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African Studies Centre Leiden  
**African Postal Heritage**

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ORANGE FREE STATE/ORANGE RIVER COLONY: POSTAGE STAMPS

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### 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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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)

# Table of Contents

## Part 1

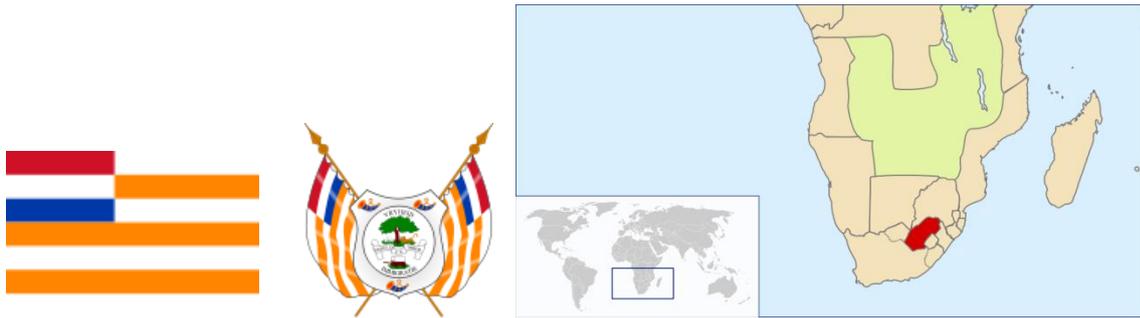
<b>Introduction</b>	4
<b>Pre-1868 postal history</b>	8
<b>Postage and Revenue stamps Orange Free State from 1868 onwards</b>	12
<b>Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902</b>	50
<b>Telegraph stamps 1900</b>	53
<b>British Occupation 1900</b>	55
<b>Revenue stamps under British occupation 1900</b>	67
<b>Army telegraph cancellations 1900</b>	70
<b>Telegraph stamps 1901</b>	71
<b>Army telegraph stamps 1901</b>	73
<b>Orange River Colony 1900-1910</b>	77
<b>CSAR Railway stamps</b>	93
<b>After 1910</b>	94
Part 2	
Postmarks used in OFS and ORC	101

# SOUTH AFRICA

## Postal history and postage stamps of Orange Free State/ Orange River Colony

*Ton Dietz, African Studies Centre Leiden, January 2017*

### Introduction



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/6b/Flag\\_of\\_the\\_Orange\\_Free\\_State.svg/125px-Flag\\_of\\_the\\_Orange\\_Free\\_State.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/6b/Flag_of_the_Orange_Free_State.svg/125px-Flag_of_the_Orange_Free_State.svg.png) ;

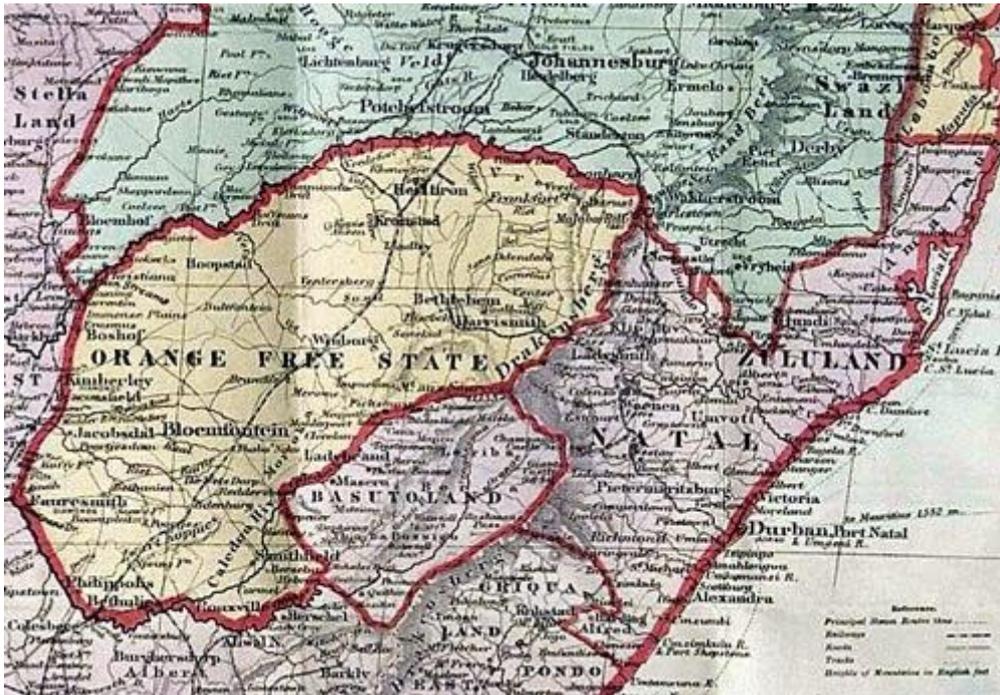
[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/2/2f/Coat\\_of\\_Arms\\_of\\_the\\_Orange\\_Free\\_State.svg/125px-Coat\\_of\\_Arms\\_of\\_the\\_Orange\\_Free\\_State.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/2/2f/Coat_of_Arms_of_the_Orange_Free_State.svg/125px-Coat_of_Arms_of_the_Orange_Free_State.svg.png)

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/ba/LocationOrangeFreeStateca1890.svg/1000px-LocationOrangeFreeStateca1890.svg.png> ; Orange Free State in Southern Africa around 1890

### Brief History

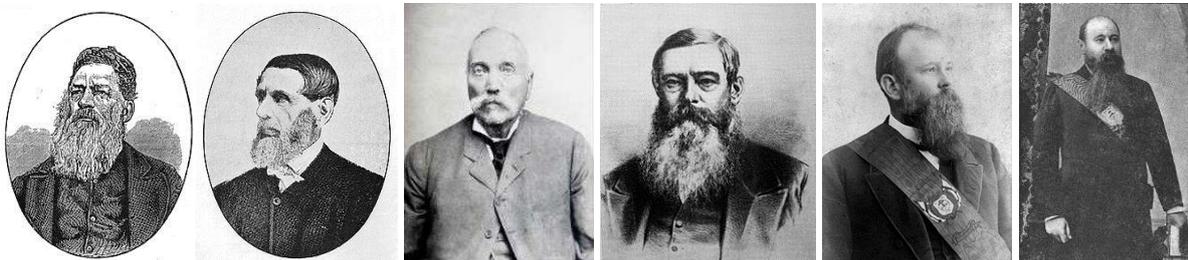
“The Orange Free State (Oranje-Vrijstaat), founded by Dutch (Boer) settlers in 1854, was located between the Orange and Vaal rivers in southern Africa. The Orange river, by the way, was named for the House of Orange, the ruling Dutch royal family. The Capital was Bloemfontein, the population was 100,000 in 1875, and the official language was Dutch. The Boers, some 3000 strong, had initially left the Cape Colony area on "The Great Trek" to try to escape from British administration. They originally settled in Natal, but the British had then extended their reach there also. So they again moved in 1843 north to the lands that would become the Orange Free State. The Xhosa and Zulu tribes were not pleased with the newcomers, but the Boers had superior firepower. Eventually, the British recognized the sovereignty of the Orange Free State in 1854.”

<http://bigblue1840-1940.blogspot.nl/2014/11/ClassicStampsOfOrangeFreeState.html>



Orange Free State circa 1900: [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-LgIfLO5Vomg/U394Ob5QVzI/AAAAAAAAUQE/NdB22VYNbBs/s1600/map\\_Natal1900.jpg](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-LgIfLO5Vomg/U394Ob5QVzI/AAAAAAAAUQE/NdB22VYNbBs/s1600/map_Natal1900.jpg)

Presidents:



Josias Philip Hoffman, 1854-1855

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/fa/JPHoffman\\_litho\\_web.jpg/220px-JPHoffman\\_litho\\_web.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/fa/JPHoffman_litho_web.jpg/220px-JPHoffman_litho_web.jpg)

Jacobus Nicolaas Boshoff, 1855-1859

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f4/JNBoshoff\\_litho\\_web.jpg/250px-JNBoshoff\\_litho\\_web.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f4/JNBoshoff_litho_web.jpg/250px-JNBoshoff_litho_web.jpg)

Marthinus Wessel Pretorius, 1860-1863 (in 1860 also President of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek)

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/94/Marthinus\\_Wessel\\_Pretorius.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/94/Marthinus_Wessel_Pretorius.jpg)

Johannes Brand, 1864-1888

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f4/Johannes\\_Brand00.jpg/220px-Johannes\\_Brand00.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f4/Johannes_Brand00.jpg/220px-Johannes_Brand00.jpg)

Francis William Reitz, 1889-1896,

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4c/WFReitz\\_CHM\\_VA0957.jpg/220px-WFReitz\\_CHM\\_VA0957.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4c/WFReitz_CHM_VA0957.jpg/220px-WFReitz_CHM_VA0957.jpg)

Marthinus Theunis Steyn, 1896-1902

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/d4/Marthinus\\_Theunis\\_Steyn.jpg/260px-Marthinus\\_Theunis\\_Steyn.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/d4/Marthinus_Theunis_Steyn.jpg/260px-Marthinus_Theunis_Steyn.jpg)

“The first Orange Free State stamps were issued in 1868. The O.F.S. was formally annexed to the British Crown and renamed the Orange River Colony on 28 May 1900. In 1910 this colony along with Cape of Good Hope, Natal and Transvaal formed the Union of South Africa.

Postage stamps: The sole design used was an orange tree, with the inscription "Oranje Vrij Staat" in the margin. The stamps were typographed by De La Rue and Company, and came in denominations from one penny to five shillings, in various colours. Periodic shortages forced the use of overprints, in 1877, 1881, 1882, 1888, 1890, 1892, 1896, and 1897. The stamps of the republic are generally common today, but some of the overprints are scarce. Many kinds of overprint errors are known (inverted, double, etc.), and some of them command high prices. In 1900, the British occupied the Republic and the previous stamps were overprinted "V.R.I." and the same value of the original stamps. The colony was renamed in August 1900 and used Cape of Good Hope stamps overprinted with the new name "ORANGE/RIVER/COLONY." In 1902 a single 6d stamp was overprinted as the original occupation issues but with "E.R.I." instead of "V.R.I.". In 1903 a set was issued portraying King Edward VII, a springbok and a gnu. This set was printed again in 1905-09, and is the last set of the colony.

Revenue stamps: A variety of revenue stamps were issued both as the Orange Free State and the Orange River Colony. The Orange Free State revenues were also postally used”

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage\\_stamps\\_and\\_postal\\_history\\_of\\_the\\_Orange\\_Free\\_State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_the_Orange_Free_State)

“The second half of the 19th century witnessed many tumultuous events, none more so than the colonial exploration and development of Southern Africa. European development of the vast Cape Colony included the Orange Free State, a land locked area, bordering Natal, Transvaal and Basutoland that took its name from the Orange River, named in honour of the Dutch Royal Family and the House of Orange with its capital Bloemfontein. Since the first Dutch settlers arrived in the Cape area of Africa during the late 17th century there had been ongoing conflict with the British who were competing for resources and power. By 1854 the situation had become untenable and the British, whilst still maintaining a claim to the region were forced to retreat. On the 23rd February the Convention of Bloemfontein was signed, British rule ended and the Boer Republic of “Oranje Vrij Staat” was established. The Boers were largely of Dutch extraction but also included French Huguenots who had fled from religious persecution in Europe. The situation changed dramatically in 1869 with the discovery of diamonds an event that was quickly accompanied by an influx of prospectors who rushed to the OFS diamond fields. Their need for a better postal service was soon recognised. Since 1856, Revenue stamps embossed on different denomination coloured papers together with supplies of Cape of Good Hope stamps for use on mail sent to the Cape Colony and elsewhere were available. It wasn't until the 1st January 1868 that the first OFS postage stamps were issued. The embossed Revenue stamps were replaced by printed ones in 1877 that were also used for postage.

The 1868 issue was printed by De La Rue in London and initially comprised three values, One Penny, Sixpence and One Shilling. This was later extended to eight denominations. The stamps all carry one prominent design. The central feature is an Orange Tree, below which are three symbolic bugle horns under tree branches heavily laden with fruit. A central vignette is surrounded by a frame in which are written the words 'Oranje Vrij Saat' with a value given at the bottom of each stamp, for example 'Een Penny', 'Vyf Shilling' or 'Zes Shilling'. These stamps were for domestic use only. Other stamps were required for international mail issued by the country of embarkation. Many covers bore both OFS and Cape of Good Hope stamps tied with a Cape Town cancellation. These covers offer a very valuable insight into the development of the postal service. This situation lasted until 1st January 1881 when OFS postage stamps were recognised for all overseas mail.

The OFS was reliant upon supplies from London. Shortages occurred throughout the Empire and ships from England were often delayed. The OFS suffered more than most with consecutive delays throughout the 1880s. Local firms in Bloemfontein were used to overprint existing stocks, usually the higher denomination stamps being overprinted with a lower value. Results were mixed and there are many examples of defects including omissions and errors. Finding these is a rewarding part of the whole OFS philatelic experience and some undoubtedly still remain to be identified.

The clouds of unrest were gathering. Skirmishes between the Boers and the British culminated in the Boer War of 1899-1902. The net result was that the OFS was annexed to the British Crown and renamed the Orange River Colony on the 28th May 1900. Guerrilla war continued until the signing of the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging on the 31st of May 1902. In this intervening period Republic stamps were used with a V.R.I (Victoria Regina Imperatrix) overprint. Plans to issue a definitive issue with a portrait of Queen Victoria were abandoned following her death in January 1901. Further provisional issues followed with 'Orange River Colony' overprints appearing on both Republic and Cape of Good Hope stamps. One E.R.I overprint was used on a sixpenny stamp following the accession to the throne of Edward VII. Definitive issues followed in mid-1903.

Other OFS stamps include official Mounted Police Force stamps that were replaced during the Boer War with printed postage labels called "Commando Briefs". A Telegraph Service was established in the OFS in 1880, with regular stamps overprinted with a distinctive 'TF' in black ink. Again many varieties of the overprint have been identified."

<https://www.sandafayre.com/philatelicarticles/orangefreestate.html>

"STAMPS - THE REPUBLIC. The 1d, 6d and 1s. stamps of 1868 were followed in 1878 by a 4d for a letter rate reduction and a 5s. high denomination primarily for postage on packets of diamonds being sent to the Cape from the diamond fields. In 1883/4 further postal rate reductions saw the introduction of the halfpenny stamp, the 3d and then the 2d to complete the set of eight values. Another printing of the 1d value in 1894 had the colour changed to purple from brown, and in 1897 the halfpenny, 6d and 1s. were reprinted with colours yellow/orange, blue and brown respectively. However the 6d blue was not issued for postage without an overprint. In 1898 it was overprinted with the letter "TF" for telegraph use and in 1900 it was given the V.R.I. overprint when it became available for postage under British occupation. Copies of the unused stamp without an overprint are well known... Because the stamps were printed in London months elapsed between the date of ordering new stocks and their arrival in the Free State. Consequently provision had to be made in the meantime and this was achieved with the overprinting of surplus stocks of other values with the values needed. Local printers in Bloemfontein were used but, although their standard of work was high, there were many occasions

when accidentally stamps were given either an inverted print, a double print or parts of the printing were defective in one way or another. The resulting varieties provide much of the fascination for study seen by collectors of this country. ”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsrepublic.aspx>

“POSTAL HISTORY. The postal history of the O.F.S. is extremely complex and is therefore of great interest. The postal markings have been extensively studied but, until recently, postal rates have received surprisingly little serious attention from philatelists. Of particular interest is early mail to destinations outside the O.F.S. as, until 1881, O.F.S. stamps had only local validity, so covers of letters to external destinations had to bear additional stamps from the Cape, Z.A.R. or Natal, depending upon the route, giving rise to the so-called combination covers.”

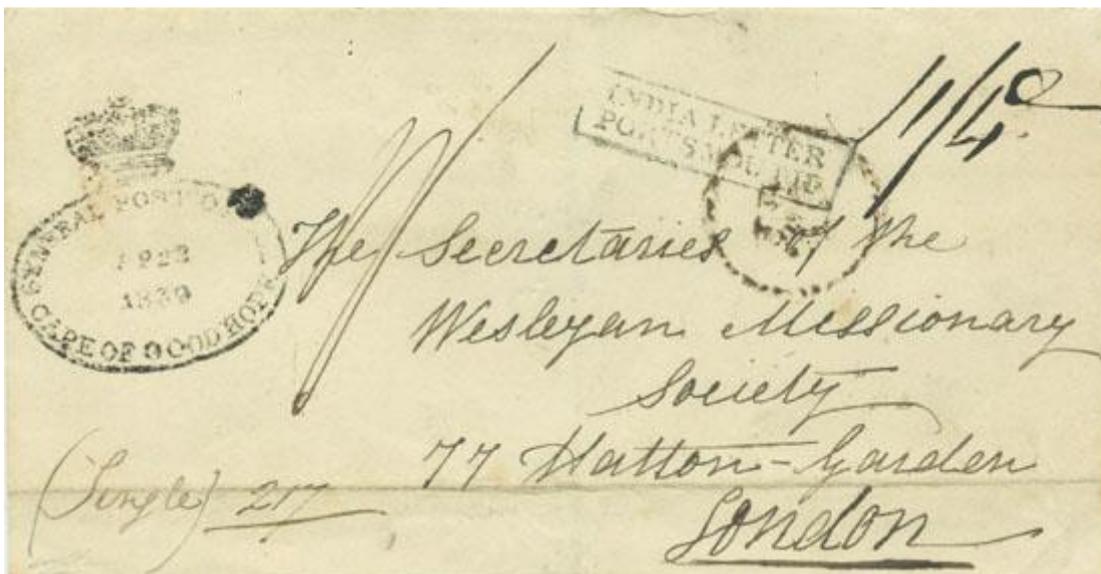
<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/postalhistory.aspx>

“GEOGRAPHY. Much of the history of the Orange Free State has evolved from its land-locked position having boundaries with Transvaal to the north and north-west, Natal and Basutoland to the east, and Cape Colony to the south and south-west. Postal arrangements were negotiated with each country, the most important ones being with the Cape as this offered the exit for external mail to the rest of the world. Mail could also travel through Natal to Durban, but there was no great advantage in this and the main postal routes were developed towards Cape Town in the south.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/geography.aspx>

### Pre-1868 postal history

“Before 1848. It was not until the Great trek that the Boers, dissatisfied with living under British control in the Cape of Good Hope, pioneered the areas beyond the Orange River. Thus the independent republic, the Orange Free State, was formed in December 1836. There were many difficulties, with repeated conflicts with both the Griquas and Basutos, often resulting from land disputes and cattle raids.” <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/postalhistory.aspx>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PH%20page%201.550.jpg> : “An 1839 letter from a Missionary stationed at Umpukani to London, via Graaf Reinet and Cape Town.”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PH%20page%202.550.jpg>: “Map (c. 1849) showing location of Umpukani in relation to Bloemfontein.”

### “ORANGE RIVER SOVEREIGNTY

In 1845 the Governor of the Cape sent Captain H.D. Warden, with a company of his regiment, to establish himself as British Resident, which he did on the site of the future capital Bloemfontein. On 23rd February 1848 Sir Harry Smith, the new Governor of the Cape, proclaimed British Sovereignty over the entire country, which was known as the Orange River Sovereignty.

Many of the Boer farmers were resistant to this and on 29th August 1848 Boers and British soldiers brought up from the Cape fought at the Battle of Boomplaats, 35 miles south of Bloemfontein. The British won the battle and proceeded to Bloemfontein which they re-occupied.

A letter from an Ensign to his father written on the day after the battle: The cover is annotated "In the field" and reads "... I have had the good fortune to escape from one of the most dangerous predicaments I ever was in, in short I have been in battle where bullets came flying about me as thick as hailstones ....."



The postal system was at first most primitive with letters carried privately at varying rates according to the distances travelled. However in 1851 a uniform rate of 4d per half ounce was established for internal letters. Letters to the Cape were charged the Sovereignty rate plus the Cape internal rate (4d) if paid in advance, otherwise it was 6d. Letters to England were additionally charged the rate from the

Cape to the U.K. This system of payment of a combination rate of postage continued, with some amendments, until 31st December 1880.



The Sovereignty ended on 23rd February 1854 and this cover from Winburg to Paarl in the Cape of Good Hope was posted just before. The manuscript "Sovereignty Postage paid only" evidences the 4d internal payment and the manuscript "6" with "to pay" in red indicates the amount to be paid by the addressee".

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/orangeriver.aspx>

“The first postage stamps (values one penny, sixpence and one shilling) were printed by De La Rue in London in 1867 and issued in the Free State on 1st January 1868, but these had been preceded by revenue stamps, which had been home produced in an embossed form, and used since 1856” <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stamps.aspx>

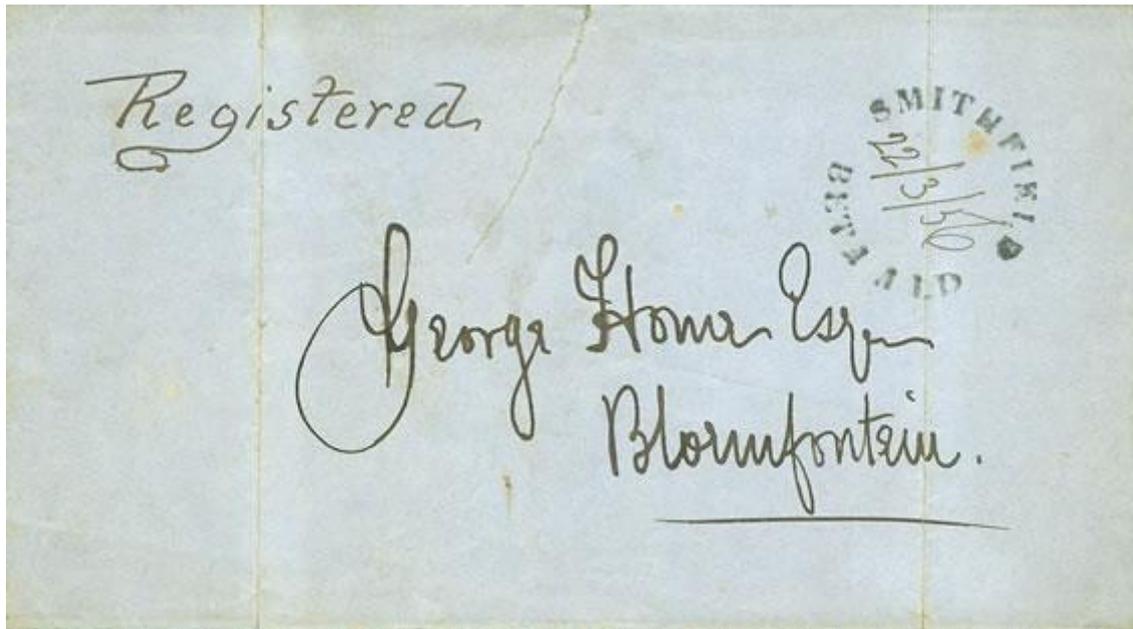
### 1856 Revenue Stamps



[http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0611.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0611.jpg) : “1856 - the first revenues embossed on different colour papers; a four shillings value on white paper.”

“THE REPUBLIC. After six years the British found it increasingly difficult to maintain a state of law and order between the various factions of Boers, migrant Europeans and the hostile tribes of natives and on 23rd February 1854 British rule ended with the signing of a Convention in Bloemfontein. The Republic of the Orange Free State was formed. This continued until the Second Anglo-Boer War and the occupation of the Free State in 1900. Although stamps were issued in 1868 they were not accepted as valid for postage for destinations overseas until 1st January 1881. This early period provides an enormous amount of interest for study and research.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/republic.aspx>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/Smithfield-BETAALD.jpg> : “A “Smithfield BETAALD” to George Home, Bloemfontein dated 22nd March 1856.



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PHrep3.550.jpg> : “A triple combination pre-stamp cover of 1866 from the South African Republic to the Cape of Good Hope via the Orange Free State”.

### Postage and Revenue Stamps from 1868 onwards

Catalogues:

M = Michel Süd- und Zentralafrika 2007, Oranjefreistaat, pp. 925-928

Y = Yvert et Tellier Timbres d'outre-mer O-Z, 1993, Orange, pp 21-22

### 1868

1p brown



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep1.jpg>; 1868 - an olive tree design for the first postage stamps; the one penny was for newspapers.

[<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stamps.aspx>]



<http://morawino-stamps.com/sklep/4713-thickbox/kolonie-bryt-oranje-vrij-staat-orange-free-state-16.jpg>

[http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-NmrvfRkHQWo/U34nWZ\\_ce7I/AAAAAAAAAUNw/fY3MQ4LVkVk/s1600/imgOrange3.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-NmrvfRkHQWo/U34nWZ_ce7I/AAAAAAAAAUNw/fY3MQ4LVkVk/s1600/imgOrange3.jpg)

M1a brown/hellbraun; M1b red brown/rotbraun; 1c dark brown/dunkelbraun; Y1 brun-jaune

6p pink



[http://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img\\_large/auction/000/372/532/348\\_001.jpg](http://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/372/532/348_001.jpg)

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep2.jpg>

M2a lightpink/blaßrosa (1868); M2b pink/rosa (1871); M2c reddish pink/karminrosa (1891); M2d red/hellkarmin (1894); Y2 rose



<http://www.johnson.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/gbinx127.jpg> : “example of the IMPERFORATE COLOUR TRIALS for the 6d Orange Tree Stamp in brown, orange and carmine-rose in blocks of four on un gummed paper. These colour trials are extremely rare”.

1 Sh yellow



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep3.jpg>

<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/VkcAAOSwT6pVvmlv/s-l300.jpg>

M3a brown yellow/braungelb (1868); M3b orange yellow/orangegelb (1878); Y3 jaune-orange



[http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img\\_thumb/auction/000/387/264/111\\_001.jpg](http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img_thumb/auction/000/387/264/111_001.jpg) : “ORANGE FREE STATE 1868 ORANGE TREE TUNISIAN ARCHIVE SPECIMENS”

### 1871 and later: Revenue



[http://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img\\_large/auction/000/288/646/297\\_001.jpg](http://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/288/646/297_001.jpg) : “Orange Free State, Revenue Stamps 1871, 1/= embossed / impressed on yellow paper, pen cancel”

[http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user\\_images/808/2180808/160815211657\\_IMG\\_0004.jpg](http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/808/2180808/160815211657_IMG_0004.jpg):  
“Orange Free State 1880's embossed revenue on piece , used”

1877

4p : 6p pink/rosa



Type I: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep13.jpg>: “1877. The first surcharge "4" on the 6d rose for a letter rate reduction.”

Type II: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep16.jpg>

Type III: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep15.jpg>

Type IV: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep14.jpg>



[http://images-00.delcampe-static.net/img\\_large/auction/000/372/532/352\\_001.jpg](http://images-00.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/372/532/352_001.jpg) Type III

[http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/s\\_afr/shrevescert1.jpg](http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/s_afr/shrevescert1.jpg) Type IV

M4-I Type I; M4-II Type II; M4-III Type III; M4-IV Type IV; Y4 (II), 4a (I), 4b(III), 4x (IV)



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep43.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep44.jpg> Y4d ‘double surcharge dont une renversée’.

1878

4p blue



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep4.jpg>

[http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/s\\_afr/ovscan1.jpg](http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/s_afr/ovscan1.jpg)

M5a: 4 p hellblau; M5b ultramarine (July 1878); Y5 outremer



[http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img\\_thumb/auction/000/387/263/823\\_001.jpg](http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img_thumb/auction/000/387/263/823_001.jpg)

5 Sh green



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep5.jpg>



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/xIIAOSwzJ5XVGQ5/s-1225.jpg>

M6: 5 Sh grün (Nov. 1878); Y6 vert

**1878 Revenue to be used as Postage Stamps as well (between 1882-1886)**



[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/364/356364/356364\\_141231014457\\_OFS\\_REVENUES1.jpg](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/364/356364/356364_141231014457_OFS_REVENUES1.jpg)  
g: "Orange Free State 1878/82 Scarce small lot of (12) x Fiscal stamps used for Postage"

6p grey



[http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0613.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0613.jpg)

[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/491/1295491/1295491\\_150921151919\\_9138\\_\(3\).JPG](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/491/1295491/1295491_150921151919_9138_(3).JPG)

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/ofEAAOSwcdBWSOZ/s-l225.jpg>

MS1 grau

6p purple



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/~TkaaOSwT4lWSON1/s-1225.jpg>

<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/W3MAAOSwbsBXo0rC/s-11600.jpg>

MS2 braunpurpur

18p



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/fhcAAOSwUuhXcAu9/s-1225.jpg>

Not in Michel

1Sh purple



[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/193/955193/955193\\_160314145050\\_image.jpeg](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/193/955193/955193_160314145050_image.jpeg)



[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/491/1295491/1295491\\_150921152345\\_9138\\_\(7\).JPG](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/491/1295491/1295491_150921152345_9138_(7).JPG)

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/VEsAAOSw-itXp2qp/s-l225.jpg>

MS3 braunpurpur

1Sh grey



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/vwIAAOSw9KpXAU~A/s-l225.jpg>

MS4 grau

1Sh6p

Illustration not yet found

MS5 blau

2Sh



[http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user\\_images/117/400117/160702172540\\_Scan%201465897171792167012317741752.jpg](http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/117/400117/160702172540_Scan%201465897171792167012317741752.jpg)

[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/491/1295491/1295491\\_150921151947\\_9138\\_\(4\).JPG](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/491/1295491/1295491_150921151947_9138_(4).JPG)

MS6 magenta

3Sh



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/0yEAAOSwM4xXcAvH/s-1225.jpg>

MS7 rötlichbraun

4Sh

MS8 grau

5Sh



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/05MAAOSwM4xXcAvL/s-1225.jpg>

MS9 rosa

6Sh



[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/503/474OFS\\_S\\_REVENUE0001.JPG](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/503/474OFS_S_REVENUE0001.JPG)

MS10 grün

7Sh

Illustration not yet found

MS11 violett

8Sh



[https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTzZ\\_SpS0wJYPnjQOg81Q1eEDei9mH6n2A1ZWLMjMp0ir9TRMHcgg](https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTzZ_SpS0wJYPnjQOg81Q1eEDei9mH6n2A1ZWLMjMp0ir9TRMHcgg)

Not in Michel

9Sh



[http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0614.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0614.jpg)

Not in Michel

10Sh



<http://thumbs1.picclick.com/d/1400/pict/361673003188 /IB-Orange-Free-State-Revenue-Duty-10.jpg>



<https://cdn.globalauctionplatform.com/9179490b-87f2-4f58-a7bf-a58500ad3ed0/fc2f7310-f7b2-46bb-a534-54abcc7cc5a1/original.jpg>: "South Africa (Orange Free State) - 1885 (2) Legacy Duty Revenue Stamps, 10/- Orange and œ2 Brown, B13 + B19."

MS12 orange

1£



[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/491/1295491/1295491\\_150921152209\\_9138\\_\(5\).JPG](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/491/1295491/1295491_150921152209_9138_(5).JPG)

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/-voAAOSwnDZT~hiH/s-1225.jpg>

MS13 purpur

2£



<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/f-0AAOSwV0RXsFpn/s-11600.jpg>

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/QNAAAOSwJQdXAU~E/s-1225.jpg>

MS14 rotbraun

4£



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/zB0AAOSwQJ5UTTqF/s-1225.jpg>

MS15 karmin

5£ grün



[http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0615.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0615.jpg)

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/J4kAAOSwc1FXcAvV/s-1225.jpg>

1881

1/2d on 5 Sh



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep21.jpg>: “1882. Paper rate reduced to a halfpenny, but no halfpenny stamps - again the five shillings used.”

M7 grün (Aug. 1882); Y7 vert; 7a double surcharge; 7b surcharge renversée

1d on 5 Sh



M8 grün (May 1881); Y8 (I), 8a (II), 8b (III), 8c (IV) vert; Yv8d double surcharge

Type I: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep17.jpg> “1881. A shortage of one penny stamps but a surplus of the five shillings. Six different types of "1".”

Type II: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep18.jpg>

Type III: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep19.jpg>

Type IV: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep20.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep57.jpg>: “Spot the difference!” = Yv8e surcharge renversée

3d on 4p



M9 ultramarin (24/9/1882); Y9 outremer (I); 9a (II); 9b (III), 9c (IV), 9d (V)

Type I: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep22.jpg> : “1882. Letter rate reduced to 3d. Obsolete 4d's used with five types of "3" two types of "d".”

Type II: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep23.jpg>

Type III: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep24.jpg>

Type IV: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep25.jpg>

Type V: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep26.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep45.jpg> ; = Yv9e double surcharge

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep46.jpg>

**1883**

1/2p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep6.jpg>

M10 rötlichbraun (March 1883); Y10 brun-rouge

2p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep8.jpg>

M11 violett (December 1883); Y11 violet

3p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep7.jpg>

M12 blau (March 1883); Y12 outremer

### **1883 and later: postcards**

### **STATIONERY - REPUBLICAN POSTAL STATIONERY**

“The first stamped postcard was issued in February 1884, when the internal postcard rate was 1d. Shades of colour range from orange-yellow to brownish orange. Although the internal rate fell to a halfpenny in 1891, provisional cards were made locally until 1898 when a definitive card was issued. Both halfpenny and penny reply paid cards were issued in January 1898”.

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stationery.aspx>



### 1883-1900 or only from 1889 onwards?: Postal Cards “Briefkaart”

Overprints on Postcards

Yvert mentions a category “Timbres pour cartes postales” and gives seven different ‘surchargés pour cartes postales; also Michel mentions these stamps. Michel says: ‘1889’; Yvert: 1883-1900; probably the second group is from 1889 onwards. For this second group see 1889.

1/2p brun-rouge: Y-TCP1; MPo 1: ½ p rötlichbraun

1/2p jaune-orange: Y-TCP2; MPo2: ½ p goldgelb

1p brun-jaune: Y-TCP3; MPo3: 1p hellbraun



Jankos

www.delcampe.net

[http://images.delcampe.com/img\\_large/auction/000/344/572/373\\_001.jpg](http://images.delcampe.com/img_large/auction/000/344/572/373_001.jpg)

### 1885 Telegraph stamps

“The Republican Telegraphs. A telegraph service was established in the Orange Free State about 1880 and the first issue of telegraph stamps appeared in September 1885. No definitive telegraph stamps were ever printed for use in the Free State and, instead, postage stamps and revenue stamps were given a variety of overprints.” <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsrepublic.aspx>

Not in Michel; in Yvert:

1p brun-jaune; surcharge violet Y-T1 (1885)

3p outremer; surcharge violet Y-T2 (1885); Y-T2a surcharge rouge

6p rose surcharge violet Y-T3 (1885); Y-T3a surcharge noire

1sh jaune-orange; surcharge violet; Y-T4

5sh vert; Y-T5



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep58.jpg>

<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/6hMAAOSwZVIXpKit/s-1300.jpg>

[http://i1373.photobucket.com/albums/ag397/cjdahl/Orange%20Free%20State%206p%20telegraph\\_zp salr3osg6.jpg](http://i1373.photobucket.com/albums/ag397/cjdahl/Orange%20Free%20State%206p%20telegraph_zp salr3osg6.jpg)

<http://www.gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/World/images/OFS-H4c.jpg>

1 sh and 5 sh: illustrations not yet found

### 1886 Telegraph stamps



[http://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/cjd/20120910\\_OFStelegraph.jpg](http://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/cjd/20120910_OFStelegraph.jpg) = Y-T6

<http://www.gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/World/images/OVS-H8.jpg> = Y-T6



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep59.jpg> = Y-T6A

<http://www.gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/World/images/OVS-H9.jpg> Yvert: Timbres Fiscaux avec  
“Telegraaf” surcharge

1 s gris Y-T6

1s brun; surcharge violet Y-T6A

1s brun; surcharge noire Y-T6Ab

### **1886 Revenue Stamps, also to be used as postage stamps**

“ZES PENCE” on 4Sh



<https://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/ayAAAOSwR5dXSHV7/s-l225.jpg>

MS17 grau

“ZES PENCE” on 8Sh

Illustration not yet found

MS18 gelb

### **1888 Telegraph stamps**

Yvert:

“TF Een Shilling”: 7s violet; Y-T7

“TF Een Shilling”: 8 s jaune: Y-T8

“TF Een Shilling”: 9s jaune-olive: Y-T9



<http://www.gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/World/images/OVS-H11.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep61.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep62.jpg>

**1888**

1d on 3p



<http://www.filat.ch/images/pictures/hpkss055.jpg>



M13-I blau, (March 1891), Type I: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep30.jpg> :  
“1890. One penny stamps again in short supply. The 3d and 4d stamps were used and four types of numeral are identified.”; Y13 outremer; Y13a double surcharge

+ Type I double



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep50.jpg>

M13-II blau (March 1891), Type II: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep31.jpg>

+ Type II double

[http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user\\_images/865/1303865/160616154626\\_OFS%20SG57d%20MM\\_0001.jpg](http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/865/1303865/160616154626_OFS%20SG57d%20MM_0001.jpg)

1d on 4p



M14-I blau (Dec. 1890), Type I ; Y14 outremer; Y14a double surcharge



+ idem double: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep48.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep49.jpg>

M14-II blau (Dec. 1890), Type II + idem double

M14-III blau (Dec. 1890), Type III: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep32.jpg>

[http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user\\_images/865/1303865/160705211925\\_OFS%20SG57d%20RAISED%201.jpg](http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/865/1303865/160705211925_OFS%20SG57d%20RAISED%201.jpg) : "OFS 1890 SG57d 1d on 4d Ultramarine with RAISED "1" – SCARCE"

2d on 3p



M15-I blau (Oct 1888), Type I : <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep27.jpg>: “1883. Another letter rate reduction. The now obsolete 3d stamp was surcharged with "2d". Most 2's were narrow, but 1 in 6 was wider. Also one in the setting (probably of 240) was slightly smaller and had a distinct curly tail.”; note: this source gives 1883!; Y15 outremer; Y15a surcharge renversée

+ Type I inverted

M15-II blau (Oct 1889), Type II: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep28.jpg>

+ Type II inverted

+ [Type III] not in Michel: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep29.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep47.jpg>

2 ½ on 3p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep33.jpg>: “1892. Letters to the U.K. now 2½d. The 3d stamp was used again.”

M16 (Oct 1892); Y16A Outremer (2 ½ d); Y16Aa ‘sans point après d’.

**1889 Stamps for postcards**

“1889. A temporary shortage of the one penny postcards resulted in the first provisional postcards being introduced”. <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stationery.aspx>

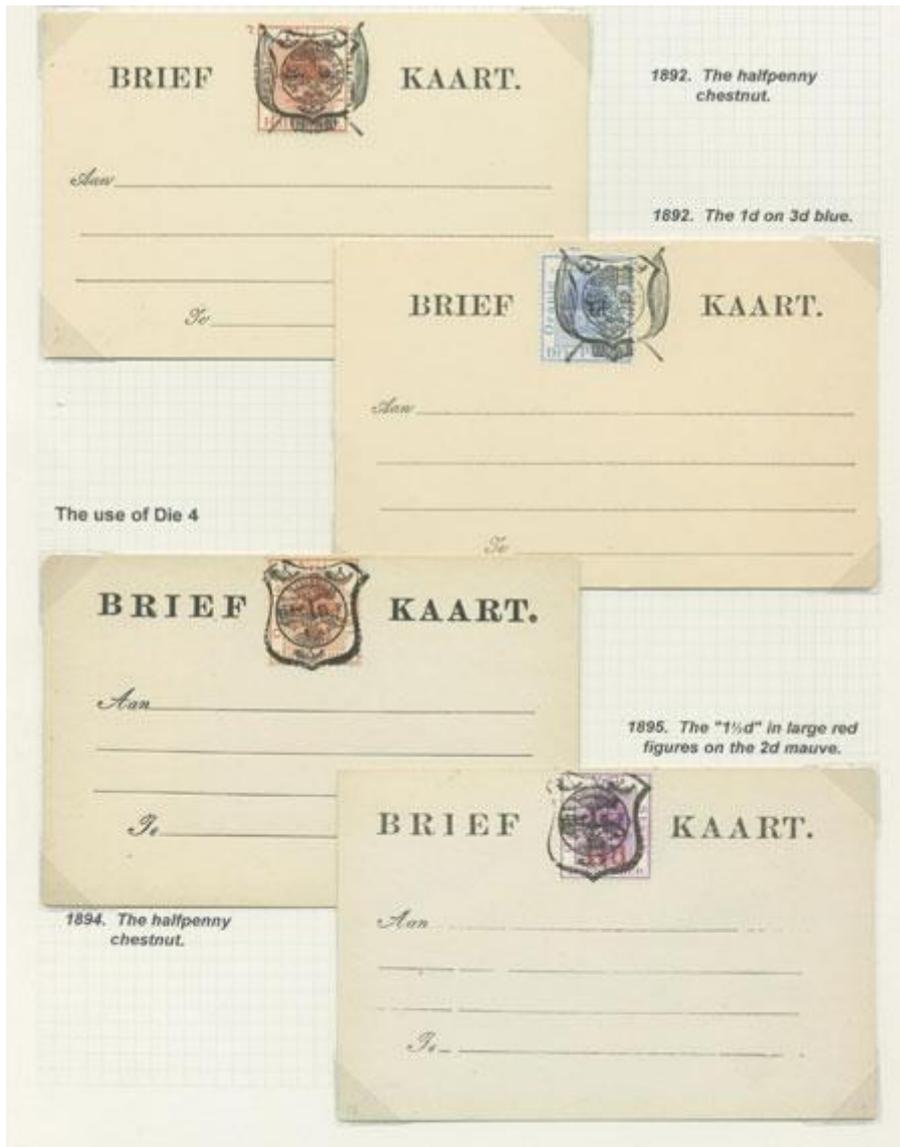


<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-2.jpg>

“From 1889 to 1897, occasioned by frequent temporary shortages, provisional postcards were produced. The card was cut to shape and size, stamps for the appropriate values affixed and the whole overprinted. The overprint included the Arms of the Republic which obliterated the stamp, "BRIEF KAART." and dotted lines for the address, and the whole was impressed all in one operation. This method of postcard production is unique to the Orange Free State. Five different Dies of the Arms are identified. <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stationery.aspx>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-3.jpg>: “Five basic stamps, some with additional surcharges, were utilised and altogether 15 different combinations of Die and stamp are known.”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-5.jpg>: "Overprints on Postcards - the use of Die 3"

### 1890-1896 Telegraph stamps

Yvert mentions four stamps and five types:

1p brun-jaune: Y-T10 (I), Y-T10a (II), Y-T10b (III), Y-T10c (V) as well as Y-T10d 'surcharge renversée'

3p outremer: Y-T11 (I), Y-T11a (II), Y-T11b (III); also FT

6p rose: Y-T12 (I), Y-T12a (II), Y-T12b (III), Y-T12c (IV), Y-T12d (V) as well as Y-12e 'double surcharge'; also FT

1s jaune-orange: Y-T13 (I), Y-T13a (II), Y-T13b (III), Y-T13c (IV), Y-T13d (V); also FT



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep63.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep60.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep65.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep64.jpg>



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/VDAAOSwOVpXWl2a/s-1225.jpg>

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/RUYAAOSwLnBXWl2K/s-1225.jpg>



[http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user\\_images/193/955193/955193\\_160314150929\\_image.jpeg](http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/193/955193/955193_160314150929_image.jpeg)

<http://www.michael-hamilton.com/images/OFS55342.jpg>



[http://images.delcampe.com/img\\_large/auction/000/326/888/856\\_001.jpg](http://images.delcampe.com/img_large/auction/000/326/888/856_001.jpg)

[http://images.delcampe.com/img\\_large/auction/000/306/549/908\\_001.jpg](http://images.delcampe.com/img_large/auction/000/306/549/908_001.jpg)



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep68.jpg>: “Varieties”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep66.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep67.jpg>

### 1891 Revenue stamps



[http://thumbs2.picclick.com/d/w1600/pict/361679873229\\_/IB-Orange-Free-State-Revenue-Bank-Draft.jpg](http://thumbs2.picclick.com/d/w1600/pict/361679873229_/IB-Orange-Free-State-Revenue-Bank-Draft.jpg) “Orange Free State Revenue Bank Draft 1891 as pictured Very Good Used Condition A seldom seen revenue “

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/n4UAAOSw0UdXp2qp/s-1225.jpg>

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/rgsAAOSwu4BVq9xU/s-1225.jpg>: “Orange Free State Revenue : Legacy Duty 1/-“

### 1892 Postal Cards “Briefkaart”

½ d on ½ p: MPo4 rötlichbraun; Y-TCP4 brun-rouge

1d:3p MPo5 blau; Y-TCP5 outremer

1 ½ d: 2p MPo6a violet with black surcharge (January 1893); MPo6b violet with red surcharge (June 1895); Y-TCP6 violet; and Y-TCP6a 'surcharge rouge'

1 ½ d: 3p MPo7 blau (Oct. 1892); Y-TCP7 outremer



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-4.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-6.jpg> : “Overprints on Postcards - the use of Die 5”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-7.jpg>: "Overprints on Postcards - the use of Die 5"

1894

1p violet



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep9.jpg>

M17 violett; Y18 violet

1896

½ d on 3p



M18 (all Nov.1896; all 'blau')-I Type I: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep34.jpg>;  
“1896. Halfpenny stamps needed and the stock of 3d again utilised.” = Y21 (I)

M18-II Type II: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep35.jpg> = Y21a (II)

M18-III Type III: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep36.jpg> = Y21b (III)

M18-IV Type IV: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep37.jpg> = Y21c (IV )

M18-V Type V: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep38.jpg> =Y21d (V)

M18-VI Type VI: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep39.jpg> = Y21e (VI)

M18-VII Type VII: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep40.jpg> = no Y



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep51.jpg> = Y21f double surcharge

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep52.jpg> = idem

“Halve Penny” on 3p



M19 blau, Nov. 1896: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep41.jpg> : “1896. The halfpenny surcharge in numerals was considered unsatisfactory, so one in words introduced.”; Y20 outremer



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep53.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep54.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep55.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep56.jpg>



<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/fpoAAOSwV0RXsFpd/s-11600.jpg>

+M19-FI mistake "Peuny" = Y20a+ M19-FII without black line ('ohne Balken') + M19-FIII without dot ('ohne Punkt nach 'Penny') = Y20b.

Y20c surcharge renversée; Y20d surcharge double, une renversée

2 ½ on 3p



M20-I (Jan. 1897) + M20-II (Í' instead of 1 in ½):

<http://www.orange-freestate-philately.org.uk/images/rep42.jpg> : "1897. More twopenny halfpenny

stamps needed. The "d" was not used but one fraction on each pane of 60 shows the use of a Roman "1" and an antique "2". This was the last of the republican overprints."

=Y16 outremer

### 1896-1899 R.D.M. Official Franks

The Rijdende Dienst Macht (Mounted Police Force) franks were issued between 1896 and 1899. They bore no value and it is assumed that one frank was worth one penny, the equivalent of the postage for an internal half ounce letter. There were three issues, each in a slightly different design and each printed with a different type setting.



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep69.jpg>



[http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0616.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0616.jpg): "1896 - The R.D.M. (Rijdende Dienst Macht) or Mounted Police Force frank - the first design format."

First Issue. Five types: 1. Damage to 4th ornament down on left; dots weak; T in Dienst faulty. 2. 6th ornament at top damaged; dots regular. 3. Bottom right ornament damaged; D of R.D.M. damaged; 6th and 13th dots faint. 4. Right hand ornaments dropped; 10th dot missing and 12th dot faint. 5. Break in left arm of V; 8th dot is large and 9th is an inverted comma.

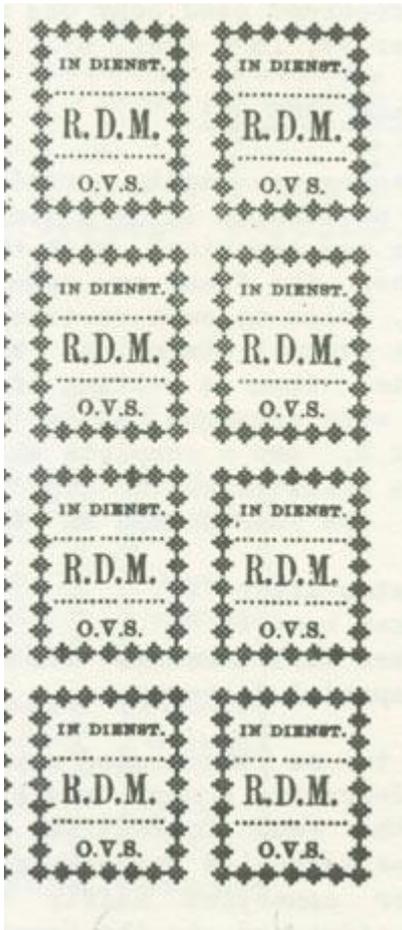


<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/rep70.jpg>

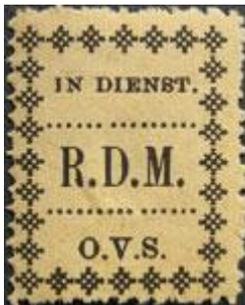


[http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0617.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0617.jpg) : “The R.D.M. - the second format.”

Second Issue. Four types printed in a block (2 x 2). 1. No stop after V; 2. Broken base to O; 3. Broken left serif to V; 4. No special features.



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep71.jpg>



[http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0618.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0618.jpg): “The R.D.M. - the third format.”

Third Issue. Block of 8 impressed three times to form a printing plate of 24 (6 x 4).

1. Spaces between 3rd and 4th dots in first line, and between 9th and 10th dots in second line. Faulty R and M; 2. No stop after V. Faulty D. 3. Faulty R in R.D.M. and O in O.V.S.; 4. Left serif of V faulty. 4th ornament of left faulty; 5. Spaces between 6th and 7th dots in first row, and 9th and 10th dots in second row; 6. Dot spaces as No. 5. 4th ornament at top faulty. stamp No. 14 in the setting of 24 has no stop after DIENST; 7. Spaces between 6th and 7th dots in first row, and 9th and 10th dots in second row. Fault R; 8. Spaces between 6th and 7th dots in first row, and 9th and 10th dots in second row. Dots 4 to 8 heavier in second row.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsrepublic.aspx>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PHrep4.550.jpg> : “The Orange Free State Artillery had its own "Artillerie" cachet for their official mail. This cover from Bloemfontein to Johannesburg 1897”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PHrep5.550.jpg>: “A South African Post Cart in 1884 (The illustration is from The Graphic newspaper of 1st March 1884.)”

**1897**

1/2p yellow



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep10.jpg>

M21 goldgelb, March 1897; Y17 jaune-orange

1Sh brown



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep11.jpg>

M22 rotbraun, August 1897; Y19 brun-jaune

6p blue



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/rep12.jpg>

M-I not issued ('nicht ausgegeben') because at that time Bloemfontein was occupied by British forces, and the stamp was surcharged with V.R.I. see later, or with a Telegraph overprint. ; Y not included.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/ba/Southern\\_Africa\\_1890s\\_Political.jpg/260px-Southern\\_Africa\\_1890s\\_Political.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/ba/Southern_Africa_1890s_Political.jpg/260px-Southern_Africa_1890s_Political.jpg); Map of Southern Africa with Orange Free State in orange, 1897.

## 1898 “Post Noot”



<http://www.corbitts.com/images/shop/stamps/02254.jpg>

## 1899 Anglo-Boer War

### Commando Brief



<http://www.dcstamps.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/SAF-Orange-Free-State-Photo-400x394.jpg> ”

Boer farmer soldiers 1899”.



M not included; Y as Timbre de Franchise 1 Noir sur Jaune: “Ce timbre servit, pendant la guerre du Transvaal, à affranchir les lettres des soldats boers dans les limites du territoire occupé par eux”.

[http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/voll/html/s\\_afr/ovs3.jpg](http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/voll/html/s_afr/ovs3.jpg) : “1899 These stamps were issued during the Boer war in South Africa by the army of the Orange Free State. Actually they are more labels than stamps. The inscription reads 'COMMANDE BRIEF O.V.S. FRANKO' and they were intended to be put on soldier letters to indicate that the contents were 'screened' by an army officer. They were printed in 5 types in sheets of 20 stamps (one row of 5 sheets were printed at a time). They are perforated 12 and were used from October 1899 to March 1900. A total number of 10.000 stamps were printed.”  
[with corrections TD]

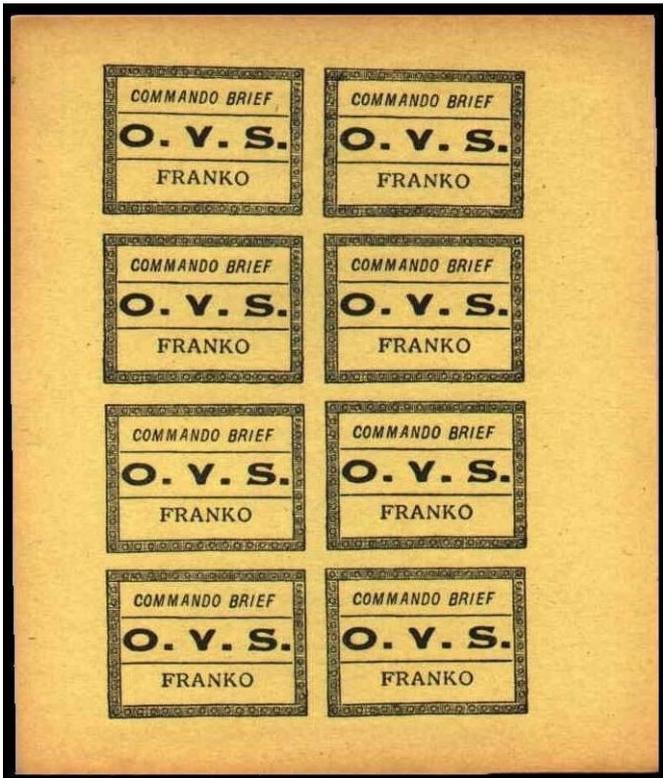
[http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/IMG\\_0619.jpg](http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/IMG_0619.jpg) : “1899 - A Commando Brief frank used at Modder River in the Cape.”

[http://www.philateria.com/South\\_Africa\\_Commando\\_Brief\\_1899\\_orginal.jpg](http://www.philateria.com/South_Africa_Commando_Brief_1899_orginal.jpg)



[http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South\\_Africa\\_Commando\\_Brief\\_1899\\_forgery\\_yellow\\_imperf.jpg](http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South_Africa_Commando_Brief_1899_forgery_yellow_imperf.jpg): forgery with round stops

[http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South\\_Africa\\_Commando\\_Brief\\_1899\\_forgery\\_yellow\\_perf.jpg](http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South_Africa_Commando_Brief_1899_forgery_yellow_perf.jpg): forgery with square stops

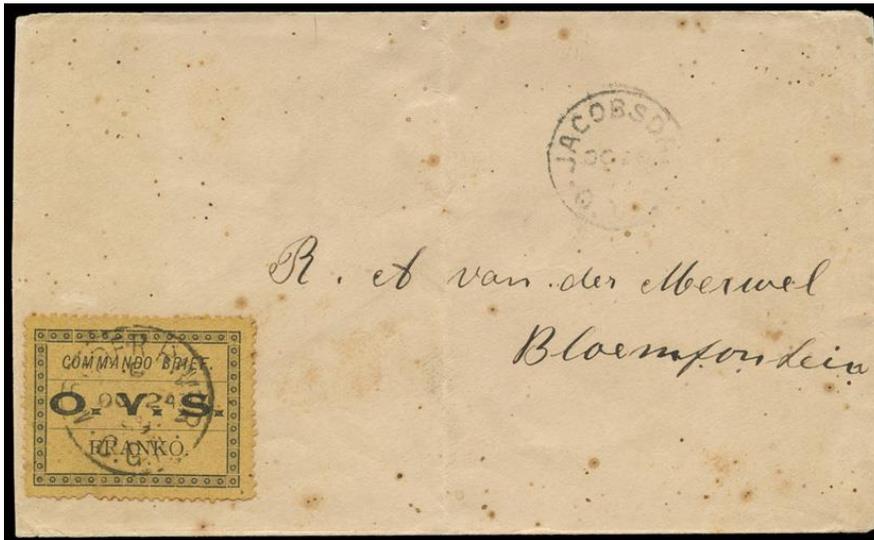


[http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South\\_Africa\\_Commando\\_Brief\\_1899\\_forgery\\_yellow\\_sheet.jpg](http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South_Africa_Commando_Brief_1899_forgery_yellow_sheet.jpg) : complete sheet of forgeries



[http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South\\_Africa\\_Commando\\_Brief\\_1899\\_forgery\\_blue\\_imperf.jpg](http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South_Africa_Commando_Brief_1899_forgery_blue_imperf.jpg): forgery with square stops in blue

[http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South\\_Africa\\_Commando\\_Brief\\_1899\\_forgery\\_pink\\_imperf.jpg](http://www.philateria.com/assets/images/South_Africa_Commando_Brief_1899_forgery_pink_imperf.jpg) : forgery with square stops in pink



[http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn\\_pages/stamp\\_images/67/9239.jpg](http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/67/9239.jpg)

### 1900 Telegraph stamps

Yvert mentions three stamps:

1p violet: Y-T14

6p outremer: Y-T15

1s brun-jaune: Y-T16



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/ePwAAOSwuhhXWlwi/s-1225.jpg>  
<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/fSCAAOSwuhhXWlxW/s-1225.jpg>  
<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/fMIAAOSwzJ5XWlyX/s-1225.jpg>  
<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/bB0AAOSw9eVXWlyK/s-1225.jpg>  
<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/fqEAAOSwuhhXWlxl/s-1225.jpg>  
<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/RCMAAOSwOVpXWlyn/s-1225.jpg>



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/4AkAAOSwnNBXWI0O/s-l225.jpg>

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/4gUAAOSwnNBXWI0p/s-l225.jpg>

[http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img\\_large/auction/000/284/189/865\\_001.jpg](http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/284/189/865_001.jpg)



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/EDoAAOSw9ZdXKZkV/s-l225.jpg>

### 1900 Army usage of postage stamps for Telegraph purposes



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-2d-1.jpg>



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/ARMY-2.gif>



<http://www.dcstamps.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/SAF-Orange-Free-State-British-Occ-Map-400x468.gif>

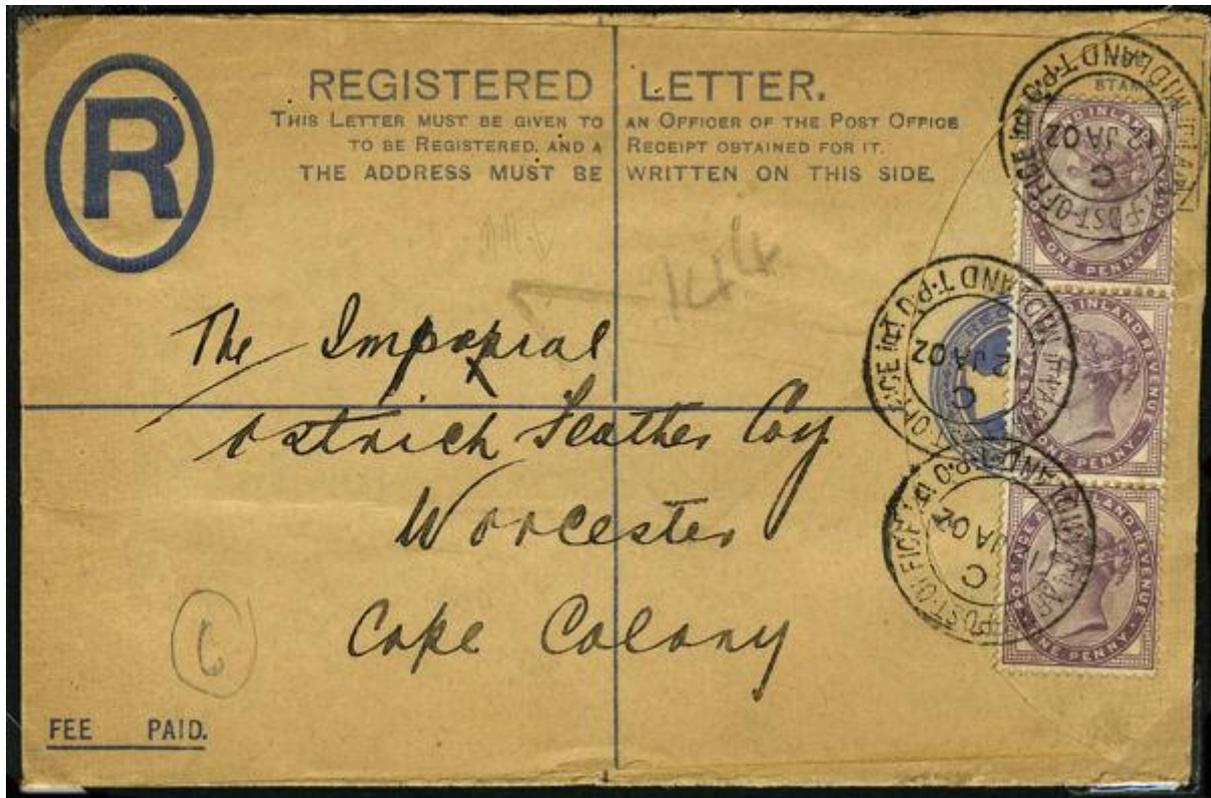
### British Occupation:

“THE SECOND ANGLO BOER WAR. The Second Anglo Boer War started on 11th October 1899 and British Troops occupied Bloemfontein on 13th March 1900. The OFS stamps and stationery were invalidated and overprinted with "V.R.I." (Victoria Regina Imperatrix). The overprinted stamps are a complete study in themselves, but also the postal history of the war has so much to offer with the noting of censor marks, movement restrictions on mail and the postmarks. Many OFS collectors belong also to the Anglo-Boer War Society which specialises in this period.”

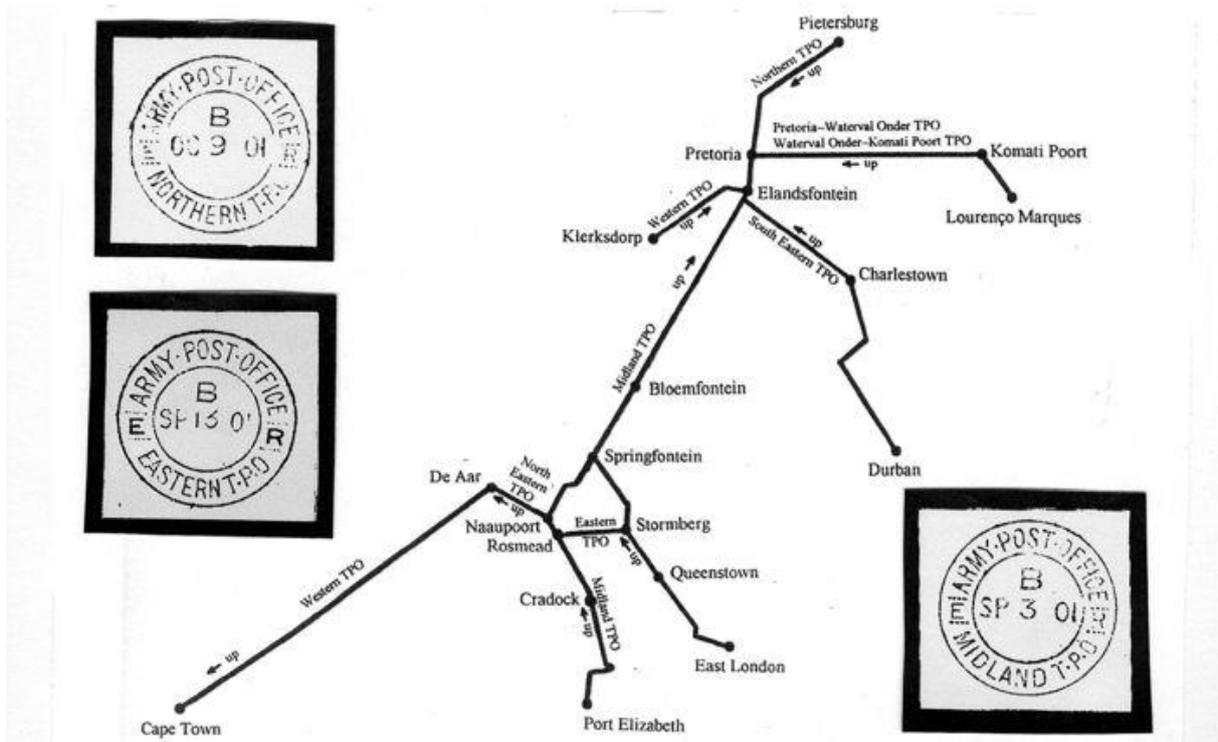
<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/angloboer.aspx>

“STAMPS - SECOND ANGLO BOER WAR. On the outbreak of war on the 11th of October 1899, the Transvaal and O.F.S. commandos invaded Cape Colony and Natal. On the Cape front they occupied a territory about 25 miles parallel with the border, in which republican issues were valid for postage. After early setbacks, the British under Lord Roberts advanced to the relief of Kimberley and Mafeking and, following the surrender of General Cronje at Paardeburg, Roberts entered Bloemfontein on the 13th March 1900 unopposed. Following the occupation, the stamps and stationery of the O.F.S. were immediately declared invalid. Within a few days, British Occupation issues were produced by the printers, Curling & Co., locally, in Bloemfontein, by overprinting the republican issues "V.R.I." (Victoria Regina Imperatrix).

"V.R.I." overprints had to be applied to postage, revenue and telegraph stamps, leading to a complex series of settings and numerous varieties. Altogether 17 separate printing operations have been so far ascertained and the following is the sequence in which it is believed they were carried out".

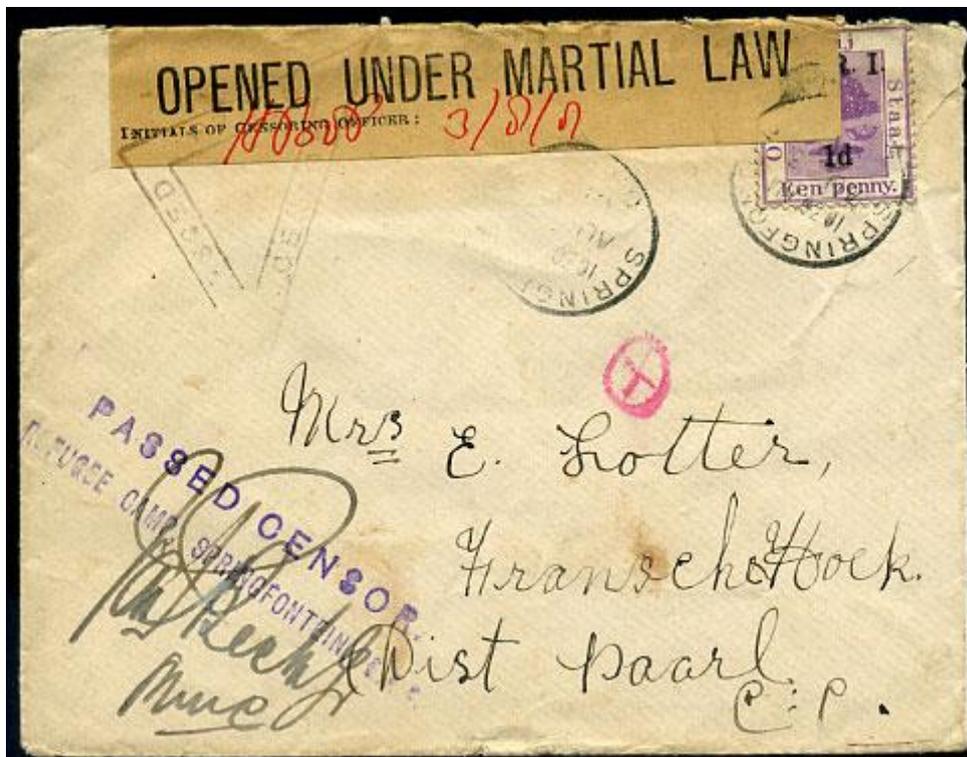


<http://www.tpo-seapost.org.uk/tpo2/image2/tpsaimr7a.jpg>: "GB registered postal stationery envelope on which the franking is cancelled with the Midland TPO datestamp coded 'C' set at '12 JA 02'. The sender recorded his name on the reverse as Colour Sergeant Malley, 3rd Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment. Other covers posted on Midland TPO suggest that there was a detachment of the East Lancs near Virginia, a township on the railway south of Kroonstad. There are no transit or arrival datestamps; the censor mark was probably struck in Worcester." Bibliography: Griffiths, K., and Drysdall, A.R., 1997, *The Travelling Post Offices of Imperial Military Railways*: Publication No. 6, Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society.



<http://www.tpo-seapost.org.uk/tpo2/image2/tpsaimr3b.jpg>

1900: “V.R.I.” (Victoria Regina Imperatrix)



<http://www.michael-hamilton.com/images/ORC58161.jpg>



Filat\_ch

www.delcampe.net

[http://images-00.delcampe-static.net/img\\_large/auction/000/387/265/913\\_001.jpg](http://images-00.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/387/265/913_001.jpg): “ORANGE FREE STATE 1900 RARE NATAL ARCHIVE SPECIMEN GROUP”

1/2 d on 1/2 p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW1.jpg> : “1. The First Postage issue. Feature: all V's are thin and the stops after the letters are level with the base of the letters; all current values printed including both the 6d blue and the 6d carmine.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW13.jpg>: “12. Fourth Postage (second half). Values: 1/2d and 1d. Feature: similar to the first half, i.e. prior to the Second Army Telegraph, but can be identified by small type variations.”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW22.jpg>: “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW24.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW25.jpg>

M23 goldgelb (19/3/1900); Y22 jaune-orange

1d on 1p brown



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/be/Orange\\_Free\\_State,\\_1900\\_V.R.I.\\_overprint,\\_level\\_stops,\\_1d\\_on\\_1d\\_brown.jpg/220px-Orange\\_Free\\_State,\\_1900\\_V.R.I.\\_overprint,\\_level\\_stops,\\_1d\\_on\\_1d\\_brown.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/be/Orange_Free_State,_1900_V.R.I._overprint,_level_stops,_1d_on_1d_brown.jpg/220px-Orange_Free_State,_1900_V.R.I._overprint,_level_stops,_1d_on_1d_brown.jpg)

MII rotbraun as: not officially issued; not in Yvert

1d on 1p violet



<http://i1231.photobucket.com/albums/ee508/honzastamps/varieties/ORC%20113%20amp%20124%20.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW26.jpg>: “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”

<http://www.stampdomain.com/country/southafrica/Lest01r.jpg>

<http://i245.photobucket.com/albums/gg67/neilansell/Idopt001.jpg>

M24 violett (19/3/1900); Y23 violet

2d on 2p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW7.jpg>: “7. Third Postage. Values: ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 6d blue, 1/- 5/- postage. Features: thin V on most stamps and all stops raised, but in early states there are 7 thick V's on Nos. 5, 17, 23, 39, 45, 47 and 48. The thick V on No. 47 soon became damaged and was replaced by a normal thin V. Value in bold face type.”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW27.jpg> : “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”

M25 violett (30/3/1900); Y24 violet

2 ½ d on 3p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW10.jpg>: “10. Fourth Postage (first part). Values: ½d, 1d, 2½d and 6d carmine. Feature: thick V's on Nos. 2, 14, 20, 40, 43 and 46 and it is a mirror image of the later state of the third setting. Value in bold face type. The printing was interrupted in order to print more telegraph stamps.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW18.jpg>: “16. Sixth Postage. Values: 2½d and 6d carmine. Features: part of the setting of the Fifth Postage, but with level stops, used to overprint small blocks. Printing is usually inky, perhaps from the use of uncleaned type face. Multiples are rare.”

M26 blau (19/3/1900); Y25 outremer

3d on 3p



[http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img\\_thumb/auction/000/387/264/666\\_001.jpg](http://images-01.delcampe-static.net/img_thumb/auction/000/387/264/666_001.jpg)



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW28.jpg>: “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW30.jpg>

M27 blau (2/4/1900); Y26 outremer

4d on 4p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW6.jpg>: “6. Second Postage. Values: ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d carmine, 6d blue, 1/-, 5/- postage. Features: thin V throughout and most of the stops raised, but there are 8 level stops distributed over 4 stamps; value in bold face type.”

M28 blau (21/3/1900); Y27 outremer

6d on 6p



[http://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img\\_thumb/auction/000/387/261/295\\_001.jpg](http://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img_thumb/auction/000/387/261/295_001.jpg)

M29 rosa (21/3/1900); Y28 rose

6d on 6p

M30 blau (21/3/1900); Y29 [Outremer]

1s on 1Sh

M31 rotbraun (19/3/1900); Y30 brun-jaune

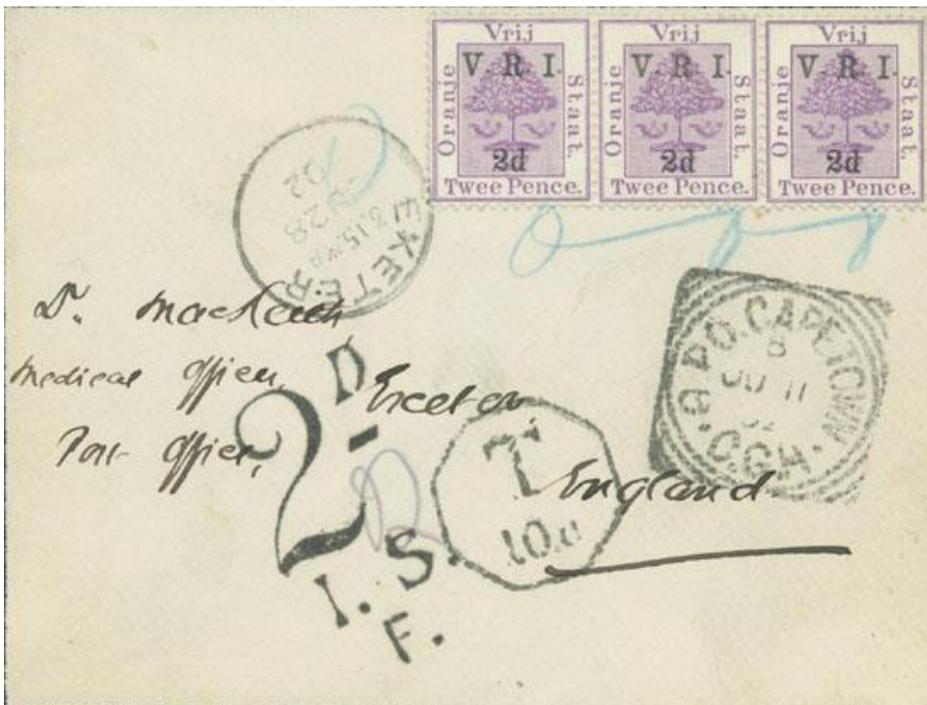
1s on 1 Sh; MIII orange not officially issued; not mentioned in Yvert

5s on 5Sh



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW23.jpg>: “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”

M32 grün (21/3/1900); Y31 vert



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PHedward%201.550.jpg> : “OFS stamps not accepted for postage in the Cape in June 1902”.



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-8.jpg>: “The V.R.I. Overprints on Republican Postcards. All stocks of stationery found in the Post Office by the British were given the V.R.I. overprint.”



<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-9.jpg> : “The V.R.I. Overprints on Republican Postcards. All stocks of stationery found in the Post Office by the British were given the V.R.I. overprint.”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-10.jpg>: “The V.R.I. Overprints on Republican Postcards. All stocks of stationery found in the Post Office by the British were given the V.R.I. overprint.”

Yvert gives the V.R.I overprint as part of its category of ‘Timbres pour cartes postales’, with one value. Also Michel mentions this stamp.

1 ½ d:2p MPo8 violett V.R.I.; Y-TCP8 violet.

## 1900 Revenue Stamps



<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/SABW3.jpg> : “3. First 6d revenue. Feature: thin V's and level stops; value in light-face type.”

<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/SABW15.jpg> : “14. Second 6d Revenue. Features: Thick V's on Nos. 10, 19, 22 and 25; raised stops and value in bold face type.”

<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/SABW19.jpg> : “17. Third 6d Revenue. Feature: Light face type and level stops from a new format; no type varieties.”



<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/SABW9.jpg> : “9. Third Revenue. Values: 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 6/-, 7/-, £2, £4 and £5 revenue. Features: thick V's on Nos. 5, 17, 23, 39, 45 and 48. Stops raised, but level stop after "s" on the shilling values. Value in bold face type on shilling values and light face type on pound values.”



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/JkQAAOSwc1FXcAvK/s-l225.jpg>



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/AksAAOSwZ8ZW5bA4/s-1225.jpg>



[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/193/955193\\_111130124517\\_Orange\\_Free\\_State\\_Revenue\\_Stamps\\_BH\\_89.jpg](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/193/955193_111130124517_Orange_Free_State_Revenue_Stamps_BH_89.jpg)



<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/SABW4.jpg>: “4. Second revenue. 1/-, 5/- and 10/- values. Features: thin V's and stops mostly raised, but there are 18 level stops spread over 11 stamps in the setting.”

<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/SABW29.jpg>: “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW2.jpg>: “2. The First Revenue issue. Feature: all V's thin and all stops level; £1 and £5 values only. Examples are rare and consequently very little is known about this setting, but it is believed to have been of either 40 or 60.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW31.jpg> : “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/LMAAAOSw3YNXcAvS/s-1225.jpg>



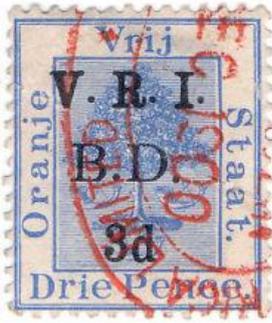
<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW20.jpg>: “18. Fifth Revenue. Values: 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 3/-, 6/-, 10/-, £2 and £3. Feature: Light face type from a new fount.”

[http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn\\_pages/stamp\\_images/67/9194.jpg](http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/67/9194.jpg)



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW14.jpg>: “13. Fourth Revenue. Values: 4/-, 5/-, 9/-, £1, £3 and £5. Features: thick V's on Nos. 2, 8, 11 and 22. Stops raised, no stop after value, and value in bold face type.”

[http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user\\_images/193/955193/955193\\_160302094254\\_O.F.S.\\_Revenue\\_Stamps\\_B&H\\_98.JPG](http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/193/955193/955193_160302094254_O.F.S._Revenue_Stamps_B&H_98.JPG)

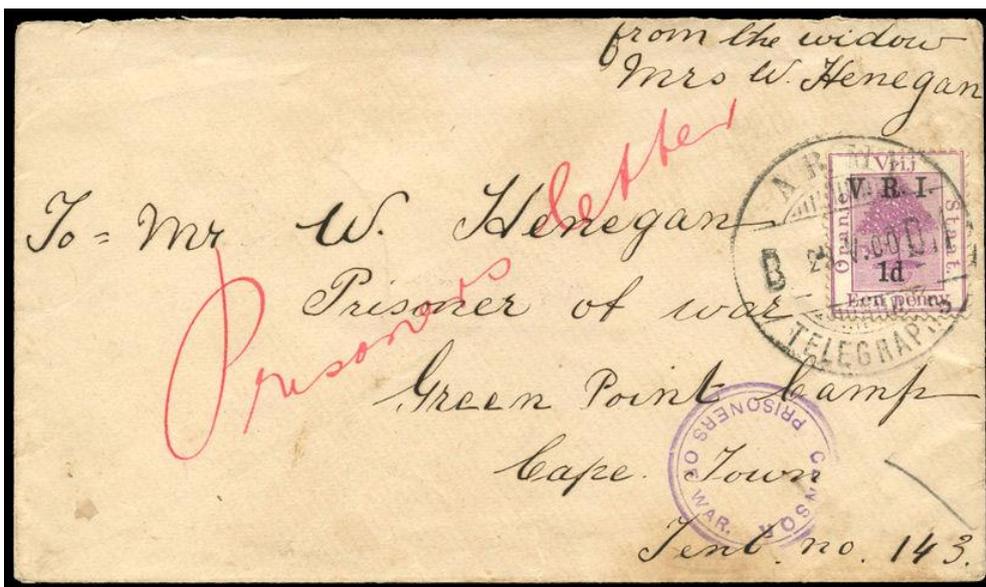


<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/ADYAAOSwoudW5a7i/s-l225.jpg>

### 1900 Army Telegraph Cancellations



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OFS-TSM-1.jpg>



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-G67-1642.jpg>



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-380979989173.jpg>



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-G28-3647.jpg>

### 1901 Telegraph stamps

Yvert mentions four stamps with V.R.I and TF:

1p violet: Y-T17

3p Outremer: Y-T18

6p Outremer: Y-T19

1s brun-rouge: Y-T20



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-1d-H40.jpg>

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/91/51/1a/91511ae2881bb53023275b2f58fa356d.jpg>

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-3d-3.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW5.jpg>: “5. Telegraph. Values: 1d, 3d, 6d blue, 1/- telegraph. Features: thin V throughout, and most of the stops raised, but there are 13 level stops distributed over 10 stamps; no overprinted value.”

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-sp-H44.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW21.jpg>: “Some of the major varieties found in the V.R.I. Settings”



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-1s-2.jpg> <http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-AT-OFS-43n.jpg>

### 1901 Army Telegraph Stamps

Yvert mentions eight different stamps, five with “V.R.I. / A.T” on postage stamps, and three with “V.R.I. / A.T” on revenue stamps.

1p violet: Y-T21

3p Outremer: Y-T22

6p Outremer: Y-T23

1s brun-rouge: Y-T24

5s vert: Y-T25

10s orange: Y-T26

1£ lilas: Y-T27

4£ rose: Y-T28



<https://www.cherrystonestamps.com/stamps/78967.jpg>



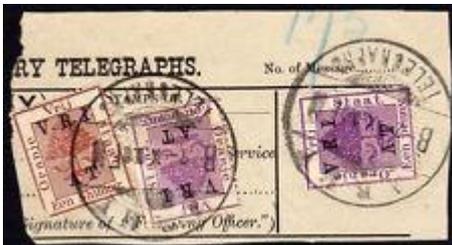
<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-1d-H49.jpg>

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-3d-2.jpg>

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-6d-H51.jpg>



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-AT-OFS-50-ho.jpg>



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/MkYAAOSwV0RXp04z/s-l225.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW8.jpg>: "8. First Army Telegraph. Values: 1d, 3d, 6d blue and 1/- postage. Feature: identical with the Third Postage setting but with "AT" instead of value."

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW17.jpg>: “15a. Third Army Telegraph. Value: 1/- postage. Setting probably identical with the fifth postage setting. No panes known to exist and examples which can be identified with a fifth postage setting variety are rare.”

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-1s-1.jpg>



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-1s-3.jpg>

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-1s-4.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW11.jpg> : “11. Second Army Telegraph. Values: 5/- postage, 10/-, £1 and £4 revenue. Feature: identical with the fourth postage setting but with "AT" instead of the value.”

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-5s-H53.jpg>



<http://www.michael-hamilton.com/images/ORC58695.jpg> : “ARMY TELEGRAPHS, Orange River Colony postmark dated K 23 VII 00 on 10/- orange postal fiscal ovp'd both V.R.I. and A T.”



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-20s-1.jpg>

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-20s-2.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/SABW12.jpg>: “11. Second Army Telegraph.  
Values: 5/- postage, 10/-, £1 and £4 revenue. Feature: identical with the fourth postage setting but with  
"AT" instead of the value.”

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-H56.jpg>



[https://www.sandafayre.com/philatelicarticles/articleimages/vri\\_3.jpg](https://www.sandafayre.com/philatelicarticles/articleimages/vri_3.jpg)

### 1900 “ORANGE RIVER COLONY”

“STAMPS - ORANGE RIVER COLONY: Although the whole of the O.F.S. was formally annexed to the British Crown and renamed the Orange River Colony on the 28th of May 1900, a guerrilla war continued for a further eighteen months and it was not until the 31st of May 1902 that the war was formally ended by the signing of the Peace Treaty at Vereeniging. In mid-1900, it was confidently expected that the V.R.I. issues would be superseded by a definitive issue bearing the portrait of Queen Victoria. Plans underway for such an issue however had to be scrapped following the death of the Queen in January 1901. The result was a further group of provisionals produced by overprinting both Republican and Cape issues. With stocks of ½d and 2½d stamps becoming depleted in mid-1900, sheets of the corresponding values of the current issue of Cape Colony were overprinted with the words "ORANGE RIVER COLONY". Stocks of the 1d value were similarly treated in 1902.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsorangeriver.aspx>

1/2p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC1.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC4.jpg> : “Double print”

M33 grün (Oct 1900); Y32 vert-jaune

1p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC2.jpg>

M34 rosa (July 1902); Y33 rose

2 ½ p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC3.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC5.jpg> : “Misplaced sideways”.

M35 ultramarin (August 1900); Y34 outremer [also: “Existent sans point après COLONY “.



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PHsabw4.jpg> : “There was much philatelic use by both soldiers and civilians.”



<http://www.filat.ch/images/pictures/vxtq13w.jpg> : “1900-02 Cape Hope Standing Overprinted: Cape ½d green & 1d carmine ovptd (SG 133-134). The pair handstamped "ULTRAMAR" (by the Portuguese authorities prior to distribution to their overseas colonies as specimens) in blue. F-VF unused (gum washed), a rare pair.”

**1902 “V.R.I.”**

4d on 6d on 6p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC6.jpg>: “During 1902 the higher values became in short supply. First, the little used VRI 6d's (Third and Fifth settings) were surcharged in red with "4d" and a short bar cancelling the "6d"”

M36 rot auf blau, March 1902; Y35 outremer

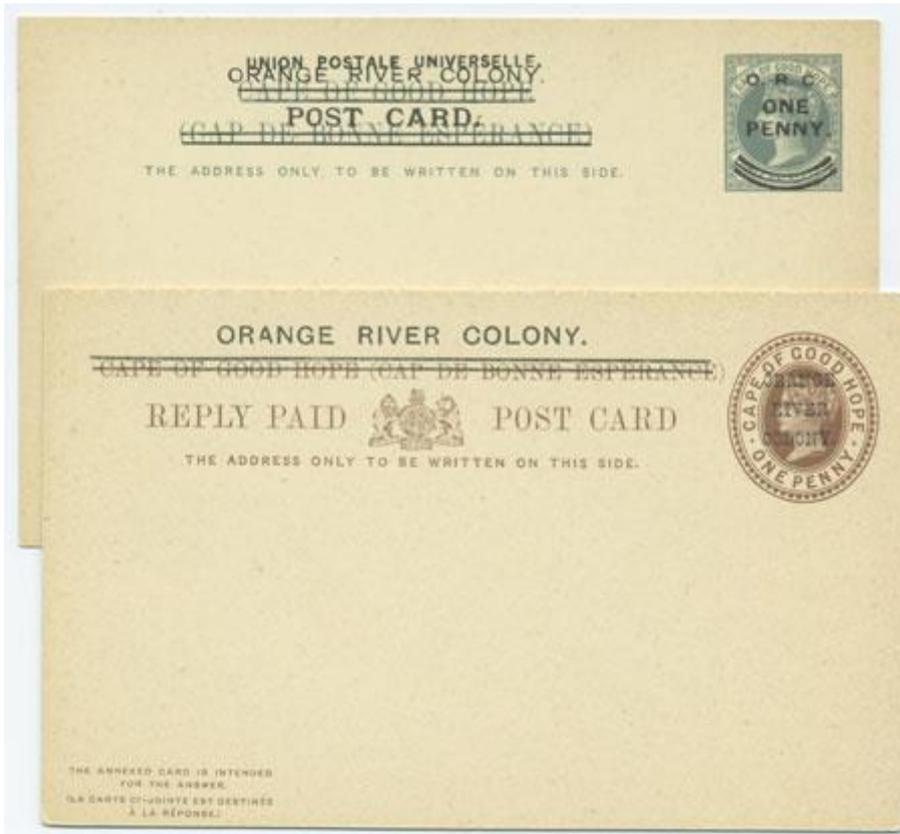
One Shilling on 5s on 5Sh



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC8.jpg>: “In August 1902 a residual stock of the republican 6d without overprint was validated with "E.R.I." and "6d", and the following month 1/- postage stamps were provided with the surcharging of VRI 5/- stamps (Third setting) with "One Shilling" and a star in red.”

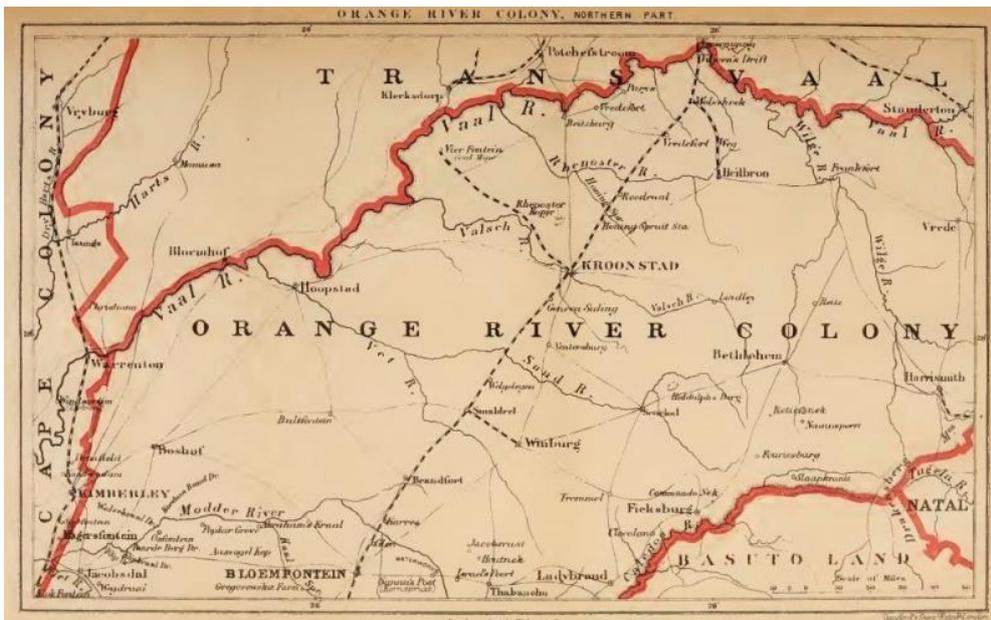
M37 rot auf grün, Oct 1902; Y36 vert

“Orange River Colony - Pre Edward. As with the stamps, when the stocks of VRI printed postcards ran out the situation was such that resource had to be made to use Cape cards with an Orange River Colony overprint. The Cape ONE PENNY on three halfpence provisional card was further overprinted. The card is found with a stop after PENNY and also without a stop. It is also found with UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE either printed on the card or handstamped, to give a combination of four versions. Additionally the ORANGE RIVER COLONY overprint is found in five different type settings giving a potential 20 different cards for the collector. The Cape Reply Paid Post Card was also overprinted.” <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stationery.aspx>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-11.jpg>

File:The-great-boer-war-1902-map5.jpg



<https://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/images/c/c4/The-great-boer-war-1902-map4.jpg>



<https://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/images/thumb/e/eb/The-great-boer-war-1902-map3.jpg/579px-The-great-boer-war-1902-map3.jpg>

See: <https://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/index.php?title=File:The-great-boer-war-1902-map3.jpg>

## Orange River Colony

THE EDWARDIAN PERIOD: "Although the whole of the O.F.S. was formally annexed to the British Crown and renamed the Orange River Colony on the 28th May 1900, a guerrilla war continued for a further eighteen months and it was not until the 31st May 1902 that the war was formally ended by the signing of the Peace Treaty at Vereeniging. The first Edwardian postage stamp, the 1d value, was issued in early 1903 and this was quickly followed by the rest of the postage values and the revenue stamps." <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/edwardian.aspx>

## 1902 "E.R.I."

6d on 6p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC7.jpg>: “In August 1902 a residual stock of the republican 6d without overprint was validated with "E.R.I." and "6d",”

M38 blau (Aug. 1902); M37 outremer; Y37a “double surcharge; une renversée”

### 1903 Edward VII, with Wm1”

“The Edwardian Postage Stamps. The first Edwardian postage stamp, the 1d value, was issued early in 1903. This was quickly followed by the rest of the postage values and the revenue stamps. These issues have a particularly attractive design and colour scheme. The 4d value includes the spectacular "IOSTAGE" plate flaw. The paper was watermarked with the Crown CA. Later the values ½d, 1d, 4d and 1/- were reprinted on Multi Crown CA watermarked paper.”

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsorangeriver.aspx>

1/2 p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC11.jpg>

M39 grün; M38 vert

1p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC12.jpg>

M40 rot (March 1903); Y39 rouge

2p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC13.jpg>

M41 braun; Y40 sépia

2 ½ p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC14.jpg>

M42 blau; M41 outremer

3p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC15.jpg>

M43 lila; Y42 violet-brun

4p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC16.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC17.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC18.jpg>

M44 olivgrün/rot; Y43 olive et rouge

M44I IOSTAGE instead of POSTAGE

6p



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC19.jpg>

M45 lila/rot: M44 violet-brun et rouge

1Sh



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC20.jpg>

M46 braungelb/rot; M45 bistre et rouge

5Sh



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC21.jpg>

M47 gelbbraun/blau (1904); M46 brun-jaune et bleu

### 1903 The Edwardian Revenue Stamps

The first Edwardian revenue stamps were printed by De La Rue on 20th May 1903 and issued in the Colony during the latter half of 1903. A further five values were issued in 1905. The 2/- value is found in three different colour combinations. Apart from the 1/-, 10/-, £1, £2 and £5, all values were printed on both Crown CC and Crown CA watermarked paper according to the date they were printed originally, or reprinted.





<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsorangeriver.aspx>

### 1905 Telegraph stamps

Yvert mentions two stamps with "V.R.I./T":

6p:2d:2p violet: Y-T29

1s:3d:3p Outremer: Y-T30



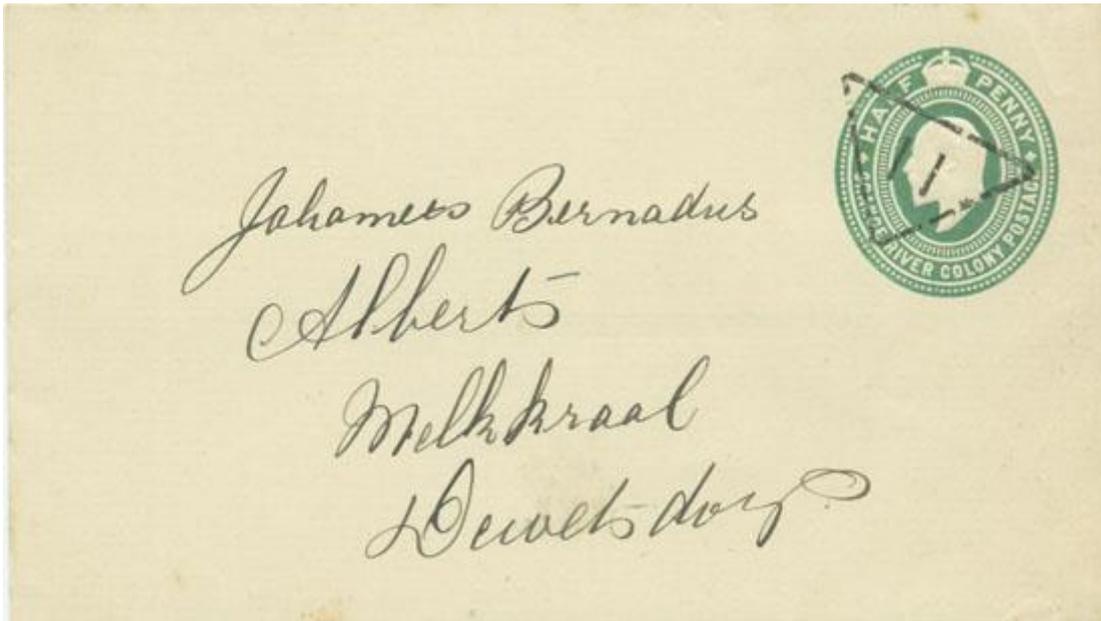
<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/ORC9.jpg>: “To provide 6d and 1/- telegraph stamps in 1903 a stock of the 2d (Fifth setting) was surcharge additionally with "T", "Six Pence" and a bar, and the VRI 3d (Fifth setting) was similarly surcharged but with "One Shilling". Both are uncommon.”

<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/ORC10.jpg> : “Note variety "Shilling"”



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-6d-H47.jpg>

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/OVS-1s-H48.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/a%20PHedward%202.550.jpg> : “A halfpenny envelope used for printed matter with an unidentified triangular postmark No. 11.”

#### 1905, Edward VII with Wm 2



<https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/49177351.jpg> : “SOUTH AFRICA - COLONIES & REPUBLICS - ORANGE FREE STATE 1905 Ed VII set complete, SG 148/151”

1/2p: M48 grün (1907); Y47 vert

1p: M49 rot; M48 rouge

4p: M50 olivgrün/rot; M49 olive et rouge

M50I idem IOSTAGE

1Sh: M51 braungelb/rot (1909); Y50 bistre et rouge

#### 1906 Map



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/PhwAAOxytBZSRUWW/s-l225.jpg> : “Antique folded Map of the Orange River Colony Basutoland 1906 by Cape Times”

### Army Telegraph Cancellation 1907



<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/ORC-MG-1a.jpg>

<http://gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/images/ORC-MG-1b.jpg>

**TF surch = Telegraph**

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### 1909 Postcards

“Edwardian Stationery. A selection of the stationery printed with the head of King Edward VII. A halfpenny provisional postcard was produced in 1909 by overprinting the current one penny card with the fraction and a heavy bar.”



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-13.jpg>



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/STATIONERY-12.jpg>

### 1905 Central South African Railways - C.S.A.R.

“In February 1905 a small number of the current Orange River Colony stamps were overprinted with the initials of the Central South African Railways - C.S.A.R. - for their sole use. Values: ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d and 1/-. Following their withdrawal the Railway perforated their stamps CSAR. The Natal Government Railways also perforated their stamps which they used with the initials NGR.” <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsorangeriver.aspx>

CSAR overprints on ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 6p, 1Sh



<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC22.jpg>

Not in Michel; Yvert: Y Timbres de Service 1-7



<http://i245.photobucket.com/albums/gg67/neilansell/Railway%200001.jpg>

CSAR in ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 6p, 1Sh



<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/ORC23.jpg>

<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/ORC24.jpg>

### 1909 CSAR Parcels Stamp



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/6Q4AAOSw6n5Xq26D/s-l225.jpg>

[http://thumbs1.picclick.com/d/1400/pict/291871584584 /Central-South-African-Railway-parcel-stamp.jpg](http://thumbs1.picclick.com/d/1400/pict/291871584584/Central-South-African-Railway-parcel-stamp.jpg): "Central South African Railway parcel stamp"

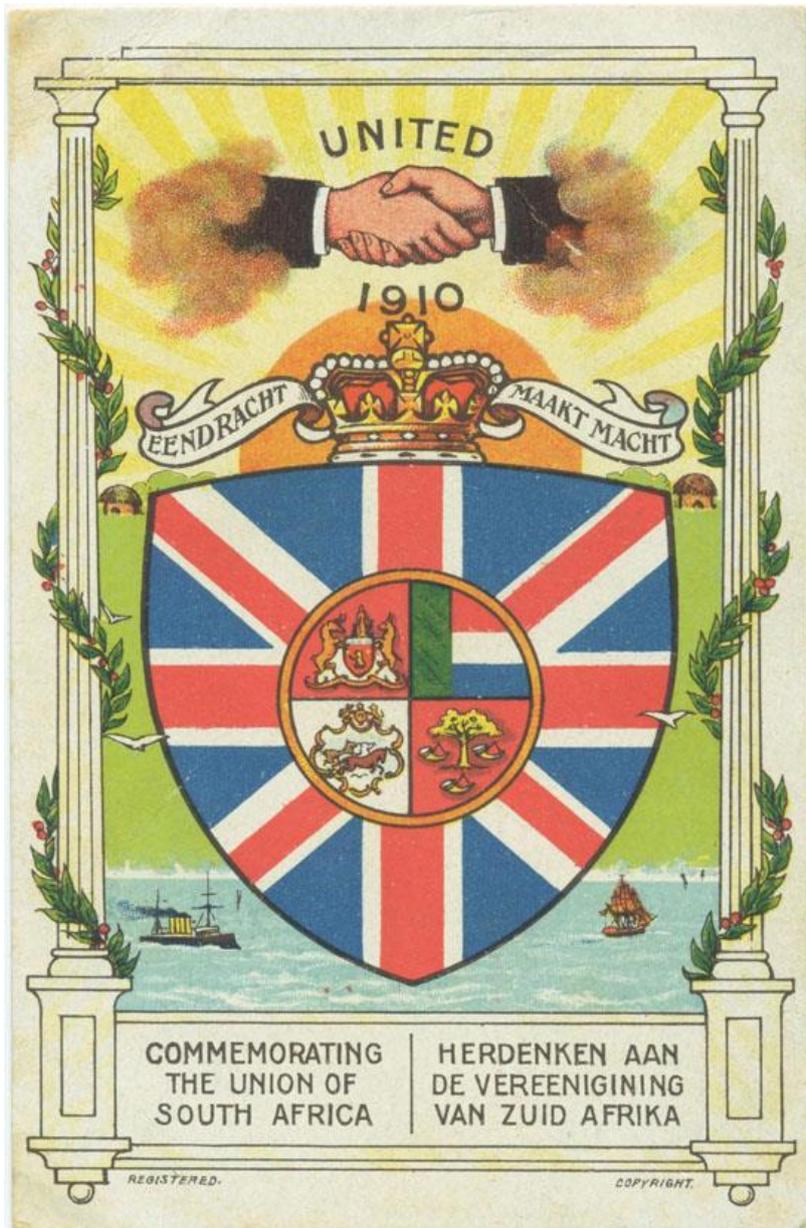
Not in Michel or in Yvert

### After 1910

**From 31/5 1910 Orange Free State became part of the Union of South Africa and all stamps could be used everywhere in the Union until 31/12/1937.**

"The Union of South Africa. On 31st May 1910 the four colonies, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal, united to form the Union of South Africa."

<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/edwardian.aspx>



<http://www.orangefreestatesphilately.org.uk/images/a%20PHedward%205.550.jpg> : “A picture postcard commemorating the Union.”

**1911 SAR postmark on both ORC and Transvaal**



<http://www.michael-hamilton.com/images/ORCuTVL46590.jpg>

**Ca 1912 Customs Duty**



[http://thumbs3.picclick.com/d/w1600/pict/371698669194\\_IB-Orange-River-Colony-Revenue-Customs-Duty.jpg](http://thumbs3.picclick.com/d/w1600/pict/371698669194_IB-Orange-River-Colony-Revenue-Customs-Duty.jpg): "Orange River Colony Revenue Customs Duty 1912 as pictured Good Used Condition A rarely seen revenue"

**Ca 1915 Entertainment stamps**



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/3101182.jpg?522>: “The Entertainments Duty stamps of Orange Free State are inscribed bilingually, with both English and Afrikaans appearing on each stamp. c1915-20 (according to Barefoot). Arms of the Province.”

**Sources suggested:**

See: <http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsrepublic.aspx>

**LINKS**

Website Designed by **Liquid Web Design**

Philately Sites:

Stamp Circuit Philatelic Services

Website: **www.stampcircuit.com**

The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society

Secretary: Nick P. Harris, 3 Mermaid Way, Malden, Essex CM9 5LA.

Website: **www.boerwarsociety.org**

The Cape & Natal Study Circle

Secretary: John Dickson, Lismore House, Shepton Beauchamp, Somerset TA19 0LJ

Website: **www.nzsc.demon.co.uk**

The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa

Secretary: Ronald Strawser, 5819 Alderfield Ct., Houston, TX 77084-5888, USA

Website: **www.psgsa.thestampweb.com**

South African Collectors' Society

Secretary: C. Oliver, 46 Woodville Road, Ham, Richmond, Surrey TW10 7QN

Website: **www.thespringbok.africastamps.co.uk**

Transvaal Study Circle

Website: **www.transvaalstamps.org.uk**

The Royal Philatelic Societ London

Contact: The Secretary, RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY

Website: **www.rpsl.org.uk**

The Rhodesian Study Circle

Website: **www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk**

The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors

Website: **www.aape.org**

UK Philately

Website: **www.ukphilately.org.uk**

<http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/links.aspx>