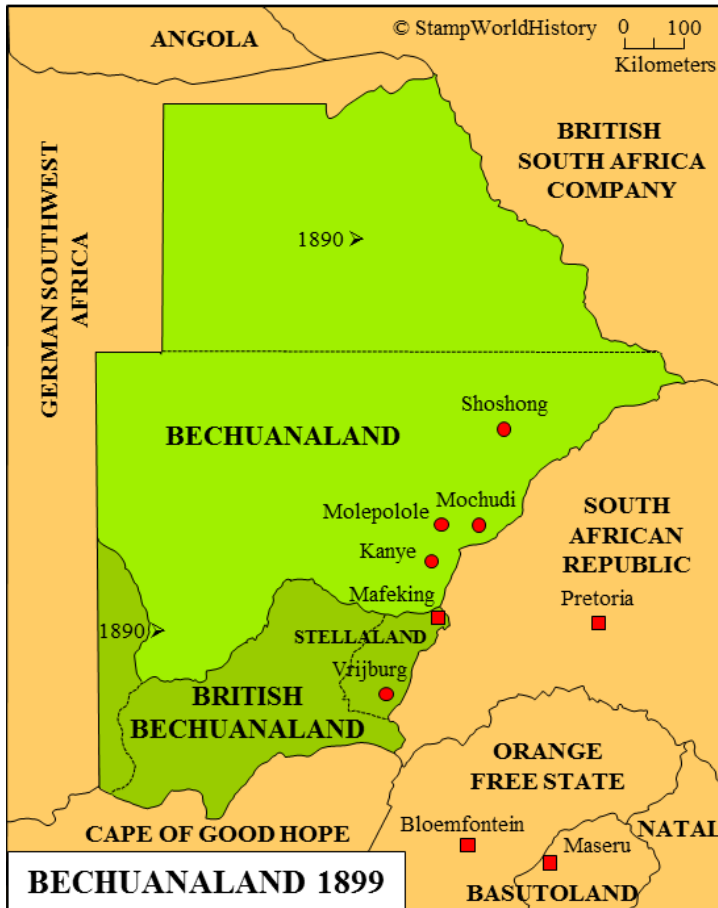
<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.wordpress.com/2014/09/27/collectibles-historical-memorabilia-from-the-siege-of-mafeking-boer-war/>

“Warner Goodyear was a 12 year old boy caught up in the 8-month siege of Mafeking. He is immortalized on the first of three rare postage stamps produced for use there. British Military Commander Colonel Baden-Powell recognized Scout Leader qualities in Warner, including loyalty, selflessness, enthusiasm, inventiveness, and bravery.

Warner Goodyear and the boys of Mafeking were the progenitors of Baden-Powell's world Scouting Movement. They did good deeds and exemplary work in war conditions.

The Siege of Mafeking was the most famous British action in the Second Boer War. It took place at the town of Mafeking (now Mafikeng) in South Africa, over a period of 217 days, from October 1899 to May 1900, and turned Robert Baden-Powell, who went on to found the Scouting Movement, into a national hero. The lifting of the Siege of Mafeking was a decisive victory for the British and a crushing defeat for the Boers.”

<http://www.allnationsstampandcoin.com/newsletters/news135.html>



<http://www.stampworldhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Bechuanaland.png>

### Postage stamps: “MAFEKING BESIEGED” : Cape of Good Hope

1d : ½ p



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1900-1d-on-halfpenny-green-of-cape-of-good-hope-standing-000-overprinted.jpg?w=256&h=300>

M1 hellgelbgrün 23/3/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 5

1d : 1/2p

M2 hellgrün 4/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 6

3d : 1p



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1900-3d-on-1d-carmine-cape-of-good-hope-standing-6000-overprinted.jpg?w=258&h=304>

M3 karmin 23/3/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 7

6d : 3p

M4 rotlila 24/3/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 8

1s : 4p



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1900-1s-on-4d-sage-green-cape-of-good-hope-only-1440-were-overprinted.jpg?w=256&h=299>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/61/135.jpg>: “S.G. #5, 1900 1/- Mafeking surcharge on 1/- Sage green, uncommonly well centered single tied to piece by nearly full Mafeking c.d.s. pmk., fresh with nice color and clean impression, extremely fine”

M5 hellolivgrün 24/3/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 9



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/548.jpg>: “1900. SIEGE OF MAFEKING. Cover to a local address bearing two 3d on 1d (SG 3) a 1s. on 4d (SG 11) and a 6d on 3d (SG 10) each cancelled MAFEKING MR 31 1900. Some cover faults, but scarce.”

### “MAFEKING BESIEGED”: Bechuanaland Protectorate

1d : ½ p



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/march-1900-1d-overprint-only-6000-overprinted.jpg?w=259&h=304>

<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1900-1d-on-halfpenny-vermilion-inverted-overprint-used-on-piece-neatly-cancelled-perf-cut-at-top-right-otherwise-very-fine-and-attractive.jpg?w=258&h=297>





<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/61/136.jpgn>

M6 rotorange 28/3/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 10 rouge

3d : 1p, two versions



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3411.jpg> : “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Mafeking, 1900, 3p on 1p Violet (173, SG 12). Large part original gum, deep rich color, Fine”

M7I lila Schrift met Serifen 4/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 11 violet



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/april-1900-3d-overprint-scarce-only-1800-overprinted.jpg?w=262&h=309>

[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/865/1303865/1303865\\_151021121316\\_Scan-151012-0020.jpg](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/865/1303865/1303865_151021121316_Scan-151012-0020.jpg)

M7II lila Schrift ohne Serifen 25/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 16

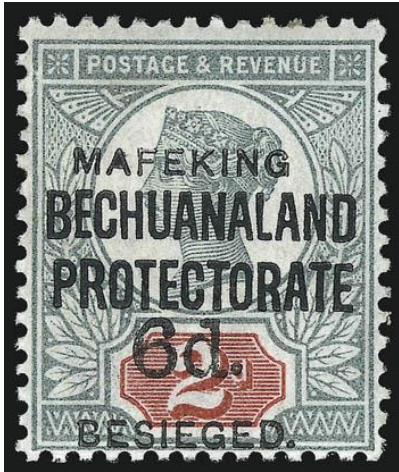
6d : 2p, two versions



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/april-1900-6d-overprint-only-3600-overprinted.jpg?w=700>

M8I grün Schrift met Serifen 4/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 12 vert et rouge





<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3412.jpg>: “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Mafeking, 1900, 6p on 2p Green & Carmine (174, SG 13). Lightly hinged, extraordinarily fresh, Fine”

M8II grün Schrift ohne Serifen 25/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 17

6d : 3p



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/march-1900-6d-overprint.jpg?w=260&h=308>

M9 lila auf gelb 4/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 13

1s : 6p



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3413.jpg>: “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Mafeking, 1900, 1sh on 6p Violet on Rose (175, SG 14). Part original gum, deep color, tiny sealed tear at left, otherwise a Fine example of this rare issue”

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/61/139.jpg>: “S.G. #15, 1900 1/- Mafeking surcharge on 6p Purple on rose red, fresh used single tied to piece by Mafeking c.d.s, colors are bright, quite well centered, very fine and scarcer value”.

M10 dunkellila auf rosa 25/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 18

### “MAFEKING BESIEGED”: British Bechuanaland

6d : 3p



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1900-6d-on-3d-lilac-black-of-british-bechuanaland-3600-overprinted.jpg?w=251&h=295>

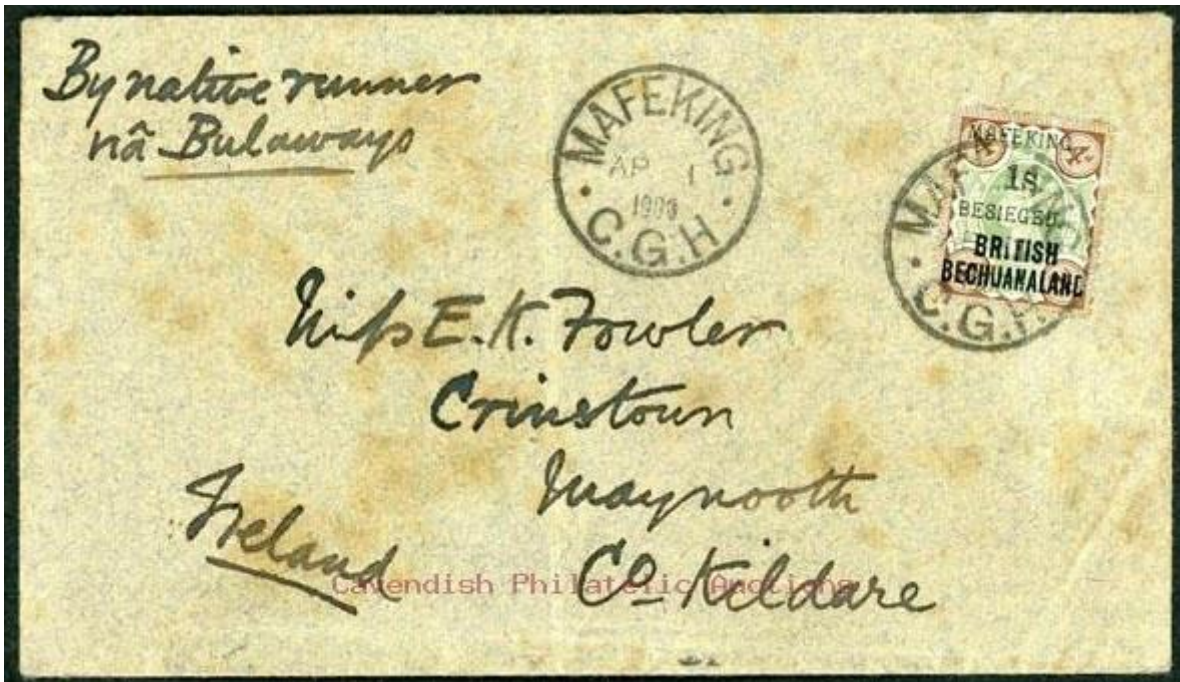
M11 lila/schwarz 27/3/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 14 violet et noir

1s : 4p



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3409.jpg>: “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Mafeking, 1900, 1sh on 4p Brown & Green (172, SG 11). Setting 2, lightly hinged, well-centered, intense colors, Very Fine”

M12 braun/grün 29/3/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 15 brun et vert



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/mafeking-besieged-provisional-overprint-on-cover-1-april-1900-env-endorsed-by-native-runner-via-bulawayo-to-ireland.jpg?w=649&h=376>: “MAFEKING BESIEGED PROVISIONAL OVERPRINT ON COVER; 1 Apr. 1900 env. endorsed ‘By native runner via Bulawayo’ to Ireland franked “1s./BESIEGED” on 4d GB QV Jubilee with BRITISH/BECHUANALAND opt tied by Mafeking cds with Bulawayo and Irish transit or arrival cds on reverse. Central crease and mildly toned though a very scarce cover”.

1s : 6p





<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1900-1s-on-6d-purple-on-rose-red-of-british-bechuanaland-type-2-overprint-only-240-ovptd-scarcest-printing-of-the-mafeking-issues.jpg?w=258&h=300>

<http://www.raritanstamps.com/Catold/68/LotImg/260.jpg>: “1900, Queen Victoria, black surcharge 1s over British Bechuanaland overprint on stamp of Great Britain of 6p violet on rose paper, large part of Mafeking cancellation, perfect quality, VF”

M13 dunkellila auf rosa 3/5/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 19 violet s. rouge

2s : 1Sh



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/march-1900-2s-overprint-only-570-issued.jpg?w=259&h=308>

<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1900-2s-on-1s-green-of-british-bechuanaland-type-2-overprint-sg-16-fu-example-with-mafeking-cds-my-13-1900-an-elusive-stamp-only-570-ovptd.jpg?w=261&h=308>

[http://a5.tbn.bidorbuy.co.za/image/fetch/dpr\\_1.0,f\\_auto,t\\_btnx/http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user\\_images/449/1402449/1402449\\_140119104339\\_scan0167.jpg](http://a5.tbn.bidorbuy.co.za/image/fetch/dpr_1.0,f_auto,t_btnx/http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/449/1402449/1402449_140119104339_scan0167.jpg)

M14 seegrün 25/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 20 vert

## 1900 Images of Sergeant-Major Goodyear on Bike and Paden Powell

1p, two versions



<http://www.corbitts.com/auctions/stamps/136/images/1258.jpg>

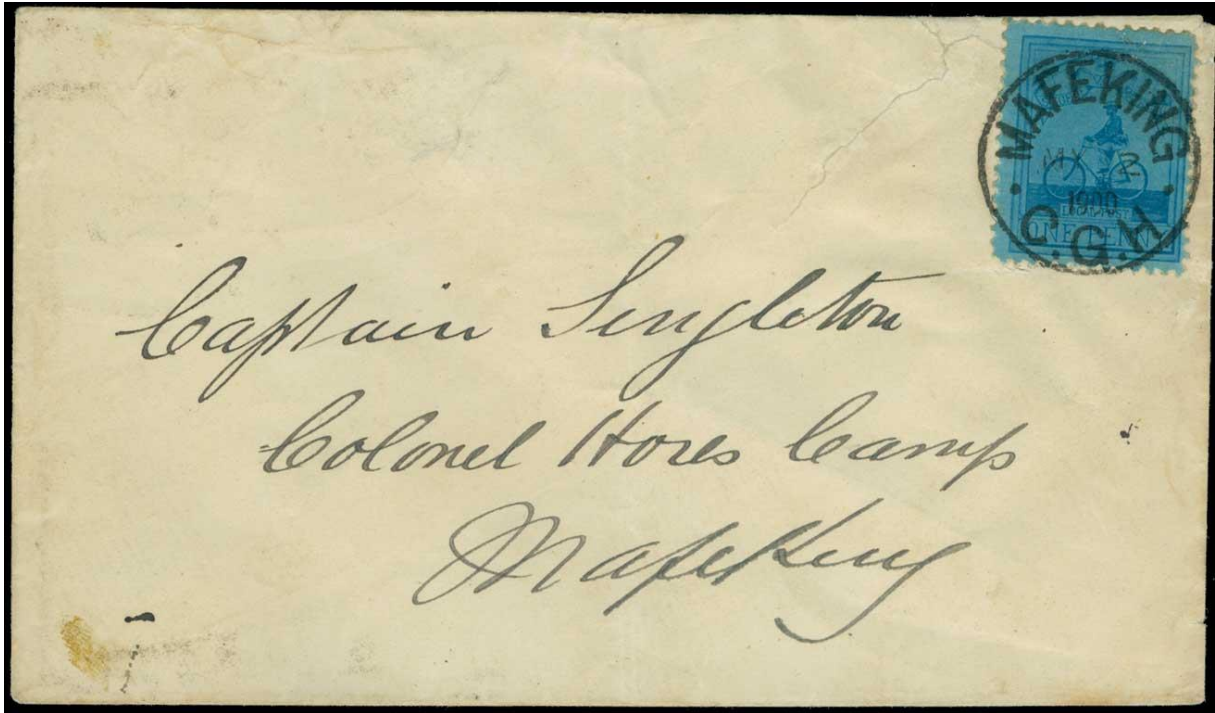
<http://www.corbitts.com/auctions/stamps/136/images/1257.jpg>



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3417.jpg>: “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Mafeking, 1900, 1p Blue on Blue Laid, Major Goodyear (178, SG 17). Large part original gum, a few faint toned specks, Fine”

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3415.jpg>: “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Mafeking, 1900, 1p Pale Blue on Blue Laid, Major Goodyear (178, SG 17). Well-struck circular datestamp, Very Fine”





[http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn\\_pages/stamp\\_images/47/8994.jpg](http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/47/8994.jpg)

M15a hellblau auf blau 10/4/1900; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 21 bleu s. azuré



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/1d-bicycle-stamp.gif?w=253&h=300>

[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/364/356364/356364\\_150131174411\\_MAFEKING\\_BIKE\\_PIECE\\_S1.jpg](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/364/356364/356364_150131174411_MAFEKING_BIKE_PIECE_S1.jpg)

M15b dunkelblau auf blau idem

3p, five versions



[http://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/triggersmob/20130122\\_scan1.jpg](http://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/triggersmob/20130122_scan1.jpg)

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3421.jpg>

M16Ia hellblau auf blau 7/4/1900; 18.5 mm; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 22 bleu s. bleu



<https://thecollectorshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/mafeking-baden-powell-stamp-3d-blue.jpg?w=266&h=300>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3420.jpg>: “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Mafeking, 1900, 3p Blue on Blue, Baden-Powell (179, SG 20). Neat portion of circular datestamp, rich color, Very Fine”

<http://www.vanceauctions.com/images/icons/MafekingPowellstamp.jpg>





<http://www.raritanstamps.com/Catold/68/LotImg/264.jpg>: “1900, General Baden-Powell, 3p pale blue on blue horizontally laid paper, 18½mm wide, "ball" variety, tied on a piece with Mafeking date stamp”.

<http://www.raritanstamps.com/Catold/68/LotImg/263.jpg>: “1900, General Baden-Powell, 3p deep blue on blue horizontally laid paper, 18½mm wide, large part of Mafeking date stamp, beautiful single with part of OG, VF”.

M16Ib dunkelblau auf blau idem; Y (GUERRE ANGLO-BOER) 23 bleu s. bleu.



<https://images.justcollecting.com/large/M1659/PIC1000515660/QKMCYEOOUB.JPG>

M16IF inverted



<http://www.allnationsstampandcoin.com/images/news/mafeking-stamps.jpg>





<http://www.raritanstamps.com/Catold/68/LotImg/265.jpg>: “1900, General Baden-Powell, 3p pale blue on blue horizontally laid paper, 21mm wide, tied on a piece with Mafeking cancellation, nice stamp in every respect”.

M16IIa hellblau auf blau 10/4/1900; 20 mm

M16IIb dunkelblau auf blau idem



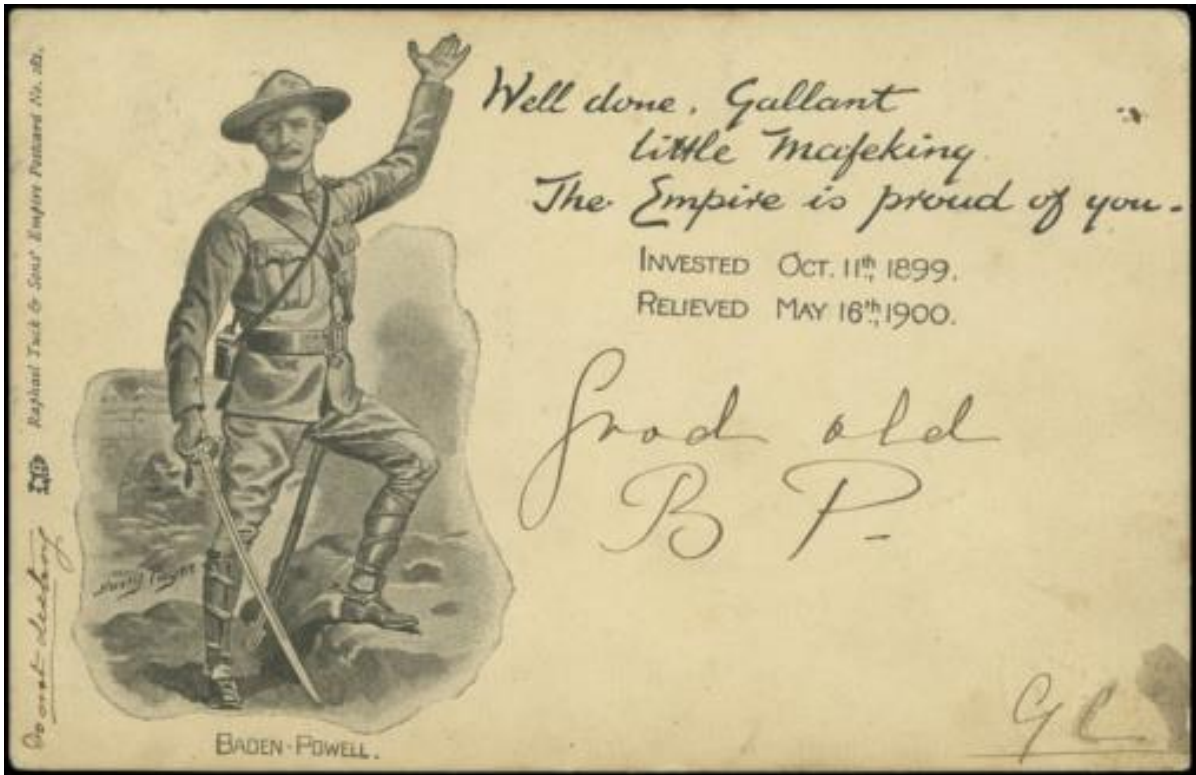
<http://www.allnationsstampandcoin.com/images/news/mafeking-cover1.jpg>



<http://www.allnationsstampandcoin.com/images/news/mafeking-cover2.jpg>



<http://www.cangellaris.com/images/maf251cra.jpg>: “ 3d Baden Powell large format light blue stamp with cracked plate variety (position 6) tied to cover front by MAFEKING C.G.H. MY 2, 1900 cds, addressed to Colonel R.S.S. Baden Powell at his HQs in Hotel Dixon”.



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/boer-war-pro-british-postcards-raphael-tuck-son.jpg?w=506&h=327>



<https://thecollectorsshopblackrock.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/postcard-showing-colonel-baden-powell.jpg?w=503&h=336>



## 1900, V.R. SPECIAL POST (1 April-30 May)



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/61/145.jpg> : “S.G. #11, 1900 "V.R./Special/Post" overprint on 1/2p Green, a lightly cancelled and well centered example of this very rare stamp that is not known mint, portion of Vryburg c.d.s., fresh with strong color, light diagonal crease, extremely fine appearance; only 100 stamps are reported to have been overprinted and far less exist today “

1/2 p

M17 grün; not mentioned in Yvert



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/61/146.jpg>: “S.G. #12, 1900 "V.R./Special/Post" overprint on 1p Rose red and green, a well struck example of this extremely rare overprint on the 1p value, neatly cancelled by portion of Vryburg c.d.s. pmk., stamp has fresh deep colors, unobtrusive diagonal crease and minor perf. flaws at top, very fine appearance; an extremely rare British reoccupation issue of which only 60 stamps were ever issued and certainly far less still exist”.

1p

M18 karmin/grün; not mentioned in Yvert

2p (maybe a forgery)

M19 braun/grün; not mentioned in Yvert

2 ½ p (maybe a forgery)

M20 hellblau/grün; not mentioned in Yvert



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/Ootsi-2.jpg>: “This cover sent from Mafeking on 8th May 1900, has an Ootsi Army Telegraph backstamp of 15th May . Reinforcements began arriving at Mafeking on the 16th. May, ending the siege.”

**1902**



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3068.jpg>: “1902 Boer War. 1902 censored envelope to London franked with a Cape 1d tied by a good strike of the uncommon ARMY POST OFFICE, MAFEKING, JA 18 02 datestamp. A fancy “Passed Press Censor” cachet also ties the stamp. This date stamp was only used from 12 December 1901 to 23 February 1902. A scarce cover.”

**ANGLO-BOER WAR; BOER OCCUPATION STAMPS OF PARTS OF  
CoGH (VRIJBURG): “Z.A.R.” : CoGH; 1900**

½ p : ½ p Y (Guerre Anglo-Boer) 1

1p : 1p Y (Guerre Anglo-Boer) 2

2p : 6p Y (Guerre Anglo-Boer) 3

2 ½ p : 2 ½ p Y (Guerre Anglo-Boer) 4





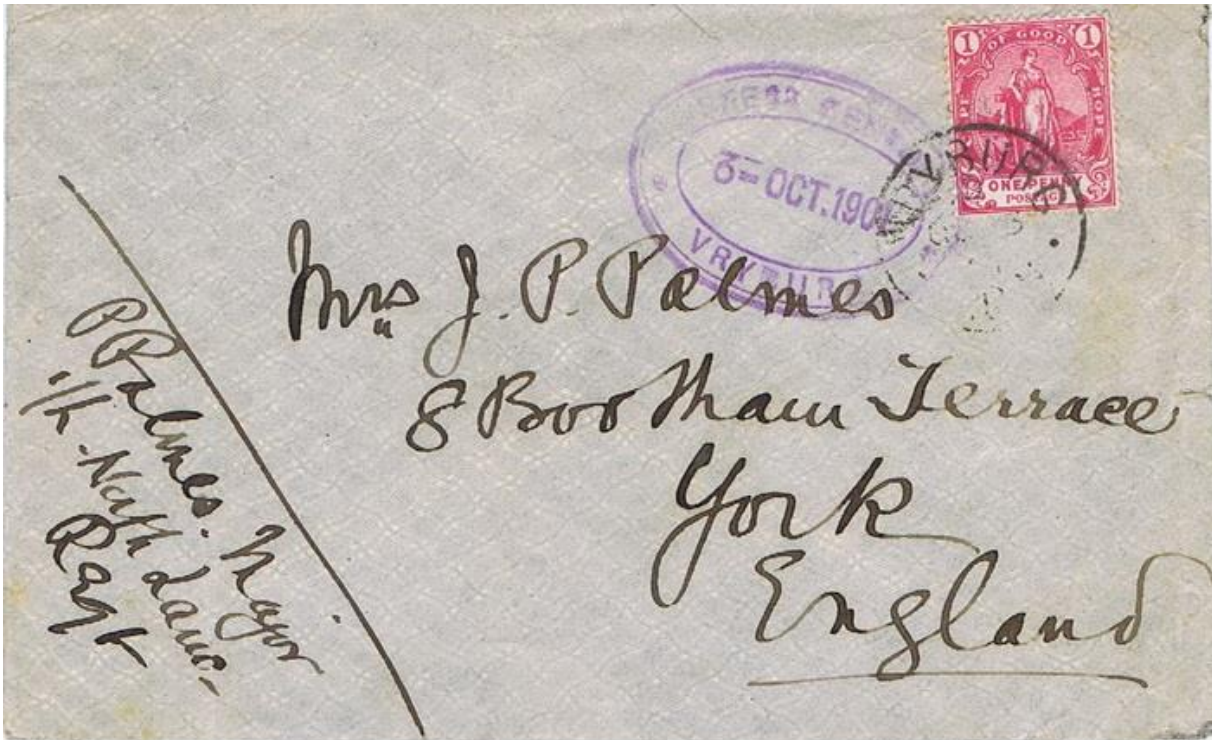
<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3427.jpg>: CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Vryburg, 1899, 2p on 6p Violet (N3, SG 3). Unhinged but with small spot on gum, exceedingly bright and fresh, a Fine example of this rare stamp, ex Dale-Lichtenstein (as part of a pair)”

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/61/143.jpg>: “S.G. #3, 1899 "2 Pence/Z.A.R." Vryburg surcharge on 6p Mauve, used single with bold "Vryburg/2 DE 99" c.d.s., fresh color and very fine; all of the stamps of this value were printed in the tall 12mm setting”



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1042/3428.jpg>: “CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Vryburg, 1899, 2-1/2p on 1-1/2p Ultramarine (N4, SG 4). Original gum, fresh color, faint gum crease at right, Fine, a very scarce stamp”.

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/61/144.jpg>: “S.G. #4, 1899 "2 1/2p/Z.A.R." Vryburg surcharge on 2 1/2p Blue, well centered single tied to piece by "Vryburg/25 NO 99" c.d.s., bright color, very fine”.



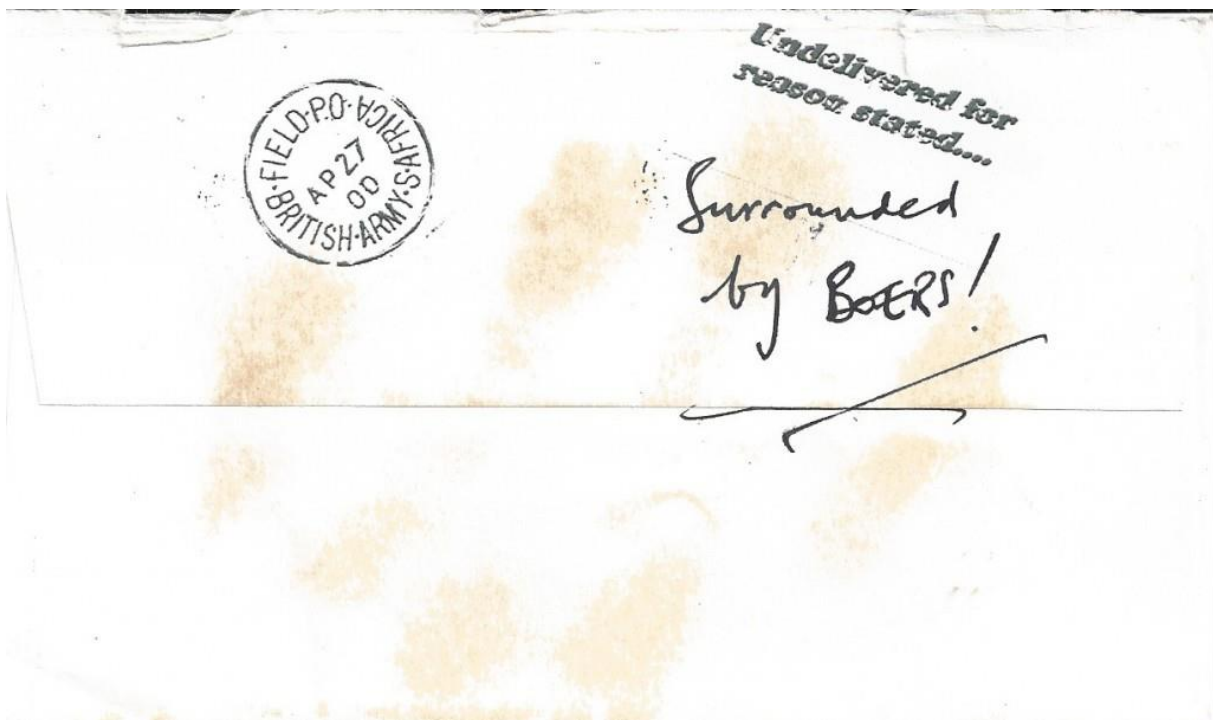
<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/1652.jpg>: “

**ANGLO-BOER WAR: FIELD POST OFFICE – BRITISH ARMY  
AFRICA**



<http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/4166.jpg>





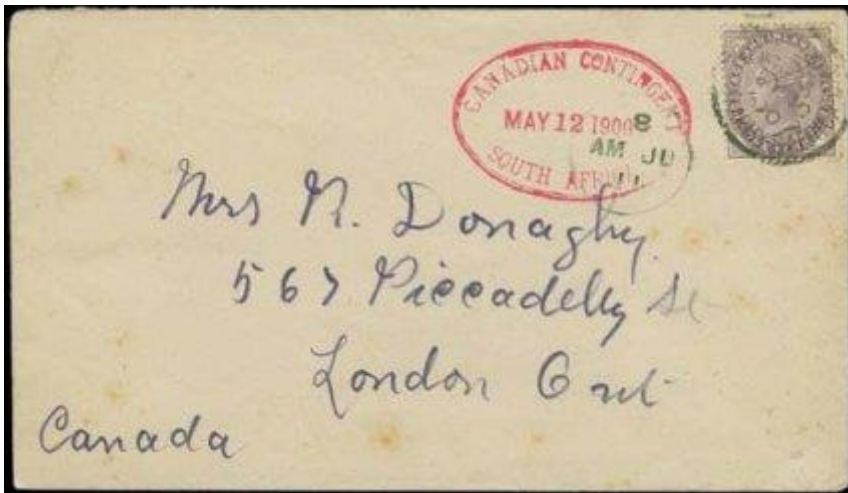
<http://www.askmeaboutstamps.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/MafekingO-1024x598.jpg>

<http://www.askmeaboutstamps.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/MafekingR-1024x606.jpg>

“1900. Cover to Private Jones whilst serving in Bechuanaland during the siege of Sydney Street, Mafeking. Stamped with types of 1893 – 1900 cancelled 24 April 1900. The cover has APO and Pretoria receipt marks and the usual non-delivery cachet.”



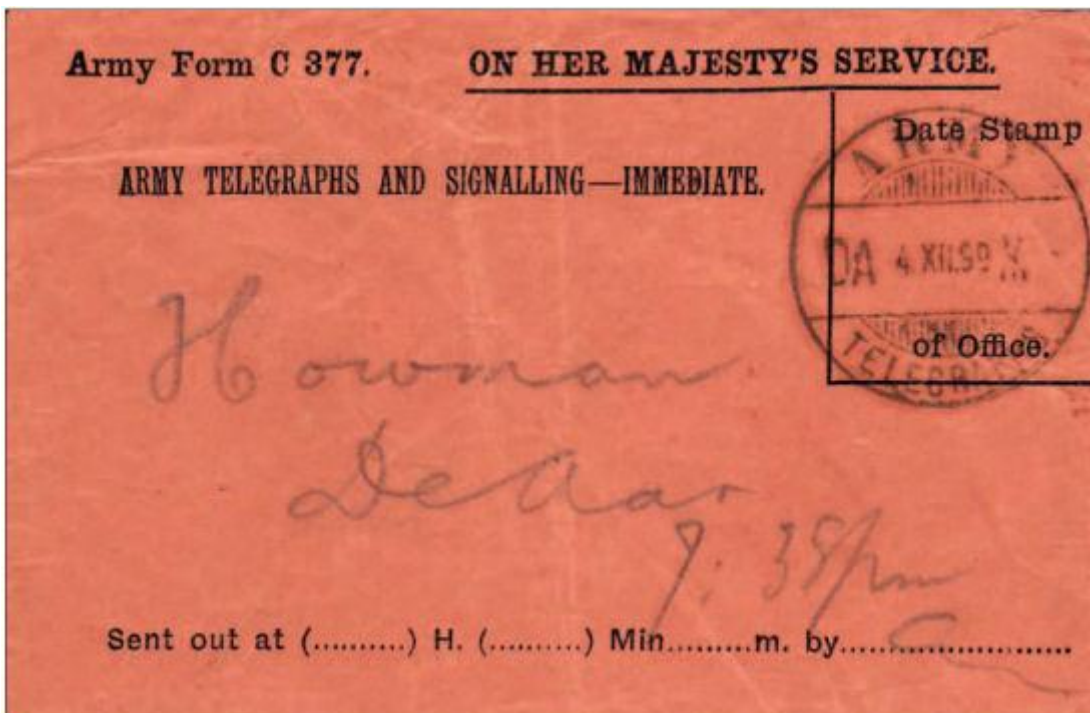
<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/ha/3007/1205.jpg>: “62, 1d Rose, Canadian Contingent, Field Post Office, British Army S Africa JA 2 1900 postmark ties Cape of Good Hope stamp to envelope, edge wear, with "Patriotic Crossed Flags" c/c, addressed Toronto Canada, Fine.”



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/ha/3007/1208.jpg>: “89, 1d Lilac, Canadian Contingent, Field Post Office, British Army S Africa, May 10 1900 postmark ties Great Britain stamp to envelope, addressed London Ont, Canada, Red oval "Canadian Contingent, May 12 1900, South Africa" at center, Very Fine.



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/ha/3007/1210.jpg>: “2nd Canadian Contingent, Field Force Post Office 7, British Army S Africa, Jul 30 1900 postmark on envelope form the Dutch Railway with "Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg-Maatschppii" printed at top, addressed Scarborough Jct Canada, "On Service, Stamps not Available" at lower left, faint Purple "Canadian Contingent, South Africa" at center, Fine and unusual.”



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/DeAar-1.jpg>: “DA 4.XII.99 M- De Aar Military in the Cape (Source Andrew Higson)”





<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/NPM-7May00.jpg>: "NP 7.V.00 M-' thought to be Naauwpoort or Norvals Pont."

### ANGLO-BOER WAR: FIELD POST OFFICE - NATAL FIELD FORCE



<http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/972.jpg> [from CoGH???

## Annex: Spink Auction 2014 Anglo-Boer War

See: [https://www.spink.com/files/lotMain/14018/14018\\_387\\_1.jpg](https://www.spink.com/files/lotMain/14018/14018_387_1.jpg)



### “BOER INVASION OF CAPE COLONY”

Nr 11: “Aliwal North. 1900 (3 Feb.) 1/2d. red card to Queenstown, Cape Colony, cancelled by c.d.s. and showing Bloemfontein c.d.s. (5.2), “POSTMEESTER GENERAAL” oval censor

cachet, Durban c.d.s. (23.2), boxed “STOPPED By CENSOR/RETuRN TO SENDER” cachet in violet and Returned Letter Office Natal c.d.s. (1.3); a scarce commercial card. Photo.”

Nr 12: “Barkly East. 1900 (10 Jan.) from the Landskloof to “Aliwal North O.V.S.”, the printed O.H.M.S. heading deleted and replaced with manuscript “Oranje Vry Staat Dienst” and bearing O.F.S. 1d. cancelled by c.d.s., arrival c.d.s. on reverse; a scarce commercial cover. Photo. PROVENANCE: Kenneth Griffith, March 2003”.

Nr 13: “Colesberg. 1899 (19 Dec.) OHMS envelope to utrecht, posted unpaid and endorsed “Veld Dienst” with Colesberg squared-circle datestamp at upper right, Transvaal 1d. (3) applied at upper left and cancelled at Pretoria (21.12), “POSTMEESTER GENERAL” oval censor cachet in blue at centre and with arrival c.d.s. (13.2), the reverse with Bloemfontein (22.12), Pretoria and arrival c.d.s.; a most unusual cover with overseas postage added in transit. Photo. PROVENANCE: Kenneth Griffith, March 2003”.

Nr 14: “1900 (12 Feb.) envelope “Via Delagoa Bay” from Dr. Mangold’s Volunteer German Red Cross to Berlin, bearing O.F.S. 1d. purple (3) cancelled by squared-circle datestamp and with “POSTMEESTER GENERAAL” censor cachet at foot, the reverse with senders endorsement, Pretoria (17.2) and arrival (30.3) c.d.s.; most unusual. Photo.

Nr 16: “Lady Grey. 1899 (21 Dec.) envelope to a soldier at Stormberg Lager, bearing O.F.S. 1d. purple with c.d.s. and showing a further strike and Burghersdorp squared-circle datestamp (28.2) alongside, Aliwal North transit c.d.s. (23.12) on reverse; a fine commercial cover. Photo. PROVENANCE: Kenneth Griffith, September 2003”.

Nr 20: “Venterstad. 1900 (8 Jan.) envelope “via Delagoa Bay” to Port Elizabeth, bearing O.F.S. 1d. purple (foxing) cancelled by superb “450” barred oval with c.d.s. alongside c.d.s. which is covered by Cape Town “3d” tax handstamp, and with “POSTMEESTER GENERAAL” oval censor cachet in blue, Opened under Martial law censor label at top and on to reverse which shows Bloemfontein (1.11), Cape Town (1.2) and arrival (3.20 c.d.s.); an attractive commercial usage. Photo. PROVENANCE: Boer War Centenary Sale, October 1999”

#### “BOER INVASION OF VRYBURG, BRITISH BECHUANALAND”

Nr 23: “1899 (14 Oct.) envelope to Mossel Bay sent out on the last post before the Boers occupied the town, bearing Cape 1d. with neat “VRyBuRG/C.G.H.” c.d.s. and taken to Kimberley by rail when Vryburg was evacuated, Kimberley c.d.s. (18.10) on reverse and held there until the town was relieved on 15 February 1900, arrival c.d.s. (25.2) alongside. Photo”.

Nr 28/29: “1900 (2 May) piece bearing Transvaal commemorative 1d. cancelled by Vryburg c.d.s. with “C.G.H.” excised and with a superb strike of the “Veld-Post Z.A.R./VRIJBuRG.” oval datestamp in blue, and Transvaal 1/2d. (2), 1d. (2), 2d. and 2 1/2d. pairs each similarly cancelled for 6 May; an attractive group illustrating first and last day usages of this scarce cancellation. 1900 (5 May) stampless envelope to a soldier at Verteen Stroom showing a superb strike of the “Veld-Post Z.A.R./VRIJBuRG.” oval datestamp in blue, not able to be delivered as Fourteen Streams had already been occupied by the British; partially split vertical crease at centre, otherwise fine and very rare,



being one of only three examples of this datestamp recorded on cover. Photo. PROVENANCE: Kenneth Griffith, March 2003”.

BRITISH FORCES DURING THE BOER SIEGE OF DOUGLAS AND SURROUNDING AREAS IN 1901-1902.



Nr 109 (below): “1901 (10 Dec.) and 1902 (30 Jan.) envelopes to Dr. Leask at Klerksdorp, the first from Douglas bearing Cape 1d. with c.d.s. and showing censor mark alongside, Johannesburg (16.12) and Army Post Office Klerksdorp (17.12) c.d.s. on reverse, the second from Prieska bearing Cape 1d.

with squared-circle datestamp and showing Prieska censor datestamp in blue-green and Johannesburg oval censor handstamp. A most unusual pair with the first being the earliest recorded mail out of the siege by either dispatch rider or runner. Photo. Note: Dr. Thomas Leask of Wolmaransstad was under house arrest in Klerksdorp from late March 1901 until May 1902”.

Nr 110: “1901 (29 Dec.) unstamped soldier’s envelope from Douglas to Cape Town, marked “Besieged no stamps Available. H.H.S.”, with c.d.s. and countersigned though taxed “T2d”, the only recorded military cover to leave the town during the siege, and 1902 (30 Jan.) long envelope from Douglas to Cape Town, franked at 3d. and showing Douglas censor mark with Cape Town censor label and cachet at left, the earliest recorded civilian mail out of Douglas after the retreat of Gen. de Villiers Commandos on 20 January. A remarkable pair. Photo”.

#### BRITISH FORCES IN VRIJBURG

Spink Auction 2014: “VRYBURG. After the British re-occupation on 8 May 1900 Transvaal stamps were then overprinted “V.R./SPECIAL POST” and were used in the town from 16 May. After the V.R. Special Post issue cancelled by the Vryburg BB datestamp, Intelligence Officer Clifford St. Quintin found the original pre-occupation Vryburg C.G.H. datestamp though the day slugs were missing, so he meticulously signed each stamp in the date position”.



Nr 302: “1/2d. green with handstamp reading downwards, tied on piece by 16 May c.d.s. and manuscript mark at top; corner crease at lower left. Rare with only six reading downwards examples recorded. B.P.A. Certificate (1993). S.G. 1, Photo. PROVENANCE: Stephenson Stobbs Bill Hart, June 1993”.

Nr 303: “1/2d. green with handstamp reading upwards, tied on piece by 16 May c.d.s., fine and rare. Signed Bloch. S.G. 1, Photo. PROVENANCE: Rich”.

Nr 304 : “1d. rose-red and green with overprint reading downwards, tied by two 16 May c.d.s. on piece; the stamp a trifle soiled, otherwise sound. Rare. S.G. 12, Photo. PROVENANCE: Rosenberg”.



Nr 305: “1d. rose-red and green with overprint reading upwards and misplaced to right resulting in “POST” being almost entirely omitted, tied by neat 16 May c.d.s. on piece, Fine and rare. S.G. 12, Photo. PROVENANCE: St. Quentin heritage”.

Nr 306: “1d. rose-red and green with overprint reading upwards, neatly tied by 16 May c.d.s. on piece. Fine and rare. P.F.S.A. Certificate (1989). S.G. 12, Photo”.

Nr 307: “The St. Quintin Manuscript Provisionals. 1/2d. green Hope seated (2, one with colour changeling to blue-green) and 1d. carmine, all on pieces with the two 1/2d. values partially cut-to-shape. Photo”.

Nr 308: “The St. Quintin Manuscript Provisionals 1/2d. green Hope standing, on small piece. A rare stamp with the St. Quintin initials. Photo”.

Nr 309 (below): “1/2d. green Hope seated, neatly cancelled and tied on envelope to “Mrs. Benson, Vryburg”; rare with few addressed covers recorded. Photo”

Nr 311 (below): “1d. carmine on envelope to “J Johnston, Mowbray, Cape”; fine and rare with few addressed envelopes recorded. Brandon Certificate (1989). Photo”.

Nr 312 (below): “1d. carmine with initials inverted tied on unaddressed envelope. A scarce variety. Photo”.

Nr 313 (below): “1d. carmine with initials inverted tied on unaddressed envelope. A scarce variety. Photo”.

Nrs 317-320 see Orange Free State; part 2 (Wepener).



BRITISH FORCES DURING THE SIEGE OF KIMBERLEY BY BOER FORCES

“KIMBERLEY. The town was besieged from 12 October 1899 until 15 February 1900”

Nr 116: “1900 (13 Feb.) envelope to Pau, France posted two days before the siege was lifted, marked “No stamps available” with despatch c.d.s. and bearing G.B. 21/2d. cancelled by London c.d.s. (17.3), tax mark deleted and with arrival c.d.s. (18.3) on reverse; most unusual. Photo.”

## BRITISH FORCES DURING THE SIEGE OF KURUMAN BY BOER FORCES

“KURUMAN. The town was besieged for the first time from 13 November 1899 until 1 January 1900 when it surrendered to Boer forces. General Warren re-occupied the town from 24 June 1900”.

Nr 121: “1900 (2 Oct.) unstamped envelope (small faults) “On active service” to Huddersfield, marked “from Capt. F. Lewin 23rd. Coy O.Y. Bechuanaland” and with a good strike of the new squared-circle datestamp alongside Cape Town Field Post Office c.d.s. (8.10) and tax-cleared London Paid c.d.s. (27.10). Photo”.

Nr 122: “1900 (29 Nov.) Budrick’s “Memoir of the Boer War” printed illustrated envelope in blue and vermilion to England, marked as from J.C. Davis of the Duke of Edinburgh’s Own Volunteer Rifles and bearing Cape 1d. neatly cancelled by squared-circle datestamp; the adhesive defective and the envelope with central vertical fold though a most attractive souvenir envelope posted during the second siege of the town. Photo. PROVENANCE: Kenneth Griffith, September 2003”.

Nr 125: “1902 (10 June) envelope from Major Browne commanding the Cape Police at Kuruman to Tsomo, Transkei, bearing Cape 1d. with squared-circle datestamp and showing “PASSED CENSOR/KuRuMAN” oval-framed datestamp in red alongside with a further strike on reverse which also shows Vryburg (16.6) and arrival (22.6) c.d.s. Photo”.

Nr 119 (below): “1900 (9 July) envelope (some foxing) to England, no stamps or cancellers being available, handstamped with Crowned “DISTRIBUTOR OF STAMPS/KuRuMAN” oval datestamp overcancelled by tax-cleared London Paid arrival c.d.s. (4.8), Carnforth arrival c.d.s. (5.8) on reverse. A most unusual cover posted on the first mail out of Kuruman after the relief. Photo. Note: When the British re-occupied the town in June 1900 the Post Office datestamp was found to have been destroyed or stolen, the Distributor of Stamps datestamp was therefore used for a short period until a new Kuruman datestamp was received. PROVENANCE: Bill Hart, June 1993”.

Nr 123 (below): “1901 (5 Jan.) soldier’s envelope “From Sergt. J.C. Davis, B Company DEOVR” to England, marked “By Despatch Rider” and “O.C. Dukes” for countersigning though not carried out and bearing Cape 1d. cancelled by squared-circle datestamp, the reverse with Vryburg (9.1) over-cancelled by Bristol arrival c.d.s. (4.2); some faults though an unusual item sent soon after the overprinting was carried out, and 1901 (18 Sept.) 1d. pink stationery envelope, uprated with 1d. carmine, ex the same correspondence and written during a period when siege threats were again feared, marked “Per Runner” and with light Vryburg censor oval datestamp (24.9), Vryburg (24.9) and Bristol (18.10) c.d.s. on reverse. A wonderful pair. Photo”.

Postal History



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-----123-----

“Kuruman - contd. The Stamp Surcharges. The following group of stamps were prepared for use but owing to the relief of the town within a week their use became unnecessary. Surcharged on Postage Stamps with “1900-01.” In Small Type”





Nr 126: “Proof strike of the 3d. surcharge on laid paper. Also a piece of paper (thinned) showing printing impression of the 3d. value. Photo”.

Nr 127: “2d. on 1/2d. green, part original gum; light crease at upper left. P.F.S.A. Certificate (1984). Photo”

- Nr 128: “3d.on 1/2d. green, part original gum; light horizontal bend. P.F.S.A. Certificate (1984). Photo”.
- Nr 129: “3d. on 1/2d. green, neatly cancelled and tied on piece by 29 December squared-circle datestamp, the first day of availability. Photo”.
- Nr 130 : “3d. on 1/2d. green, neatly cancelled by part 21 January squared-circle datestamp; a few trimmed perfs. At upper left. Photo”.
- Nr 131: “3d. on 1d. carmine, part original gum; traces of creasing. P.F.S.A. Certificate (1984). Photo”.
- Nr 132: “3d. on 1d. carmine, neatly cancelled and tied on piece by 29 December squared-circle datestamp. Photo”.
- Nr 133: “1/- on 1d. carmine, part original gum; two light creases. P.F.S.A. Certificate (1984). Photo”.
- Nr 134: “1/- on 1d. carmine, neatly cancelled and tied on piece by 29 December squared-circle datestamp. Photo”.
- Nr 135: “1/- on 1d. carmine, neatly cancelled 19 January squared-circle datestamp. Photo”.
- “Kuruman continued: Surcharged on Postage Stamps with “1900-01.” In Large Type”
- Nr 136: “Proof strike of the 2d. surcharge on laid paper showing part of papermaker’s watermark. Photo”.
- Nr 137: “2d. on 1/2d. green, neatly cancelled and tied on piece by 29 December squared-circle datestamp. Photo”.
- Nr 138: “2d.on 1d. carmine, variety surcharge inverted, cancelled by part 21 January squared-circle datestamp; light overall toning. Very rare.R.P.S. Certificate (2002).Photo”
- “Kuruman continued: Surcharged on Revenue Stamps Overprinted “POSTAGE””
- Nr 139: “Proof overprints of the 6d. and 1/- on laid paper; the first creased, the second thinned. Also two pieces of paper (faults) showing printing impression of the 1/- value. Photo”.
- Nr 140: “6d. on 1d. green on yellow, 6d. on 3d. red on yellow, 1/- on purple on yellow and 5/on 1/- purple, unused with part original gum; the first creased and the last thinned though a rare and most attractive set. B.P.A. Certificate (1989). Photo”.
- Nr 141: “6d. on 1d. green on yellow, 6d. on 3d. red on yellow, 1/- on purple on yellow and 5/on 1/- purple, all neatly cancelled with squared-circle datestamps for 19 or 21 January; the 6d. on 3d. with some trimmed perfs. at right, otherwise a rare and most attractive set. Photo”.
- Nr 142: “6d. on 1d. green on yellow, 6d. on 3d. red on yellow and 1/- purple on yellow, each neatly cancelled with 29 December squared-circle datestamp; the last with a light vertical crease. Photo”.



Kuruman, Surcharged on Revenue Stamps Overprinted 'DOSTA' contd.



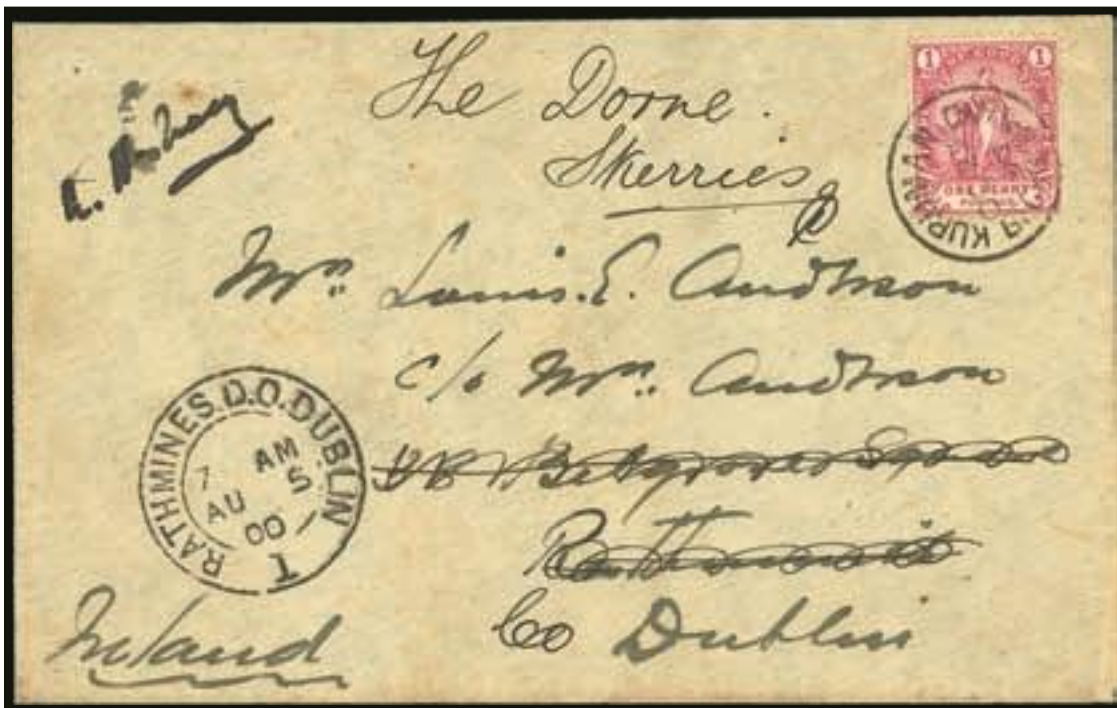
143

144

Nr 143: “6d. on 3d. red on yellow with small “1900-01”, neatly cancelled by 29 December squared-circle datestamp and affixed to envelope (some foxing) addressed to Horsley Stubbs “Chief Distributor of Stamps” at Cape Town; believed to be the sole 6d. on 3d. value recorded on cover. Photo”.

Nr 144: “5/- on 1/- purple, neatly cancelled by 29 December squared-circle datestamp and affixed to envelope (some foxing) addressed to Horsley Stubbs “Chief Distributor of Stamps” at Cape Town; perfs. Largely trimmed at right. Photo”

KURUMAN, BUT SMUGGLED FROM MAFEKING



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Nr 163: “1899 (Oct.) envelope (opened-out for display with “MAFEKING CLUB” imprint on flap, endorsed “Oct: 18: All right-”) to Dublin, signed by Dr. W. Hayes at top left, smuggled out of

Mafeking to Kuruman, bearing Cape 1d. carmine cancelled by “KuRuMAN/BECHuANALAND” c.d.s. (25.10), upon arrival redirected to Skerries and with “RATHMINES D.D. DuBLIN” c.d.s. (5.8) at lower left. One of only two recorded covers out of Mafeking via Kuruman. A remarkable item involving two towns besieged by the Boers. Photo. Note: Edward Ross’s diary of the Mafeking Siege records that some letters were sent out by special runner via Kuruman, 190 miles west of Mafeking, during October 1899. PROVENANCE: “Goodyear”, Christie’s Robson Lowe, June 1993”.



165

Nr 165: “1899 (30 Oct.) envelope “On Active Service” from Macloutsie, Bechuanaland, to England, bearing 1897 1/2d. (2) and 1d. (3) twice cancelled by c.d.s. with a further strike below, the reverse with Palapye (2.11), Bulawayo (5.11) and Durban (6.12) c.d.s.; the adhesives with a few faults though a rare and spectacular franking. The earliest recorded Rhodesian Force mail out of Bechuanaland during the first month of the war. Photo. Note: Lt. Col. Plumer, with about 100 men, occupied Fort Tuli on 11 October 1899. On 24 October, a squadron under Capt. K. Maclaren, advanced via Macloutsie to Baines Drift, 80 miles south PROVENANCE: Bill Hart 1993”.

Bl Hart, 1993



-----166-----

Nr 166: “1899 (Dec.) and 1900 (Jan.) pair of envelopes ex the Vyvyan correspondence to his wife in London, both bearing Cape 1d. cancelled at Crocodile Pools, Bechuanaland and not in Mafeking due to fear of interception by the Boers, the first marked “Siege No. 3” with the Crocodile Pools c.d.s. dated 20 December 1899 and with Bulawayo (22.12), Durban (9.1) and Notting Hill (3.2) c.d.s, the second marked “Siege No. 6” with Crocodile Pools c.d.s. dated 9 January 1900, the British authorities

realising that this office was in Bechuanaland and that the Cape 1d. stamp was not valid, applying large “T” and “5D/F.B./A” handstamps, Bulawayo (11.1) and Notting Hill (24.2) c.d.s. on reverse. A wonderful pair. Photo. Note: Lt. Col. Vyvyan of the Buffs was stationed in Mafeking to prepare for war and he trained members of the “Town Guard” some months before hostilities began. He was Town Commandant during the siege. He served in both the Matabele and Mashona Rebellions in Rhodesia”.

**Mafeking Postal History contd.**



Nr 169: “1900 (Jan.) unstamped envelope (small tears at top through opening), with British South Africa Police emblem on flap, from Lt. Col. Bodle to his father in England, marked “Free-On Active Service Rhodesia Regt.” and countersigned by Capt. Rolt, taxed “4d” in blue crayon alongside large “T” handstamp, both cancelled out by circular-framed “FB/M” Foreign Branch handstamps and with London Paid c.d.s. (16.3) alongside, the reverse with Bulawayo (24.1) and Thame (17.3) c.d.s. Photo. Note: In 1899 Lt. Col. Bodle was in charge of positions along the Limpopo River. On 31 March he and Major Rolt were wounded at Ramathlabama only 6 miles outside Mafeking. The Rhodesians retreated, losing 48 men”.

Nr 172: “1900 (May) soldier’s envelope from Corpl. Blunt to his father General Blunt at Banbury, countersigned by Lt. E. Hartland “O.C. - C Squad RFF”, sent via the Northern route with Crocodile Pools (18.5) and London Paid (23.6) c.d.s. with large “T” handstamp deleted, arrival c.d.s. (23.6) on reverse. Photo. Note: Lt. Hartland was killed the day after this letter was countersigned by him, during the engagement to relieve Mafeking”.



Nr 173: “1900 (7 June) “On Active Service” envelope to Scotland, complete with letter, from Capt. Ramsey “O.C. Lobatsi”, with the enclosed letter written at Lobatsi and posted at Mafeking (9.6) with London Paid c.d.s. (7.7), Stow arrival c.d.s. (8.7) on reverse; the letter refers to him being in Mafeking and points on the line, the camp at Lobatsi and his feeling that “the Boers are giving up their arms” and that “the last shot in the Boer War has been fired”. Photo”.

Nr 174: “1902 (24 May) envelope from P.O.W. P.A. Coetze at St. Helena to a family relative in the Women’s Refugee camp at Mafeking, bearing 1d. carmine cancelled by c.d.s. alongside a fine strike of the triangular-framed “PASSED/CENSOR./ST. HELENA/HEAD OFFICE.” cachet in deep violet, upon arrival Opened under Martial Law label applied and tied by two Mafeking censor labels and arrival squared-circle datestamp on reverse. Photo”.



180

Nr 180: “1d. on 1/2d. vermilion, Type 1, variety surcharge inverted, neatly cancelled and affixed to small piece by part March c.d.s.; fine and very rare. R.P.S. Certificate (1962). S.G. 6a, Photo”.



185



186

Nr 185: “1/- on 4d. green and purple-brown, variety surcharge double, Type 1 in seriffed type and one in sans-serif type, fresh with part original gum. A fine example of this very rare stamp which is believed to be a trial printing. S.G. 11ab, Photo.

Nr 186: “1/- on 4d. green and purple-brown, variety surcharge double, Type 3 in seriffed type and one in sans-serif type, fresh colours and neatly cancelled and tied by 1 May c.d.s. on piece. A fine example of this rare stamp which is believed to be a trial printing. Brandon Certificate (1989). S.G. 11ab, Photo.



Nr 176: “3d. on 1d. carmine horizontal pair, Types 1 and 2, Type 1 showing “B” omitted, fresh with part original gum. R.P.S. Certificate (1973) for a block of four, this being the lower pair. S.G. 3, Photo”

Nr 177: “3d. on 1d. carmine block of four, Types 1 and 2, each horizontal pair sharing 13 April c.d.s.; a couple of trivial imperfections, otherwise sound. S.G. 5 Photo”.

Nr 178: “1d. on 1/2d. vermilion block of six (3x2), Types 1-3, each neatly cancelled with 5 May c.d.s.; lower left stamp with trivial imperfections, otherwise fine. S.G. 6, Photo”.

Nr 179: “1d. on 1/2d. vermilion strip of six (possibly split at centre), Types 1-6, neatly cancelled with 13 April c.d.s. and affixed to piece; fine. S.G. 6, Photo”.

Nr 182: “6d. on 3d. purple on yellow, Types 1 to 6 used with one on small piece, good to fine. Three with certificates. S.G. 9, Photo”.

Nr 183: “6d. on 3d. lilac and black, fresh with part original gum; tiny thin at right, otherwise sound; also a used example, some foxing. S.G. 10, Photo”.

Nr 187: “3d. on 1d. lilac horizontal pair with part to very large part original gum; the left-hand stamp with a vertical crease, the right-hand stamp with small curved gum crease. A scarce multiple. S.G. 12, Photo”.

Nr 188: “3d. on 1d. lilac block of four and horizontal pair, used on pieces with 23 April and 11 May c.d.s.; fine. S.G. 12, Photo”.

Nr 189: “6d. on 2d. green and carmine, a block of four with each clearly cancelled by 7 May c.d.s. and tied on piece; the upper-left stamp with trace of soiling, the upper-right stamp with trace of foxing at right. S.G. 13, Photo”.

Nr 192: “1/- on 6d. purple on rose-red, good colour and neatly cancelled by 10 May c.d.s. on piece; fine and scarce. B.P.A. Certificate (1951). S.G. 15, Photo”.

Nr 193: “2/- on 1/- green, good strong colour and neatly cancelled by 11 May c.d.s. on piece; fine. S.G. 16, Photo”.

Nr 194: “2/- on 1/- green, neatly cancelled by 28 April c.d.s. on piece; fine. S.G. 16, Photo”.

MAFEKING: “There were two mail services, a local service and external communications. These were run under the supervision of the Military Authorities. The Local Mail Service: The postal rates were 1d. within the town limits and 3d. to outposts and forts. Bookpost was 1d. and the newspaper rate was 1/2d. per paper”.

Nr 195 (below): “Town Letter. 1900 (24 Mar.) envelope to “A Ellerecamp Esq. care of Julius Weil”, bearing seriffed type Cape 1d. on 1/2d. green (Hope seated) Type 3, with c.d.s.; a couple of trivial imperfections though fine for these scarce items and posted only one day after issue. S.G. 1. Photo”

Nr 196 (below): “From Defence Lines, Forts and Outposts into Town”. x196 1900 (4 Apr.) envelope to “B. Isaacs Esqr. c/o Aldred & Ross” bearing seriffed type British Bechuanaland 1/- on 4d. green and purple-brown (fine) Type 5 neatly cancelled and tied; the envelope with some creasing and small portion of reverse missing, nevertheless an early incoming franking. S.G. 11. Photo”.

Nr 197 (below): “1900 (16 Apr.) envelope to “Mr. Isaacs, Dalls Store, Market Square”, bearing seriffed overprint Bechuanaland Protectorate 6d. on 2d. green and carmine Types 1 and 4, both neatly cancelled; folded horizontally and vertically which is typical of mail carried by “bicycle” boy scout. S.G. 13. Photo”.



Nr 198 (below): "1900 (27 Mar.) envelope to "R Moon Esq. c/o WW &Co.", bearing seriffed overprint Cape 3d. on 1d. carmine neatly cancelled, signed "Baden Powell 1937" at lower left corner; vertical fold and repair at top. B.P.A. Certificate (1981). S.G. 3. Photo".



Nr 203: "Northern Route via Bulawayo. 1900 (25 Mar.) envelope (opened-out for display) ex the Vyvyan correspondence to England, bearing seriffed overprint Cape 3d. on 1d. block of three (another cut away with right-hand stamp defective at top) Types 5-6 neatly cancelled by two c.d.s. with another alongside, the reverse with Bulawayo (4.4), Helston (13.5) and Mawgan (14.5) date stamps; despite one stamp being excised, a noteworthy cover sent by the Northern Route on the first day of stamp issue. S.G. 3. Photo. Note: The Northern Route took 13 days to Bulawayo. This rail route, although

crossing three international borders to the port of Beira, was safer from Boer sabotage once past Gaborones in Bechuanaland, than the southern railway route through the Cape Colony”.

Nr 204: “1900 (26 Mar.) large part envelope to Scotland, marked “On Active Service” and countersigned by B.W. Cowan commanding the Bechuanaland Rifles, bearing seriffed overprint Cape 6d. on 3d. magenta Type 1 with light c.d.s., the reverse with Bulawayo and Dundee (13.5) c.d.s.; both the envelope and adhesive (cut out and replaced) with faults though most unusual in being paid at the Southern Route rate of 6d. though sent on the more expensive Northern Route. Few 6d. rate covers going north are recorded. S.G. 4. Photo.

Nr205: “1900 (29 Mar.) envelope (small faults) to England, bearing seriffed overprint British Bechuanaland 6d. on 3d. lilac and black vertical pair each neatly cancelled, Bulawayo (5.4) and Hartlepool (26.5) c.d.s. on reverse. S.G.10. Photo”.

Nr 206: “1900 (30 Mar.) envelope front and flap “via Beira” to England, bearing seriffed overprint Cape 1d. on 1/2d. green Hope seated (3), 3d. on 1d. carmine and British Bechuanaland 6d. on 3d. lilac and black all neatly cancelled, apparently intercepted by Boers and marked for return to Mafeking in blue crayon in the handwriting of Mr. Howat, the Postmaster. Colourful and most unusual. S.G. 1, 3, 10. Photo. Note: Early in April, Boer Forces intercepted mail out of Mafeking, shot the runners and attached letters to their bodies which were found the next morning near the defence lines”.

#### External Mail Services

There was a Southern Route via Kimberley at a rate of 6d. and a Northern Route via Bulawayo at a rate of 1/-

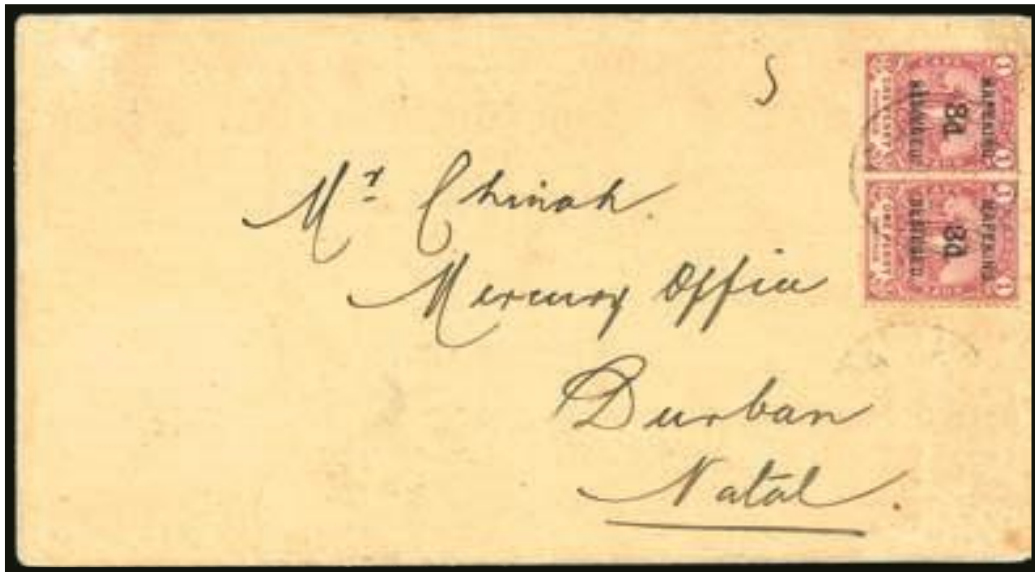


199

Southern Route via Kimberley

most unusual item of redirected mail. S.G. 4. Photo

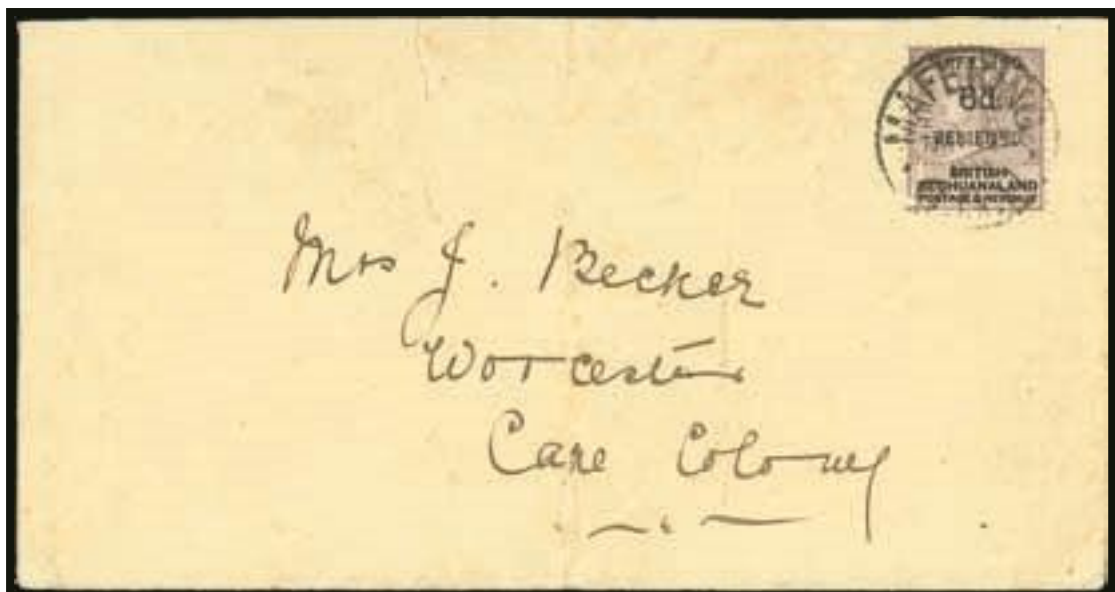
£800-1,000



200

Nr 199: „1900 (26 Mar.) envelope to Mowbray, Cape, bearing seriffed overprint Cape 6d. on 3d. magenta (upper left corner rounded), Type 2, lightly cancelled, arrival c.d.s. (16.4) below where redirected to Kenilworth, arrived 17 April where reposted “*via Sir Lowry’s Pass*” to Gordon’s Bay with addition of Cape 1d. cancelled the same day, arrival c.d.s. (17.4) together with four other transit c.d.s.; a little soiling though a rare stamp on cover and a most unusual item of redirected mail. S.G. 4. Photo.“

Nr 200: „1900 (26 Mar.) envelope to Durban, bearing seriffed overprint Cape 3d. on 1d. carmine horizontal pair, Types 2-3, lightly cancelled and tied, the reverse with Barkly West (11.4), Kimberley (12.4) and Durban c.d.s.; vertical fold at centre. One of the few covers known to Natal. S.G. 3. Photo“



201



Nr 201: 1900 (28 Mar.) envelope to Worcester, Cape, bearing seriffed overprint British Bechuanaland 6d. on 3d. lilac and black Type 1 (surface faults at lower left corner) neatly cancelled, the reverse with Kimberley (15.4) and Worcester (18.4) c.d.s.; flap missing and vertical fold at centre though a scarce stamp used alone. S.G. 10. Photo“.



202

Nr 202 „1900 (7 Apr.) envelope to England, marked “*via the North*” though prepaid at the Southern Route with seriffed overprint Cape 3d. on 1d. carmine horizontal pair, Types 3-4, neatly cancelled with a further superb strike alongside, Ipswich arrival c.d.s. (24.6) on reverse. S.G. 3. Photo.“



Nr 207: “1900 (30 Mar.) envelope piece bearing seriffed overprint Cape 1d. on 1/2d. green Hope seated (3), 3d. on 1d. carmine and British Bechuanaland 6d. on 3d. lilac and black, all neatly cancelled, the piece showing trace of blue crayon mark, probably that of the postmaster returning mail to the sender, as in the previous lot, held for six weeks and then reposted on 16 May with addition of seriffed overprint British Bechuanaland 1/- on 4d. green and purple-brown; most unusual. S.G. 1, 3, 10, 11. Photo”.



208

Nr 208: “1900 (6 Apr.) envelope to London and redirected to Reading, originally failing to penetrate Boer lines and reposted on 7th. with seriffed overprint Cape 1/- on 4d. sagegreen neatly cancelled and tied with crayon manuscript “1/-” and “JN” (John Nevett) checker’s initials alongside, Norwood original destination datestamp (25.5) alongside, the reverse (part flap missing) with Crocodile Pools (20.4), part Bulawayo (23.4), Norwood (25.5) and Reading (26.5) c.d.s. A most unusual second try” cover with the 1/- on 4d. particularly rare on cover. Brandon Certificate (2004). S.G. 5. Photo Note: On arrival in Bulawayo, the batches of letters received from Mafeking, usually in groups of thirty, were examined on the Military Post Office “Base Train”, the postage verified, the batch number noted, and then initialed by the checking clerk”.



209

Nr 209: “1900 (28 Apr.) envelope ex the Godley correspondence to Exeter and redirected to Lynmouth, bearing sans-seriffed Bechuanaland Protectorate 1/- on 6d. purple on rosered (crease at lower right corner) neatly cancelled with a further strike alongside, part Exeter duplex (23.6) below, the reverse with Bulawayo (6.5

with “MEI” Dutch spelling for month), Exeter (23.6) and Barnstaple (24.6) c.d.s.  
 Rare with few sans-serifed printings recorded, particularly on non-philatelic  
 frankings. Brandon Certificate (1980). S.G. 14. Photo Note: Major Godley was  
 advisor on postal matters in Mafeking”.



Nr 210: “ 1d. pale dull blue with 11 May c.d.s. S.G. 17, Photo”



Nr 211: "1d. pale brightblue with 11 May c.d.s. S.G. 17, Photo"

Nr 212: "1d. blue horizontal pair, each neatly cancelled with 2 May c.d.s. and tied on piece. S.G. 17/18, Photo".

Nr 213: "1d. deep bright blue cancelled by 14 May c.d.s. and tied on piece. S.G. 18, Photo".

Nr 214: "1d. deep bright blue with 2 May c.d.s. S.G. 18, Photo"

Nr 215: " 1d. bright blue dramatically misperforated to right, unused with some gum; a couple of short perfs., otherwise sound. S.G. 17, Photo".

Nr 216: "1d. pale blue grossly misperforated to right, Plate 3 [33], showing plate scratch above value tablet and white flaws at top, 10 May c.d.s. S.G. 17, Photo. PROVENANCE: "Goodyear", Christie's Robson Lowe, June 1993"

Nr 217: "1d. blue from the top of the sheet, misperforated to right, 11 May c.d.s. S.G. 17, Photo".

Nr 218: "Plate 3 Cracked Plate 1d. pale blue, [10], tied on piece by 11 May c.d.s. S.G. 17, Photo.

Nr 219: idem. "1d. deep blue, [11], 1 July c.d.s. S.G. 18, Photo".

Nr 220: idem "1d. deep blue, [12], 9 May c.d.s.; a couple of tiny marks on face. S.G. 18, Photo".

Nr 221: "3d. Baden Powell, 1812/mm. wide Unused 3d. blue, marginal example from the left of the sheet, large part original gum; fine. S.G. 19/20, Photo"

Nr 222: "3d., three examples in contrasting shades, one with 19 April c.d.s., a little soiled, one with 9 May c.d.s., thinned at top and manuscript "AS from BP" in ink on reverse, and one on piece with 11 May c.d.s., diagonal crease. S.G. 19/20, Photo".

Nr 223: "3d. pale blue used with seriffed surcharge Bechuanaland Protectorate 6d. on 2d. green and carmine Type 4 vertical pair, each neatly cancelled by 16 April c.d.s. and tied to backed piece; a few light fox marks in places and 3d. with a couple of short perfs. S.G. 8, 19, PROVENANCE: "Goodyear", Christie's Robson Lowe, June 1993".

Nr 224: "3d. deep blue, neatly cancelled by 14 May c.d.s.; fine. P.F.S.A. Certificate (1968). S.G. 20, Photo".

Nr 225: "3d. deep blue used with seriffed overprint Cape 3d. on 1d. carmine, Bechuanaland Protectorate 1d. on 1/2d. vermilion and British Bechuanaland 1/- on 4d. green and purplebrown, cancelled by 17 April c.d.s. and tied on piece; some foxing affecting the surface of the surcharged stamps, the 3d. fine. S.G. 3, 6, 11, 20, Photo".



Nr 226: “3d. deep blue horizontal pair, each neatly cancelled by 2 May c.d.s. and tied on piece; fine. S.G. 20, Photo”.

Nr 229: “3d. pale blue tied to piece by 12 April c.d.s.; short perf. At foot, tiny red mark at top. S.G. 21, Photo”.

Nr 230: “3d. blue with neat 10 May c.d.s.; two tiny handstamps on reverse. S.G.21 group, Photo”.

Nr 232: “The Broken or Cracked Plate. This variety was the result of the printer having dropped the glass negative, resulting in it breaking in to two parts. Dr. Taylor was able to fit the two pieces of glass together and carry on with the printing. It is estimated that he printed between 32 and 50 sheets after repairing the plate. Five stamps (positions 6-10) in each sheet show a whitish line where the plate was broken and pieced together. No more than 250 examples of this variety can exist. Position 7: Pale blue, neatly cancelled by 7 May c.d.s. and tied on piece; trace of soiling, otherwise sound. Brandon Certificate (1985). Photo”

Nr 233: Idem. “Position 8: Pale blue showing “wide” crack and with complete “F” of “OCEANA FINE” papermaker’s watermark, part 2 May c.d.s. at foot. Very rare with only ten examples possible. Brandon Certificate (1980). Photo. PROVENANCE: “Mafeking”, Guido Craveri, February 1994”.

Nr 234: Idem. “Position 8: Deep blue, neatly cancelled by 10 May c.d.s.; very fine. Photo”.

Nr 235: Idem. “Position 9: Pale blue, neatly cancelled by 12 May c.d.s. and tied on piece. Photo”.

Nr 237: “Position 9: Dull blue showing “wide” crack across entire top of the stamp, neatly cancelled by 11 May c.d.s. and tied on piece; fine. Photo”.

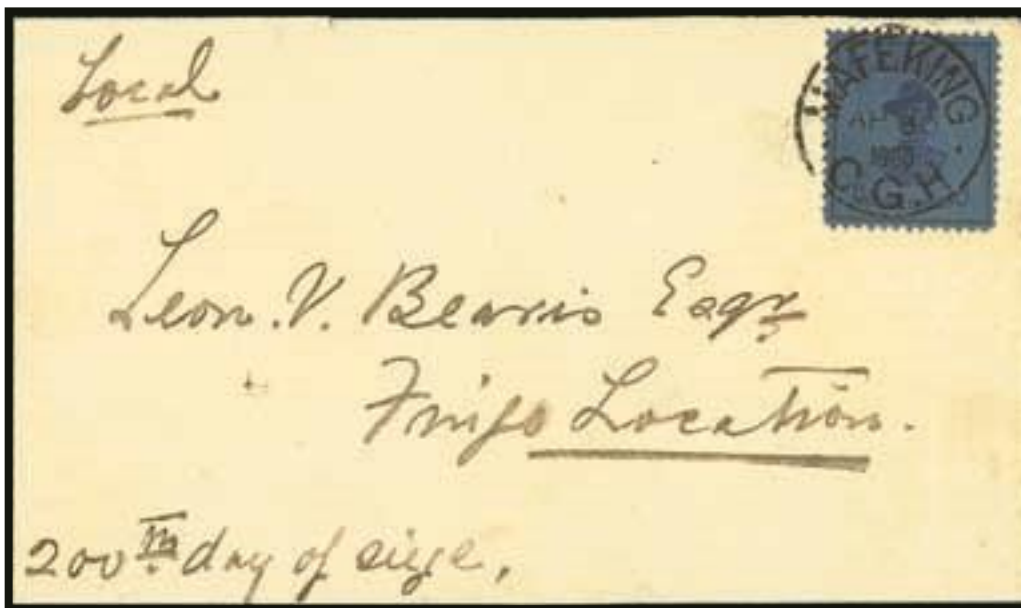


Nr 227: "1900 (16 May) envelope to Fort Miller, bearing 3d. deep blue, marginal from the right of the sheet, in combination with serriffed overprint Cape 3d. on 1d. carmine, Bechuanaland Protectorate 1d. on 1/2d. vermilion and 6d. on 2d. green and carmine, each neatly cancelled by c.d.s., endorsed "Mafeking Notes, etc." in pencil at foot; the 3d. with damaged lower left corner, the envelope with some light soiling, creases and part of reverse removed, nevertheless a scarce mixed issue franking which appears to have been charged at the book rate of 1/-. S.G. 3, 6, 8, 20. Photo. Note: Fort Miller was on the Western defence line and was manned by the Town Guard under Capt. Vyvyan".



228

Nr 228: "3d. pale blue on blue, variety reversed design, from the upper right corner of the one sheet thus printed, neatly cancelled with 27 April c.d.s. and affixed on fragment. Extremely fine and undoubtedly the finest of the five examples in private hands. One of the great rarities of Mafeking, and indeed all Boer War philately. B.P.A. Certificate (1993). S.G. 19a, Photo. Note: Of the ten examples known, three are mint and seven are used. One of the mint and two of the used are in the Royal Philatelic Collection, thus leaving only seven examples of this spectacular variety in private hands. The above example is the earliest recorded date of use. PROVENANCE: "Goodyear", Christie's Robson Lowe, June 1993".



231

Nr 231: “3d. deep blue, neatly cancelled and tied on 30 April envelope front, marked “200th. Day of siege” to defending line of trenches beyond “Fingo Location”; two vertical creases well clear of the adhesive. A most unusual usage. S.G. 22, Photo”.

**Mafeking, 3d. Baden Powell, 21mm. wide, The Broken or Cracked Plate - contd.**



236

Nr 236: “Position 9: Pale blue cancelled by 12 May c.d.s., together with 1d. deep blue with 4 May c.d.s., both affixed to tissue paper piece marked “Certified to be genuine Charles G.H. Bell/CIVIL COMMISSIONER” and with Crowned “CIVIL COMMISSIONER/MAFEKING” datestamp for 14 September. Photo”.



238

Nr 238: “3d. pale blue on blue from the foot of the sheet and showing “screw hole” in margin, neatly cancelled by 11 May c.d.s.; a few foxed perfs. at left, otherwise fine. Rare. Photo. Note: Only two sheets were reportedly were produced imperforate at top and at foot, thus resulting in only eight possible from the foot of the sheet and only two possible with “screw hole””.

### CoGH Stamps used in Basutoland during the Anglo-Boer War period



<http://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=51973&start=100>

“These Cape of Good Hope stamps cancelled in Basutoland are quite popular with Cape Colony collectors and Basutoland collectors and of course Boer War collectors.

Such as this cover, addressed to S. (Stephanus) J. (Jacobus) Naude, age 18, from Kroonstad (in the Free State), captured at Paardeberg (in the west of the Free State).

Another S.J. Naude (age 17) was also held at Diyatalawa, also captured at Paardeberg, but he was from Potchefstroom, which was then in the ZAR and is quite far from Basutoland, so I guess this cover was for the Naude from the Free State, from his family.

Note the interesting handwritten 'censored' annotation on the left of the cover. Usually 'censored' markings were some kind of rubber stamp, handwritten is less common.”