

ZULULAND

11 January 1879 --- 30 June 1898

The aim of this exhibit is to show both the philatelist and the the lay person who is interested in Zululand Philately, a comprehensive and logical story of the postal services of Zululand at that time. In order to show this, there are extensive sections on the Military Mail of The Anglo Zulu War Of 1879, mint and used stamps and their usages on cover, as well as The Postmarks of Zululand which are mainly on cover.

To facilitate the aim of this Exhibit, limited examples of used and specimen Postal Stationary, Official Mail and Revenue stamps are shown.

This Exhibit covers two distinct periods in the postal history of Zululand :

A. THE FORERUNNER MAIL

This spans the period from the start of The Anglo Zulu War, on 11 January 1879, until after the annexation of Zululand by the British on 11 May 1887.

B. THE OFFICIAL MAIL

It was nearly 12 months after the the formal annexation of Zululand by the British that provision was made for the issue of postage and revenue stamps for this territory. This Proclamation occurred in the Natal Government Gazette on 15 May 1888, stating that a postal agreement had come into force by the First of that Month. Zululand stamps were available in the Territory until 30 June 1898, six months after Zululand had been annexed into the Colony of Natal.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

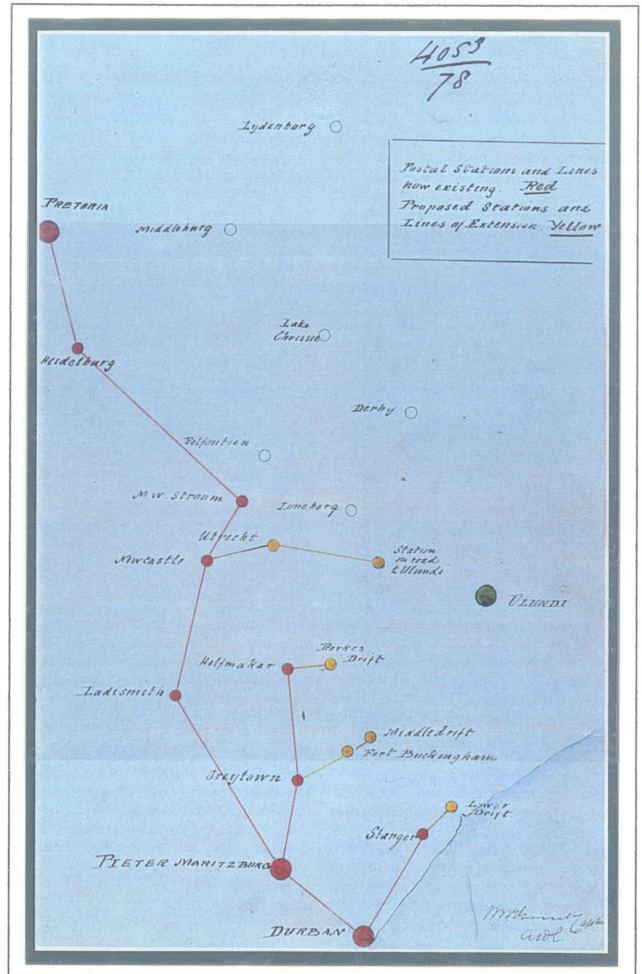
- * Tommy Atkins Letters - National Army Museum Publication
- * Narrative Of The Field Operations Connected With The Zulu War Of 1889 - Greenhill Books
- * The Anglo - Zulu War - Prof. John Laband & Ian Knight
- * The Postmarks Of Zululand - Davis & Joseph
- * The Postal Markings Of Natal - Hart, Kanty & Leon
- * The Postmark History Of Swaziland & Zululand - E. B. Proud
- * Natal & Zululand Post (Various Issues)
- * Specimen Stamps Of The Crown Colonies 1857 - 1948 M. L. Samuel
- * The Postmarks Of Zululand - Peter Witmore

The Forerunner Mails - The Anglo-Zulu War

ROUTES: On 26 Oct. 1878 Lt. Col. Crealock, assistant military secretary to Chelmsford, wrote to the Colonial Secretary of Natal to request a meeting with the colony's Post Master Gen. to discuss the postal requirements, should Zululand be invaded. Chelmsford's intention was to invade at four points, with Columns advancing from Lower Tugela Drift, Middledrift, Rorke's Drift and Utrecht (yellow dots). He wished these lines of advance to be connected to the established post stations (red dots), to which mailbags would be sent by express riders or runners.

RATES: On 6 November 1878 Col. William Bellairs, Lord Chelmsford's Deputy Adjutant and Quarter Master Gen. sent a letter to the Colonial Secretary of Natal suggesting that because of the difficulties of obtaining stamps in the field that letters written by troops away from Durban and Pietermaritzburg should pass free. This proposal was not accepted in its entirety and only letters from the field to addresses within a colony would be sent free. Soldiers' letters to the U.K. would be charged at 1d. while officers would pay 6d.

MARKINGS: Letters written during the campaign did not receive any postal or other marking until they were absorbed in the colonial postal system, when the postage stamps were obliterated by killers, numerical barred cancellers or date stamps were applied. In order to qualify for the 1d. rate above, soldiers' letters had to be endorsed by their regimental officers. Officers' letters were also generally endorsed by themselves. If no stamps were available a '1d. Due' hand stamp was added for soldiers and a '6d. Due' added for officers in England.



Map showing extensions of the postal service required for a military force operating in Zululand. November 1878. National Army Museum 6807-386-10-16.



1879 (May) A soldier's letter to London with the correct 1d. rate, entering the postal system at Durban and tied with a '2' barred canceller.

Military Mail

The 13th (Somersetshire) Light Infantry

The 13th Light Infantry operated in the North and central Zululand areas as part of the no. 4 Column under Col. Wood and saw action in the battle of Kambula on 29th March 1879.

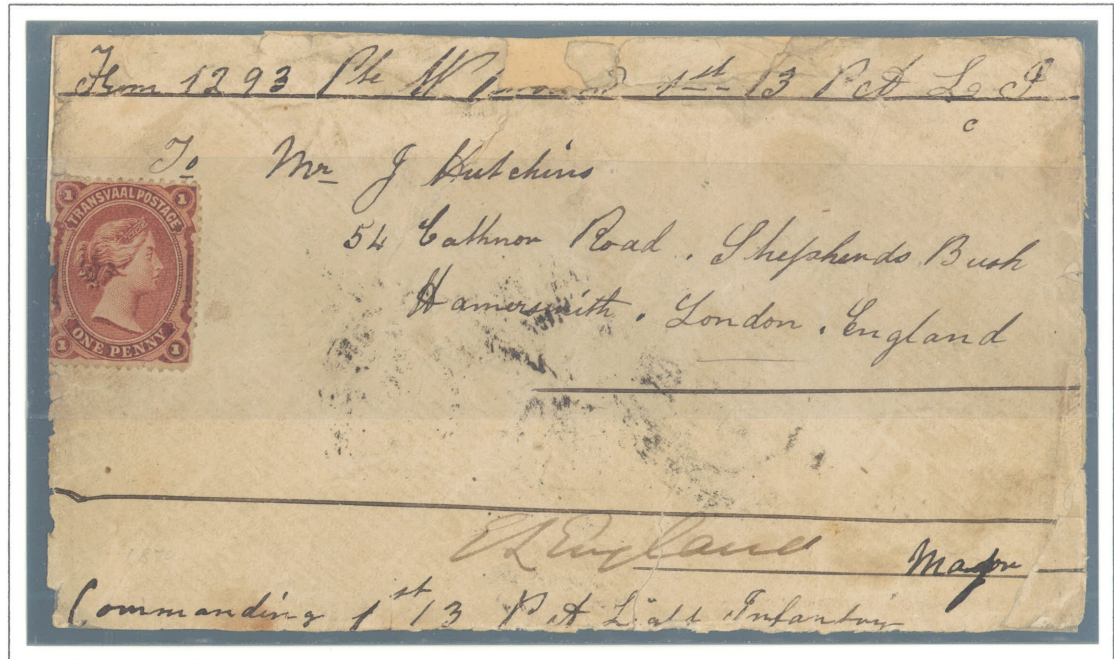
Backstamped

G.P.O/Natal
22/05/79

Durban/Natal
22/05/79

London
24/JU/79

London
24/JU/79



A soldier's letter to London, showing the 1d. soldiers' rate and endorsed by Maj. E.L. England and not tied, as post was forwarded through Natal after the battle of Kambula, where the Natal postal authorities refused to cancel stamps from other colonies.



Backstamped

G.P.O/Natal
23/05/79

(22 May 1879) An officer's letter, showing the correct 6d. officers' rate with Natal stamp, hence cancelled with a no. '1' barred canceller at Pietermaritzburg by the postal authorities and a red London paid c.d.s. (24 JU 79).

Military Mail

90th (Perthshire Volunteers) Light Infantry

The 90th Foot formed part of the no. 4 Column under Gen. Wood. They saw action at Hlobane, Kambula and later at Ulundi in the last decisive battle of the war.



(12 June 1879) An officer's cover to England, endorsed 'On active service, Zululand' from Lt. Col. Apsley Cherry, a surgeon, who was informing Mrs. Butler on the condition of her son, who was wounded in action at Kambula. He subsequently died of these wounds. This cover shows the officers' rate of 6d. and bears an uncanceled Transvaal 4d. and 2 Transvaal 1d. Queenshead stamps. These stamps were not cancelled as the postal route was altered after the battle of Kambula and directed through Natal, as opposed to the Z.A.R. At this time the Natal postal authorities were not allowed to cancel the stamps of another country or colony. This was to change during the latter part of the campaign. Backstamped G.P.O./Natal, Durban/Natal, Bristol, Swindon and Hungerford.

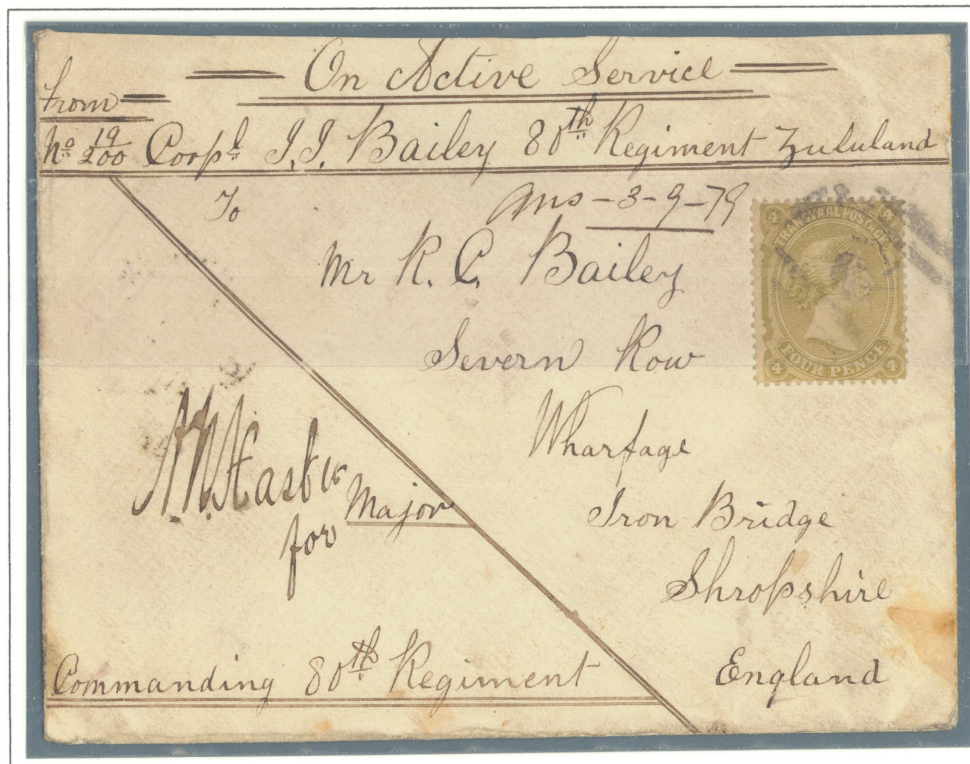
Military Mail

The 80th (Staffordshire Volunteers) Regiment

The 80th Regiment was on detachment in the Transvaal during the early campaign. On being relieved by the 24th Regiment in April 1879, four companies joined Gen. Wood's Column at Kambula, advanced to Hlobane and then with Maj. Gen. Newdigate's Second Division into enemy country.



(5 May 1879) An officers letter from Lt. Henry Harwood who was present at the The Battle Of Intombi. During the height of the battle he rode to the fort at Luneburg for reinforcements, but on their return, the laager had been completely overrun and Capt. Moriarty and 43 of his men had been killed. Capt. Harwood was courtmartialled for deserting his men in the face of the enemy. He was acquitted but Sir Garnet Wolseley refused to acknowledge the findings of the court thus effectively ending his military career.



(July 1879) A soldiers letter from Cpl. J.J. Bailey to England, countersigned by Lt. A.W. Hast, bearing a Transvaal 4d. stamp (overpaid by 3d.). This cover entered the postal system at Pietermaritzburg, where it was cancelled with a '2' barred canceller. Later covers bearing other colonial stamps were cancelled by the Natal postal authorities.

Military Mail

The 57th (West Middlesex) Regiment

The 57th Regiment arrived from Ceylon shortly after the (91st Highlanders and the 60th Rifles) and together with the afore mentioned were moved up to the Lower Tugela to take part in the relief of Col. Pearson, who was besieged at Eshowe. They took part in the battle of Inyenzane, where they held the front (or North-West face). Later they were part of the Coastal Column, under Maj. Gen. Crealock, forming part of the Second Brigade, commanded by Col. Clarke.



1879 (May) A soldiers cover to England from PTE. William Clark, Force no. 1196, countersigned by the commanding officer L.T. Col. J.R.K. Tradenick and showing the soldiers' 1d. rate. It entered the postal system in Durban. The Natal 1874 - 1878 1d. rose stamp is tied with a barred '2' canceller and Durban/Natal c.d.s. Backstamped Portsmouth 20/JU/79.

Military Mail

The 4th (The King's Own Royal) 2nd battalion

The 2/4th were deployed during the war to man and sometimes build forts and depots in the Greytown, Luneberg and Vryheid sectors.



(14 July 1879) A front from Pvt. J.C. Seherwin to England, endorsed by Lt. Crofton (who had been promoted to Capt. on the 9th of July but had obviously not received news of it). This front shows the correct 1d. soldiers' rate with a 6d. Transvaal stamp, overprinted 1d. (S.A.C.C. no. 171). Tied with a Utrecht no. 11 c.d.s. and stamped with a Utrecht/Z.A.R. and red London 'Paid' c.d.s.



(15 September 1879) An officer's letter from Lt. Bononie to England, showing the correct 6d. officers' rate and with a Transvaal 6d. stamp. Tied with a Utrecht no. 11 postmark and Utrecht/Z.A.R. c.d.s.

Military Mail

17th Lancers (The Duke of Cambridge's own)

The 17th Lancers formed part of the Cavalry Brigade, consisting of the 17th Lancers and the 1st (King's) Dragoon guards, which was attached to the 2nd Division under Maj. Gen. Marshall. They took part in the 2nd invasion of Zululand from the camp at Landmansdrift.



Backstamped

G.P.O./Natal
20/05/79

York
25/06/79

An officer's letter from 2nd Lt. St. Quentin, showing the 6d. officer's rate. It entered the postal system at Pietermaritzburg on 20th May 1879. The 6d. Natal stamp was tied in Durban with a barred 2 canceller and a Durban/Natal c.d.s. A red inspector's mark also appears.



Backstamped

G.P.O./Natal
02/08/79

Leatherhead
04/09/79

An officer's letter from Lt. Perkins to England, entering the postal system at Pietermaritzburg on 2nd August 1879 (Not tied).

Military Mail

The 60th Rifles

The 60th Rifles were the second battalion of reinforcements to arrive from England on the Dublin Castle on 20th March 1879 and the Danube on the 1st April 1879. They were immediately marched to Fort Pearson on the Tugela to take part in the relief of Eshowe.

Backstamped

Durban/Natal
21/06/79

Leamington
18/07/79



An officer's letter to England, endorsed 'No stamps available'. This cover entered the postal system at Durban and was taxed 6d. in England.



Backstamped

Durban/Natal
31/05/79

Ryde
12/07/79

An officer's cover to the Isle of Wight, endorsed 'From Captain Cramer 60th Rifles, on active service Zululand.' Bearing a Natal 6d. stamp. Tied with a '2' cancellation at Durban and Durban c.d.s. (31 May 1879).

Military Mail

The 60th Rifles

Capt. Charles Pearson Cramer served with the regiment for the duration of the campaign, including the advance to and relief of Eshowe. He was also present at the battle of Ginindlovu, Crealock's advance to Port Durnford and at the second advance to Ulundi. He commanded the two companies which acted as an escort and guard to the Zulu King after his capture, from the Black Umfolozi to Ulundi.



An officer's letter from Capt. Cramer to Ryde, Isle of Wright, England. Tied with a '2' in bars on arrival at Durban. This cover entered the postal system at Durban on 14th July 1879 and shows the correct 6d. officers' rate. This cover is one of the philatelic rarities of the Anglo-Zulu war, as it has the 1875-76 Natal 6d. stamp with the overprinted variety 'POSTAGE' inverted. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Ryde.

Military Mail

91st Highlanders (Prince Louise's Argylshire)

The 91st Highlanders were the first infantry battalion to arrive at Durban from England as reinforcements on 17th March 1879 and together with the 60th Rifles, who arrived on 20th March 1879 were marched to the Lower Tugela to take part in the relief of Col. Pearson's Column, who were besieged at Eshowe.



Backstamped

Durban/ Natal
14/06/79

Edinburgh
23/07/79

Oramond
23/07/79

An entire from Capt. Crawford, while based at Fort Crealock to Scotland. Entered the postal system at Durban on 21st June 1879. It was taxed 6d. in England and has an arrival Oramond Bridge c.d.s.



Backstamped

Durban/ Natal
12/08/79

Rotherham/A/S
P
08/09/79

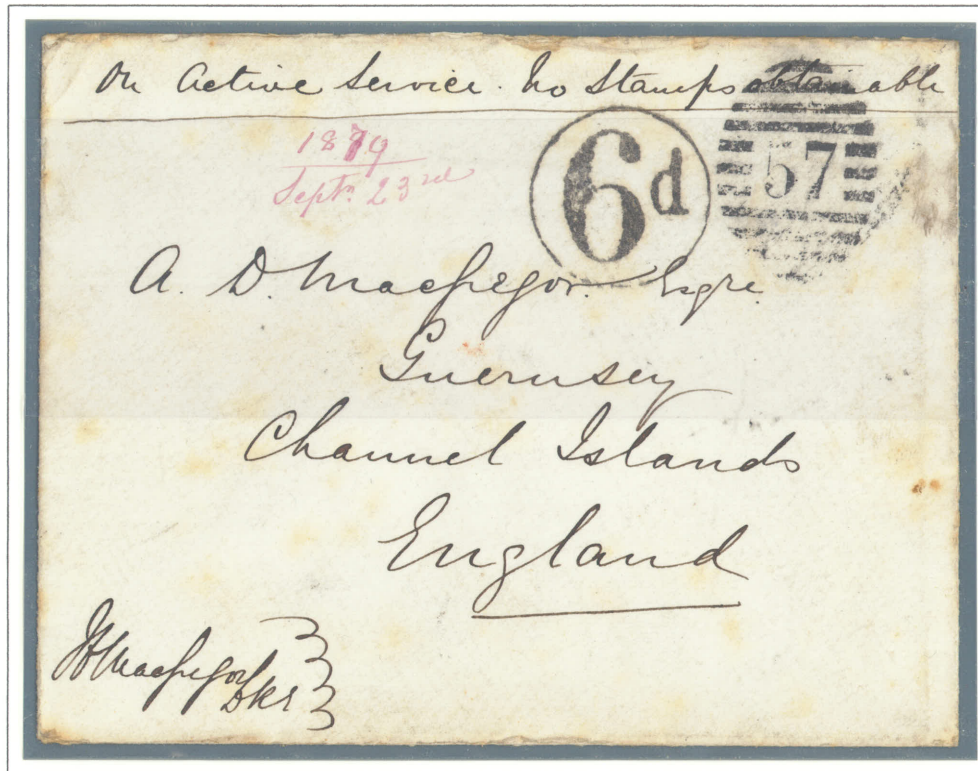
Worksop/A/SP
08/09/79

An officer's cover from Lt. F Cookson to Worksop/ Nottinghamshire in August 1879, showing a 6d. due handstamp as no stamps were available in the field.

Military Mail

The Staff - Col. Pearson's no. 1 Column

Capt. Macgregor was actively involved as a staff officer with Col. Pearson's no. 1 Column during the 1st Invasion. He was besieged at Eshowe and was responsible for the erecting of a home-made heliograph, which enabled the besieged fort to communicate with the British forces near fort Pearson. The origin of this cover is intriguing, as there is a similar example of the '57' oval bar canceller allocated to Illovo on a letter, written by Capt. Macklin of the 99th Regiment (Wilson Wong's article on the Anglo-Zulu War mails - London Philatelist December 1994). Posted from Illovo one week earlier.



(23 September 1879) A stampless cover written at the end of the war to Guernsey, in the Channel Islands, endorsed 'On active service. No stamps obtainable.' with the scarce '57' oval bar canceller on both the front and back and hand stamped '6d. Due' in England, being the correct officers' rate. It was also backstamped G.P.O/Natal and Guernsey.

The war was finally over, claiming the lives of 93 officers and 1337 N.C.O.'s and men from action or disease. 99 Officers and 1286 N.C.O.'s and men were wounded and invalided. The final monetary cost amounted to £5 230 323. This campaign, which promised to be swift and cheap was, in fact, just the opposite and caused the ruling government of England at that time to be ousted from power.

Military Mail - Naval

The Naval Contingents were included during the 1st invasion, under Col. Pearson's no. 1 Column and saw action on 22nd January 1879 at Nyezane. They took part in the relief of Eshowe and later were included in the 1st Division, under Maj. Gen. H.H. Crealock. They numbered 863 at the time of the 2nd Invasion.



A naval cover from Commander E.H.M. Davis R.N. of 'The Active'. Endorsed 'Per first steamer leaving for England. On active service in the field. No stamps available.' This cover did not enter the normal postal service, nor was it taxed in England. It is tied with an Admiralty/Whitehall cachet - admiralty type 113 and the arrival 'Official Paid/W.C. -S.M.P.' c.d.s. in red. 12 JY 1879. Backstamped Windsor 12 July 1879. The Admiralty Cachet was introduced in 1856 for official mail. Officers serving abroad took 'franked' covers with them, ensuring that their letters were deemed as official, even though they may have been used privately.

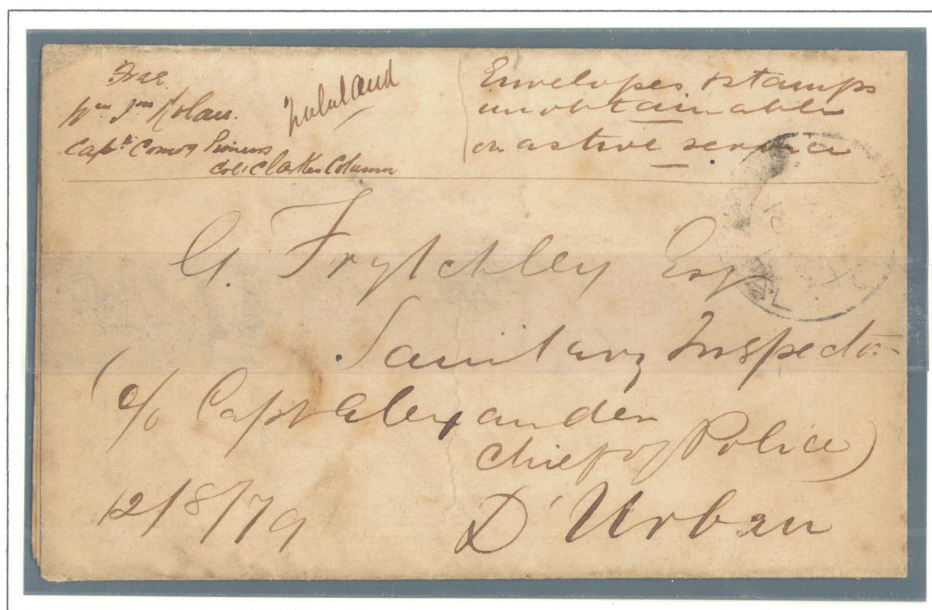


(24 April 1879) An incoming cover from Bristol, England to Commander Brackenbury R.N. of the H.M.S. Shah. At this time the Shah was already involved in the war, having just provided Naval Brigade contingents and detachments of Royal Marines for the 1st and 2nd Brigades of the Eshowe relief Column. Commander Brackenbury was in charge of these troops at the battle of Gingindlovu on 2 April 1879.

Military Mail

Volunteer Forces - Natal Native Pioneers

This entire provides an interesting insight into the activities of no. 1 company of the Natal Native Pioneers. It tells of the building of a fort at Conference Hill, under Gen Newdigate's 2nd Division. The company was seconded to Wood's Flying Column and took part in the fighting at the battle of Ulundi. The officers were introduced by Gen. Wood to Sir Garnet Wolsely, the new Commander-in-chief of the forces in Zululand, who had just relieved Lord Chelmsford immediately after the battle of Ulundi. Due to the high praises that Gen. Wood bestowed upon this company, instead of being transferred back to Durban, they were instead seconded to Col. Clark's Column involved in mopping up operations and the ultimate capture of King Cetshwayo kaMpande. The letter also describes the Ulundi battlefield one month after the event with many corpses of men and horses scattered about.



(12 August 1879) An entire from P. Lane, a volunteer officer with no. 1 Company, Natal Native Pioneers to G. Frytchly, c/o Capt. Alexander, Chief of police, Durban. Endorsed 'envelopes and stamps unobtainable.' Also endorsed 'Free, J. Nolan, Capt. Commanding Pioneers. Col. Clarke's Column.' This letter was not taxed as mail between the neighbouring colonies was carried free. Backstamped Durban 18/08/79.

Military Mail

Volunteer Forces - Natal Horse and Frontier Light Horse

Many officers whose troops were in barracks in the U.K. could only get to the Zululand front by volunteering their services. They paid their own fare to Durban and were placed under already commissioned officers in the field. The Natal Horse and Frontier Light Horse formed part of the 'The Flying Column', under Brigadier Gen. Wood, who were, in turn, part of the 2nd Division, under Maj. Gen. Newdigate. They took part in the decisive battle of Ulundi.



(4 June 1879) A volunteer officer's letter from Capt. T. Macdonald to England with a Utrecht/Z.A.R. c.d.s. This cover was not taxed at 6d. and it appears that volunteer mails were not taxed at all. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Richmond/Surrey. Capt. Macdonald was at a time the Commander of this force and it was also known as 'Macdonald's Horse'.

(25 May 1879) A soldier's letter to Scotland and redirected to England. Contrary to what is written above this cover was surcharged 1d. being the soldier's privilege overseas rate. This letter was written from Wolf's Hill, entered the postal system at Ladysmith on 2/6/1879, backstamped G.P.O./ Natal 3/6/79, Stirling 13 & 14 Jy/ 79, London 15 Jy/ 79 and Bognor 15 Jy/ 79.



Military Mail

Civilian - Field Force letter

Fort Pearson was erected on a knoll overlooking the lower drift on the Tugela River and was used as a springboard for the no. 1 Column during the 1st Invasion, led by Col. C.K. Pearson of the 3rd Foot. Many civilians offered their services in support of the military action at this time.



(20 June 1879) A cover to London from W.R. Cheyne, a civilian surgeon stationed at Fort Pearson. It entered the postal system on the 23rd June 1879. Tied with a '2' barred canceller and Durban/Natal c.d.s. Backstamped London W 22 JY 79 and with a box cachet in red with the same date.

Interim Mail

1888 (10 April.) A very important O.H.M.S. cover from Eshowe to Sir A. E. Havelock, the Governor of Natal in Petermaritzburg posted twenty days before official mail was issued from Zululand. A scarce violet Eshowe c.d.s appears on the front as well as the back of the cover.

A indistinct Lower Tugela transit strike appears on the front as well as Durban/ Natal and G.P.O./ Natal backstamps. Even though Windham circulated a notice to Zululand officials (as illustrated below) instructing them to use Zululand stamps from the 1st. of May 1888 the Postal agreement between Natal & Zululand was only signed on the 15th. of May 1888.



PB 142

1888

Notice .

It is hereby notified that from and after the 1st. of May 1888 all letters, newspapers, parcels and other postal matter posted in Zululand will be required to have affixed to them Zululand Postage Stamps and not as hitherto, Natal Postage Stamps.

The rates of postage will be the same as heretofore.

Zululand Postage Stamps are procurable from all Resident Magistrates in Zululand.

By command

Eshowe

Zululand

23.4.88.

A. S. Windham

Peche

Letters stamped with Natal Stamps after the first of May, 1888 will be subjected to the same penalties as if they were not stamped at all.

(Similarly formatted to a copy of the original verso.)

The Postage Stamps Of Zululand

Zululand, because of its remoteness, because it was the last country listed in the stamp catalogues and because of the publicity it received, especially after the initial defeat of The British Army at Isandlwana, proved to be a very popular and desirable area of philately. Stamp collectors continually requested stamps and stamped covers, as well as philatelic information (pages 101 & 102)from the postal authorities of the colony.

The postal authorities were subjected to many difficulties during the short time that stamps were available in the colony. There were continual shortages resulting in the Natal ½d. green, and the 6d. mauve being overprinted for postal use in Zululand. The most controversial stamp was the overprinted 1d. Natal revenue stamp which was authorised for postage in Zululand, but initially rejected and taxed in Natal and then under duress finally accepted .

No 40.

Treasurer
Zululand
19. 10. 96.

Sir

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 18th Sept to the Postmaster, Howden.

Our Postmaster cannot sell stamps to anybody residing outside the Colony. They are also forbidden to receive letters for posting. Stamps cannot be received either.

I therefore return your stamped envelope and 5th English stamp.

Your obedient Servant
H Gardner
Treasurer.

Mons

A. Arroux
Rue de St Louis Paris 9^{ème}
Metz.

Although this letter prohibits the sale of stamps and the posting of stamped letters by the postal authorities to persons residing outside the colony, Mr. Gardner, the writer and Treasurer of Zululand, together with Mr. B.G. Smart, the Postmaster at Eshowe (from 14 Feb 1894), must have relented and because of their correspondence with these philatelists modern collectors are able to exhibit many fine examples of these items. See Pages 50, 71, 75, 77, 80, 82 - 86,

Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The set of 11 hand stamped "SPECIMEN" in black (15mm x 2,5mm). Samuel Type G.B. 9.



Although Samuel lists this overprint as being common for G.B. in the case of Zululand they are not common at all and were used mainly as printers' references.

Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The hand stamped "SPECIMEN" in black (15mm x 2,5mm) Samuel Type G.B. 9 in multiples. This hand application has resulted in human error i.e. the overprints being predominantly above Zululand but in some instances they may occur below as seen in the 2½d. block of six.



Overprint above Zululand



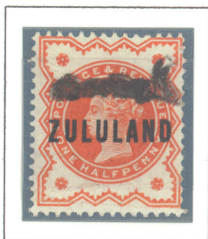
Overprint below Zululand
Second Row



Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The ½d. 1d. 3d. 4d. 5d. 6d. 9d. and 1s. overprinted "SPECIMEN" in black (15mm x 2,5mm) Samuel Type G.B. 9. These stamps were subjected to trials at Somerset House to see whether the specimen overprint could be obliterated to deceive the postal administration into accepting the said stamps for postage.



Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The set of 11 hand stamped "CANCELLED" in black (14,5mm x 1,75mm). Samuel Type G.B. 14. The "CANCELLED" appears above Zululand on all the values, except on the 1/2d. where it is below due to the fact that this process was not done mechanically.



De La Rue & Co. cancelled 12 specimens of each value for the department of inland revenue. Blocks of 6 of each are housed at the National Postal Museum in England . Thus a maximum of 6 sets can exist amongst collectors.

Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The set of 11, all with manuscript "*Specimen*" in black ink. Samuel Type 'DMS'. The ½d. 2d. 2½d. 3d. 4d. 6d. 9d. an 1s. ex Danson B.P.A. Cert. 60380. The 5d. B.P.A. Cert. 62046. The 5s. ex Robson in the same hand as the 5d. This is the first time that the complete set has been exhibited.



Hart suggests that these manuscript specimen overprints exist for other colonies and that they are all in the same distinctive hand. He also states that these overprints have nothing to do with the U.P.U. but were rather applied to stamps in the course of production and then sent outside the De La Rue Organization for approval prior to the work being completed (Ref. Hart Letter dated 15/05/1984).

Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The set of 10 stamps hand stamped "SPECIMEN" in violet. Samuel Type NA 1. This was the most common specimen overprint on this issue, as between 730 and 756 sets were required by the U.P.U. (International Bureau Circular 2 November 1893). They were hand stamped locally in Natal. This set did not include the 1d. purple stamp of G.B. as stocks of this stamp had already run out. This denomination was replaced by the overprinted 1d. Lilac Natal Postal Fiscal stamp.



1d. Lilac overprinted Natal Postal Fiscal Stamp

Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The set of 10 stamps hand stamped "SPECIMEN" in violet. Samuel type NA 1. In 1892 the numbers of specimens required by the U.P.U. was increased from 345 to between 730 and 750 stamps to facilitate the supply of specimen stamps in quintuple multiples and to make provision for the supply to future members. This must have caused problems to the Zululand postal authorities, as they were already running out of the 1/2d. 1d. and 6d. values.



Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The set of 10 stamps hand stamped "SPECIMEN" in violet. Samuel type NA 1 were supplied to the U.P.O. often in multiple strips of five. The 5s. stamp was supplied in a strip of three from row A and a vertical pair from row B.



Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps
Samuel Type D12.

According to Samuel, "There are some abnormal items in the De La Rue collection. The specimens on this page would certainly fall into the above category." De La Rue & Co. kept reference material of every printing done, defacing them with either Specimen or Cancelled strikes.



The 1/2d. 2d. and 2 1/2d. stamps overprinted 'SPECIMEN' Samuel Type (D 12). These 3 items are unusual in that this overprint type was almost exclusively limited to the 1894 - 1896 definitive issue. R.P.S. certificates 174031/2/3. These stamps were probably prepared by De La Rue & Co. for the U.P.U. but not used (the local NA1 was used instead).

Specimen Stamps

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps
Samuel Type D13.

As per the previous page according to Samuel, "There are some abnormal items in the De La Rue collection. The specimens on this page would certainly fall into the above category." De La Rue & Co. kept reference material of every printing done, defacing them with either Specimen or Cancelled strikes.

The ½d. overprinted G.B. vermilion stamp R.P.S.cert. 174034 and the block six 5d. stamps. Overprinted "SPECIMEN" in black (15,25mm x 1,5mm) Samuel Type 13. The small serif hand stamp was applied by the inland revenue for use in British postal agencies overseas.



A marginal block of six with a manuscript printers annotation; ' Warrent no. 17 dated 17 March 1893. Printed 21 March 1893 and delivered to S H (Somerset House) on 23 March 1893. This block was rescued from a file damaged by fire during the 2nd. World War.

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 11 stamps of Great Britain overprinted 'ZULULAND' by De La Rue & Co. watermark 1/2d. - 1s. Imperial Crown, 5s. Anchor. Showing two colour variations of each value to the 5s.



The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 11 stamps of Great Britain overprinted 'ZULULAND' by Messers De La Rue & Co. used. The 5s. on piece with Eshowe c.d.s. .



The Natal Government Gazette for 15 May 1883 contained a proclamation stating that the agreement entered into by Sir A.E. Havelock, governor of Natal, with the resident commissioner of Zululand, had come into force on 1 May. It was stated that all letters etc. posted in Zululand and addressed to destinations outside the territory, shall be prepaid by the postage stamps issued by the government of Zululand. The Zululand postal service was inaugurated on 1 May 1888. The values first issued were the 1d. 2d. 3d. 4d. 6d. and 5s. The ½d. was added in November 1888. The 2½d. in 1891. The 9d. and 1s. in 1892 and the 5d. in 1893.

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The ½d. deep vermilion



1895 (8 February) A military cover from Eshowe to Pietermaritzburg, with two G.B. ½d. stamps, being the correct 1d. rate to Natal. Backstamped Durban/Natal and G.P.O./Natal.

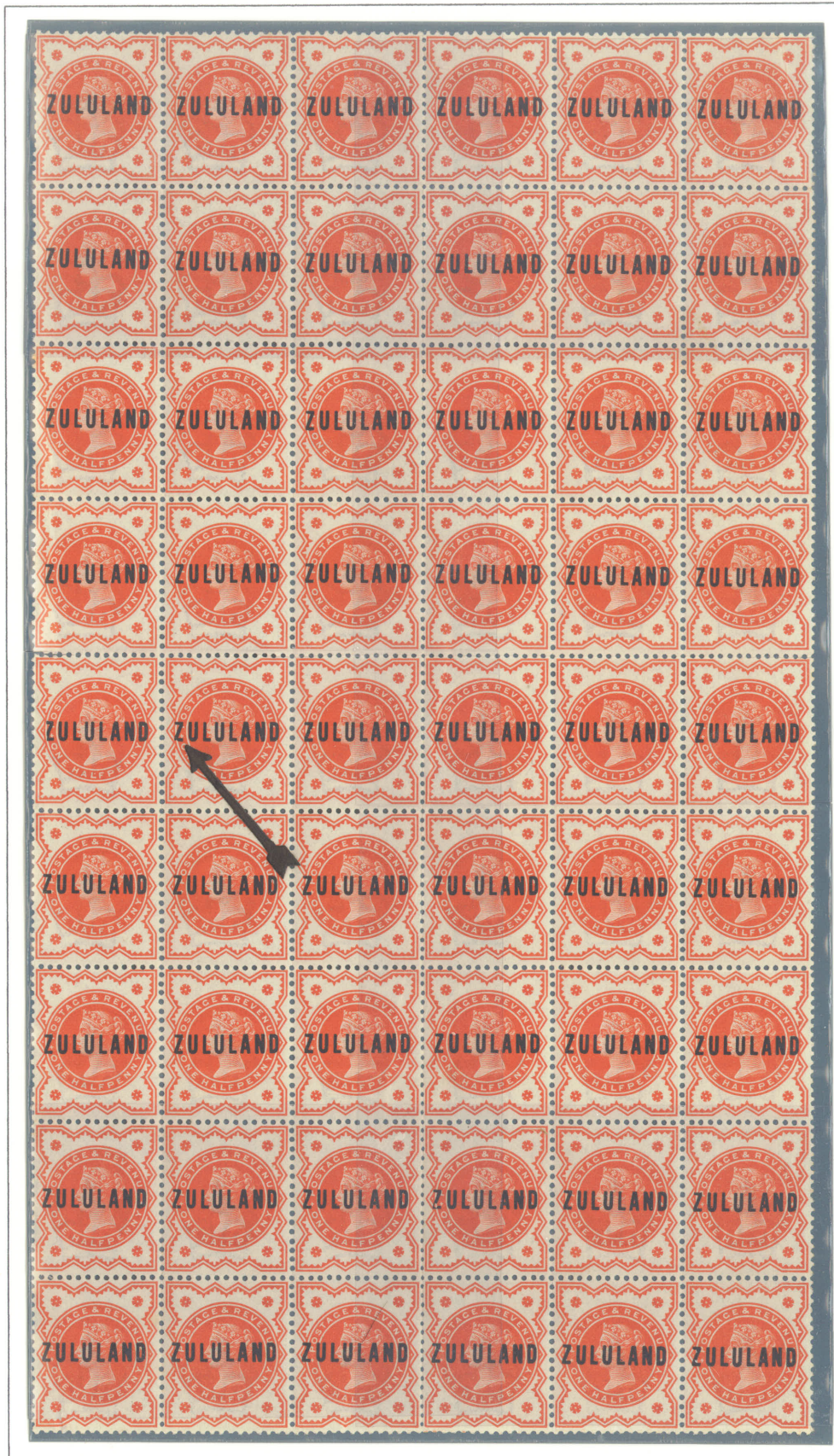


½d. bottom right corner control 'D' block of six



½d. bottom right corner control 'K' block of six, with double perfs from the make ready sheet

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps



An unused block of 54 of the ½d. vermilion showing the constant overprint varieties i.e.
(A) The bent midsection of the letter 'Z' (row 5, stamp 1)
(B) The bottom limb of the 'Z' turned downwards (row 5, stamp 2)

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The ½d. deep vermilion



A pair with
Nondweni c.d.s.



Block of four with
Lower Tugela c.d.s.



A mint corner block of nine from the bottom left
hand corner of the left hand pane of 120 stamps.



*R. H. Mitford Esq.
16. Charing Cross
London S.W.
England*

1894 (22 March) A cover from Eshowe to London with a strip of ten ½d. overprinted G.B. vermilion stamps. The 5th stamp showing the variety 'bottom limb of the 'Z' turned down.' This is not the same variety as shown in the block of 60. This cover incurred an extra 1d. in postage over the 4d. rate because it was overweight. Backstamped Durban/Natal and London.

32

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The ½d. deep vermillion

1891 (25 August) A cover from Eshowe to Port Elizabeth, showing the correct 2d. intercolonial rate with two ½d. and one 1d. Postal/Fiscal stamps. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Port Elizabeth/Cape Colony.



1895 (13 June) A ½d. red-brown postcard to England ap-rated with a ½d. stamp to make up the correct 1d. overseas postcard rate. R.P.S. certificate 171579.

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

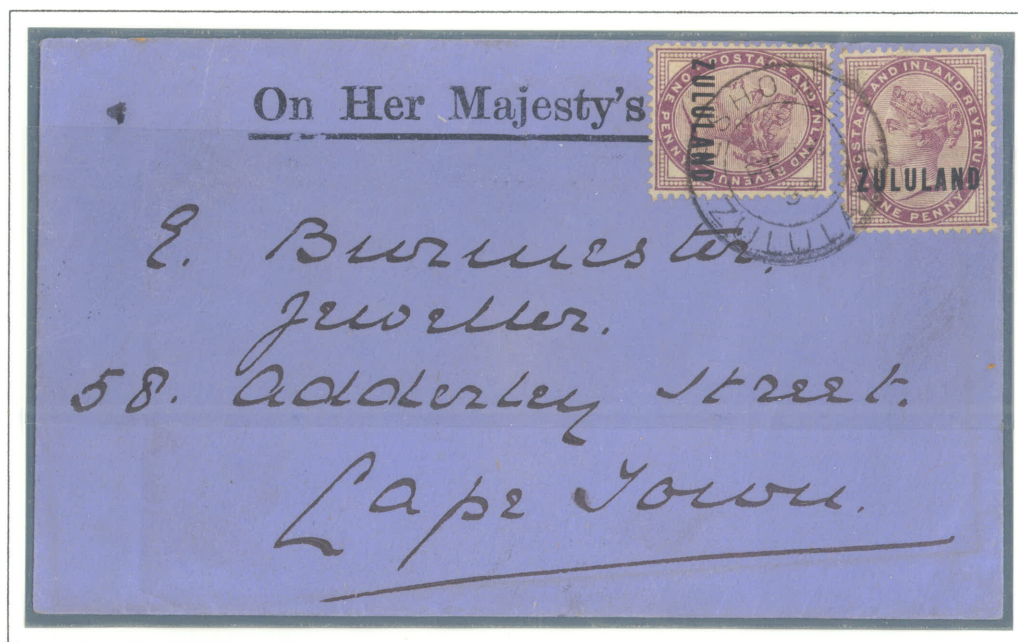
The 1d. purple stamp of Great Britain



1d. bottom control pair from right-hand pane showing control letter 'H' with jubilee lines



1d. bottom control strip of three from the right-hand pane showing the control letter 'J' without Jubilee lines



1892 (16 February) An O.H.M.S. entire to Cape Town, with two 1d. stamps and tied with an Eshowe/Zululand c.d.s. Backstamped Lower Tugela/Natal, Durban/Natal and G.P.O./Cape Town. This cover was not used for official purposes, hence the use of postage stamps on it. The correct 2d. postal rate to the Cape Colony is shown. ex Robson.

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 1d. purple stamp of Great Britain



1890 (April) A rare preprinted 'front' from the 1st Battn. The Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment). This cover shows the correct concessionary 1d. rate for soldiers letters to England.



1d. mint block of four.

35

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 2d. green and carmine



The top left-hand corner block of six



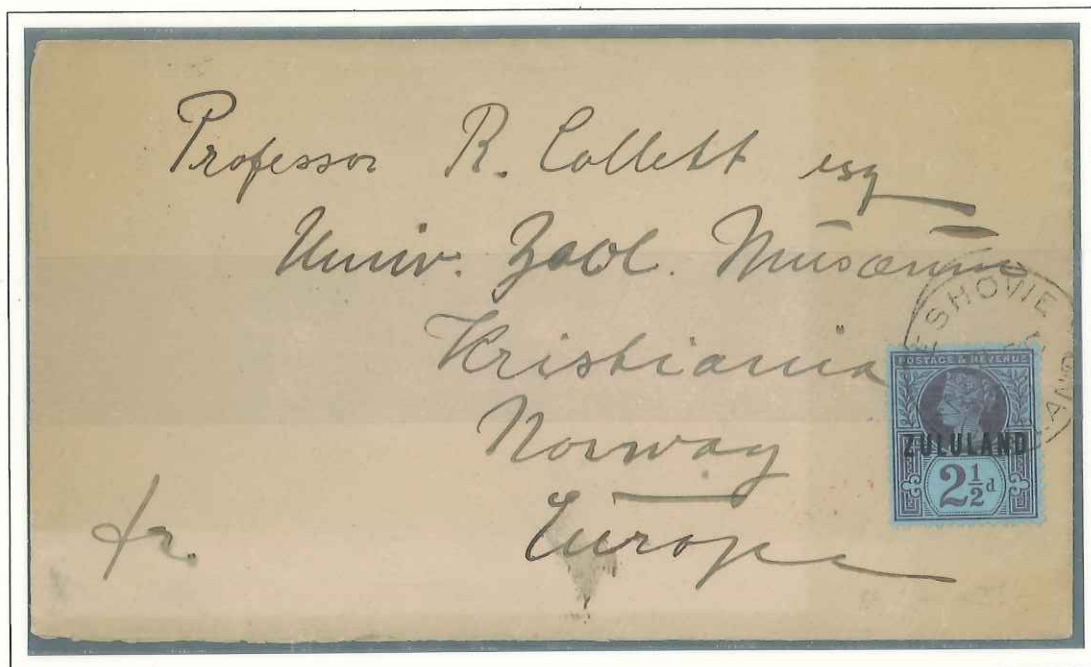
The bottom left-hand corner block of six



1891 (14 October) A registered cover from Eshowe to Waterburg in the Z.A.R. showing the correct 6d. rate - 2d. for the postage and 4d. for the registration. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Pretoria/Z.A.R

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 2½d. purple on blue



A used block of four cancelled in Eshowe.

1893 (October 30). A cover from Eshowe to Kristiana Norway with one 2½d. stamp showing the correct overseas rate after the entry of Natal into the U.P.U. an d tied with an Eshowe 25mm. single circle c.d.s.. Backstamped Durban/Natal, London and Kristiana.

1896 (25 March). A registered cover from Eshowe to London with a strip of 6 2½d. stamps overpayed by 8½d. and tied with four Eshowe 25mm. dia double circle c.d.s. Verso is a fine strike of the of the violet oval triple ring 'TREASURY, 24 MAR 96, ZULULAND' as well as the embossed seal of the colony.



37

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 3d. purple on yellow



The top left-hand corner block of nine.



1896 (4 June) A registered cover from Eshowe to Nelstroom, in the Transvaal, with the correct 6d. intercolonial registered rate. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Pretoria/Z.A.R.

38

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 4d. green and brown



1889 (23 December) A cover from Eshowe to England, showing the correct 4d. rate to England. Backstamped Durban/Natal, Exeter and Torquay. The back flap shows the crest of the Inniskilling Dragoons, who were stationed in Eshowe at this time.



A mint block of four

39

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 5d. dull purple and blue



Top right-hand corner marginal block of six



1895 (7 February) A registered cover from Eshowe to Saxony via London, overpaid by 1d. and showing overprinted G.B. 2½d. and 5d. stamps. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Dresden. Overseas O.H.M.S. covers were not permitted free.

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 6d. purple on rose red.



1888 (17 July) An early usage cover written by E.G. Pennefather from Entonjaneni to Bristol, England and redirected to Weymouth with a 6d. overprinted stamp. This cover has the correct early 6d. rate to England. The cover also shows the '1d. Due' mark for the redirection of the letter to Weymouth. E.G. Pennefather became the resident magistrate for the Nqutu district and was responsible for the manuscript cancellations emanating from his office.



Used block of four with
Eshowe c.d.s.



Mint block of six

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 6d. purple on pale rose red.



A mint marginal block of eight with central sheet mark.



1888 (28 August). An early usage cover from Eshowe to England with a 6d. purple on pale rose red, overpaid by 1d. and tied with the first Eshowe c.d.s. without 'Zululand'. Backstamped Lower Tugela / Natal, Durban / Natal, & Cosham / Hants.

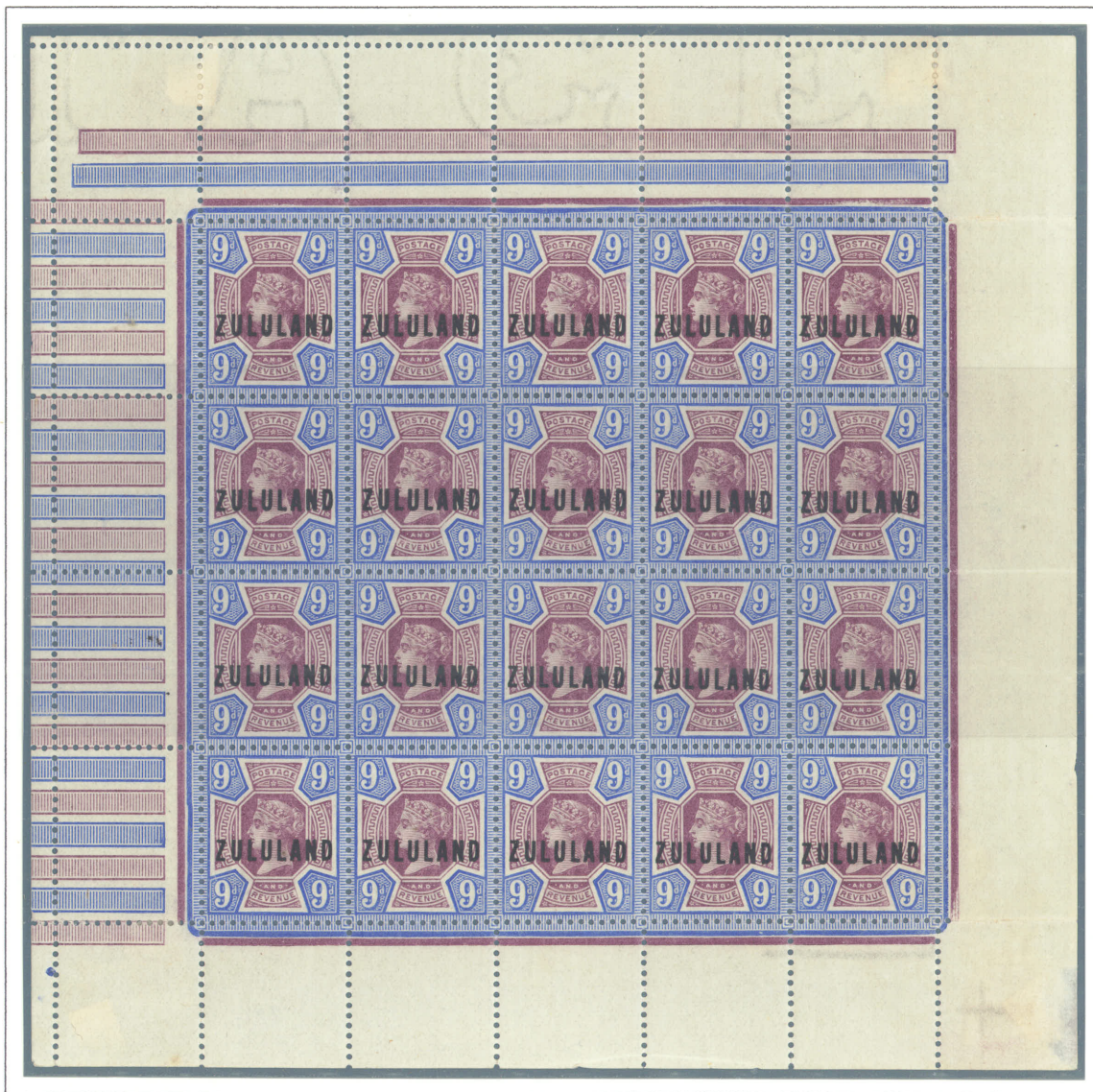
The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 9d. dull purple and blue

The 9d. stamp was made up from sheets of 80, divided into four panes of 20. Each pane consisting of four horizontal rows of 5 stamps. The sheets were cut into four panes of 20 prior to issue to the post office.

Jubilee lines were protective lines around the borders of plates or panes of stamps. They were introduced by de la Rue & Co. with the Jubilee Series of G.B. stamps in 1887, hence the name Jubilee. They were intended to protect stamp plates at the points where the strain of ware is the greatest i.e. at the near edge of the plate, where the inking roller 'bumps' onto the printing surface, and at the far edge when they 'flick' off again. Breaks in the Jubilee line have a useful function and were cut purely for technical reasons, it allowed air to escape and prevent creasing in the paper when the cylinder moved over the type. Nicks in the Jubilee line were also introduced to identify the front and back of a pair of plates.

Pillars which are evident in the top and left margins of this pane were used primarily to stop the paper from sagging as it passes over a comparatively wide empty space in the printing forme, which would affect its register with the next text colour. It also had a security use, in that it prevented pieces of watermarked paper of the correct stamp size falling into the hands of the public



The pane illustrated above is the South-East quarter and is unique in that it is the only complete pane in existence. The one in the Post Office Heritage Collection in England (N.W pane) has two stamps missing.

42
The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 9d. dull purple and blue



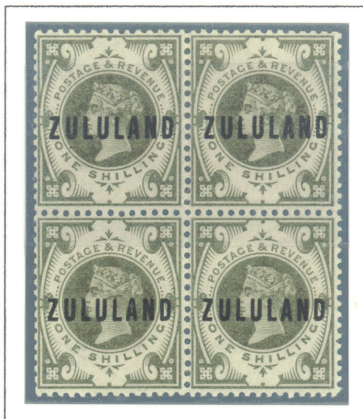
1896 (4 June) A registered philatelic cover from Eshowe to Nelstroom, in the Transvaal. With an 1888 9d. an 1891 1d. Postal Fiscal and an 1888 1/2d. stamp. This cover has an 'R' and is cancelled with an Eshowe/Zululand c.d.s. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Pretoria/Z.A.R.



1895 (20 November) A registered cover from the treasury of Zululand, Eshowe to Lahor, India. Showing a 1s. & 4 1/2d. registered rate. Backstamped Treasury/Zululand, Durban/Natal and Lahor. It also has a receiving REG-TUTIOORNN-15DEC c.d.s.

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

The 1s. Great Britain green



A mint block of four



1895 (February) A registered cover from Eshowe to the U.S.A., bearing a 1s. overprinted G.B. stamp. Backstamped Liverpool and New York.

The 1888 - 1893 Issued Stamps

It appears that there was a shortage of 2d. stamps at the Eshowe post office in late March 1889, as both 1d. and 3d. stamps as shown on this page were surcharged 2d. in red ink. The postal authorities must have deemed this to be incorrect as these stamps were then pen-cancelled to obliterate this manuscript surcharge.



1889 (24 March) A cover from Eshowe to Waterburg in the Transvaal, bearing a marginal block of four of the 1d. stamp, surcharged 2d. in red and pen-cancelled. Tied with four Eshowe/Zululand postmarks and backstamped Durban/Natal and Pretoria/Z.A.R.

The Provisional 1d. (Postal/Fiscal) stamp

The 1d. mauve Natal revenue stamp

The 1d. revenue stamp of Natal overprinted 'ZULULAND' by Messers de la Rue & Co. watermark Crown over C.A. perf. 14.



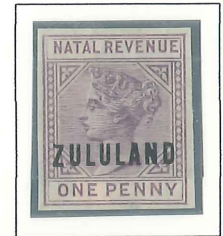
A block of four handstamped specimen showing top-right stamp with no specimen overprint



A strip of 5 overprinted specimen as supplied to the U.P.U.



Overprint proofs ex De La Rue Files. Optd. with Samuel Type(D 12).



Imperforate Proof



Manuscript Specimen B.P.A Cert. 62047

It was proclaimed by proclamation no. II 1891 dated 21 June 1891 which was signed on 27 June 1891 by both C.B.H. Mitchell (Governer of Zululand) & W. Windham (Secretary of Zululand) that, "The mauve stamps with the words 'Natal Revenue' inscribed at the head thereof, and the words 'One Penny' inscribed at the foot thereof, and with the word 'ZULULAND' in letters of black, printed across the face of the said stamps, shall be deemed, and the same are hereby declared to be 'postage stamps' within the meaning of the aforesaid law no. 2 1869."

The Provisional 1d. (Postal/Fiscal) stamp



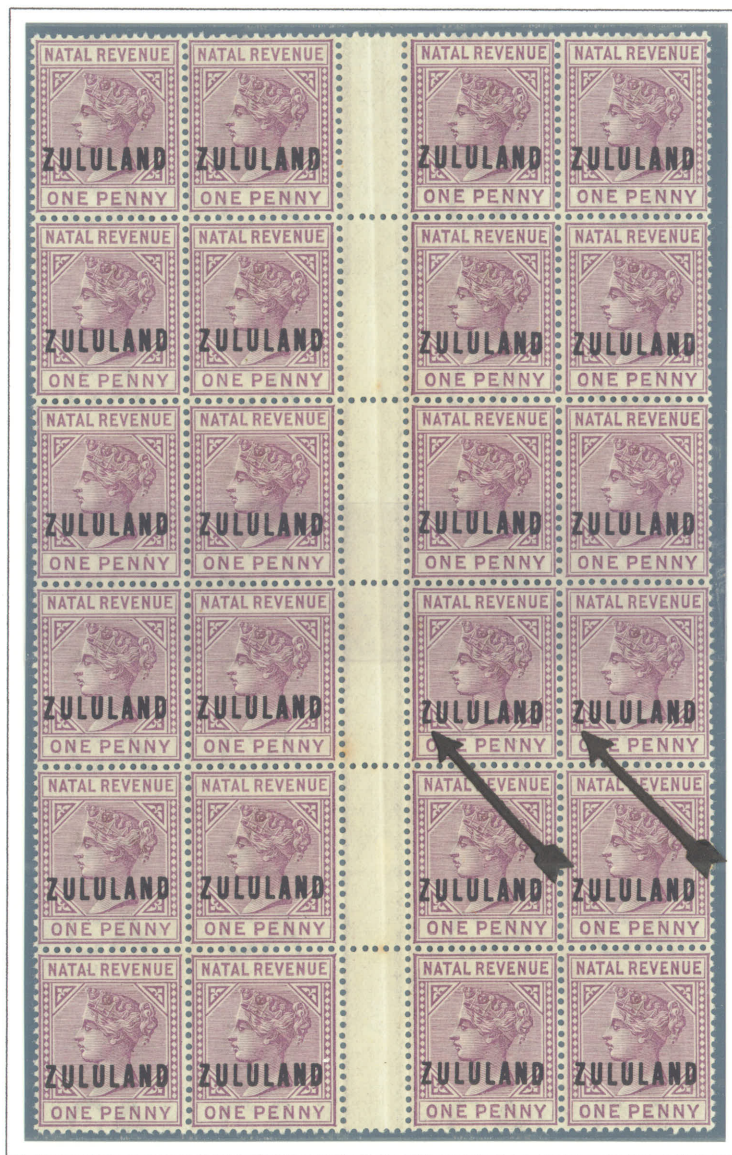
The complete two top and bottom rows from a sheet of 120 stamps arranged in two panes of sixty, showing all four control numbers (2), gutter margin and printers marks.



The Provisional 1d. (Postal/Fiscal) stamp

The 1d. mauve Natal revenue stamp

The revenue stamp of Natal was printed in sheets of 120 and arranged in two panes of 60, with a gutter in between. Above the 2nd and 11th stamps in the top row of the sheet and below the corresponding stamp in the bottom row, the plate no. '2' is shown. It was stated that 120,224 of these stamps were sold but it is impossible to state how many of these were used fiscally and how many for postal purposes.



An interpaneu block of 24 showing the constant overprint varieties i.e.

(A) The bent midsection of the letter 'Z' (row 6, stamp 1 from the right-hand pane of 60)

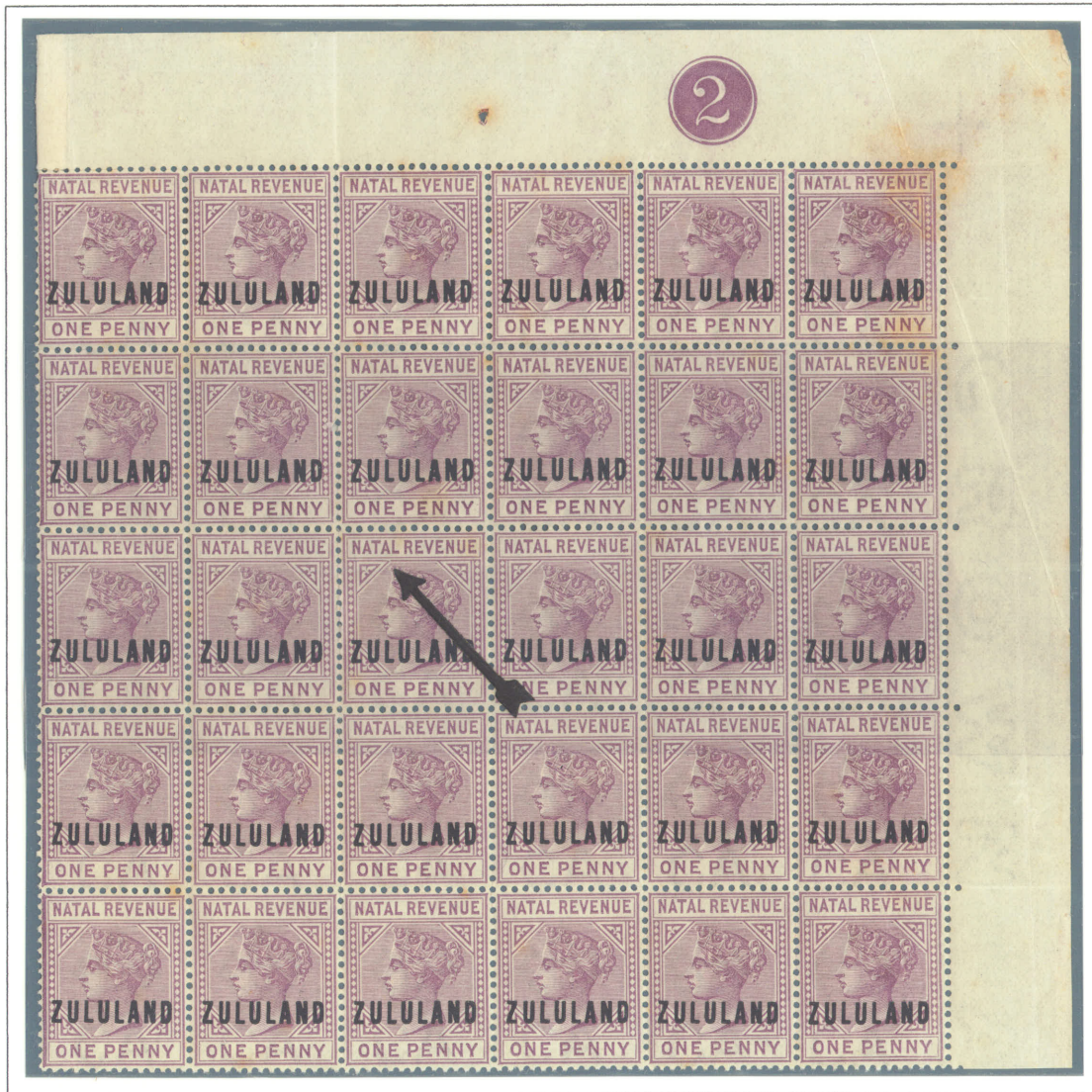
(B) The bottom limb of the 'Z' turned down (row 6, stamp 2 from the right-hand pane of 60)

The Provisional 1d. (Postal/Fiscal) stamp

The 1d. mauve Natal revenue stamp



A color enlargement of the relevant stamp



An unused block of thirty from the right - hand pane of sixty illustrating the constant plate variety 'Broken Frame' on stamp three of row three.

The Provisional 1d. (Postal/Fiscal) stamp

The 1d. mauve Natal revenue stamp

1891 (April) An official military prepaid envelope posted from Eshowe to Pietermaritzburg. Not cancelled and taxed double the normal 1d. rate at 2d. Although these stamps were available for postage in the Zululand post offices they were not accepted for postage by the Natal authorities until after the official proclamation dated 27 June 1891. Backstamped Durban/Natal (18 April) and G.P.O./Natal (20 April).



1891 (15 October) A cover from Eshowe to Hermansburg, Natal, with the 1d. Postal/Fiscal tied with an Eshowe/Zululand c.d.s. as this cover was sent after 27 June 1891, it was not taxed in Natal. Backstamped Durban/Natal, G.P.O./Natal and Hermansburg/Natal.



The Provisional 1d. (Postal/Fiscal) stamp



1891 (26 October) A registered cover from Eshowe to Germany via London with ten postal/fiscal 1d. stamps, a handstamped registration mark in black and a London registry mark in red. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Hanover.

The 1888 Provisional ½d. stamp

The ½d. Natal stamp with watermark Crown over C.A. and perf. 14, was overprinted 'ZULULAND' locally in Pietermaritzburg and issued in July 1888.

These stamps were produced both 'with' and 'without' stops after Zululand. There are also both rounded and square stops.



An interpaneau block of eight showing the variety 'Missing stop' on the third stamp on top and a square stop on the fourth stamp on the bottom.

The ½d. G.B. overprinted stamp for use in Zululand was not issued until November 1888. The need for a ½d. stamp made itself felt sometime before this, as the local letter rate in Zululand was ½d. and thus the 1882 Natal ½d. green stamp was locally surcharged 'ZULULAND' in settings of six for use in the territory. It appears that two printings were made i.e.

(a) With stop. This printing appeared first with the stamps generally having a nondescript stop.

However one stamp in the setting of six was square.

(b) Without stop. These stamps appeared towards the end of August 1888.

According to the acting Commissioner of stamps in Zululand at that time, 11245 of these provisional stamps were sold. How many of each type is not known.

The 1888 Provisional ½d. stamp

With Stop



Block of four with overprint double ex Leon



Overprint offset left



Overprint offset right



Loose overprint slug



Overprint inverted
P.F.S.A. 10542



Overprint double
R.P.S. 173016



Pair - one stamp normal
and one with overprint omitted
P.F.S.A. 7815

The 1888 Provisional ½d. stamp

With Stop



A bottom left - hand control strip of three. Control no.1. The middle stamp with square stop.



1889 (27 August) A registered cover from Eshowe to Germany showing a pair of the 1888 ½d. stamps 'with stop'. Backstamped Munich.

The 1888 Provisional ½d. stamp

Without Stop



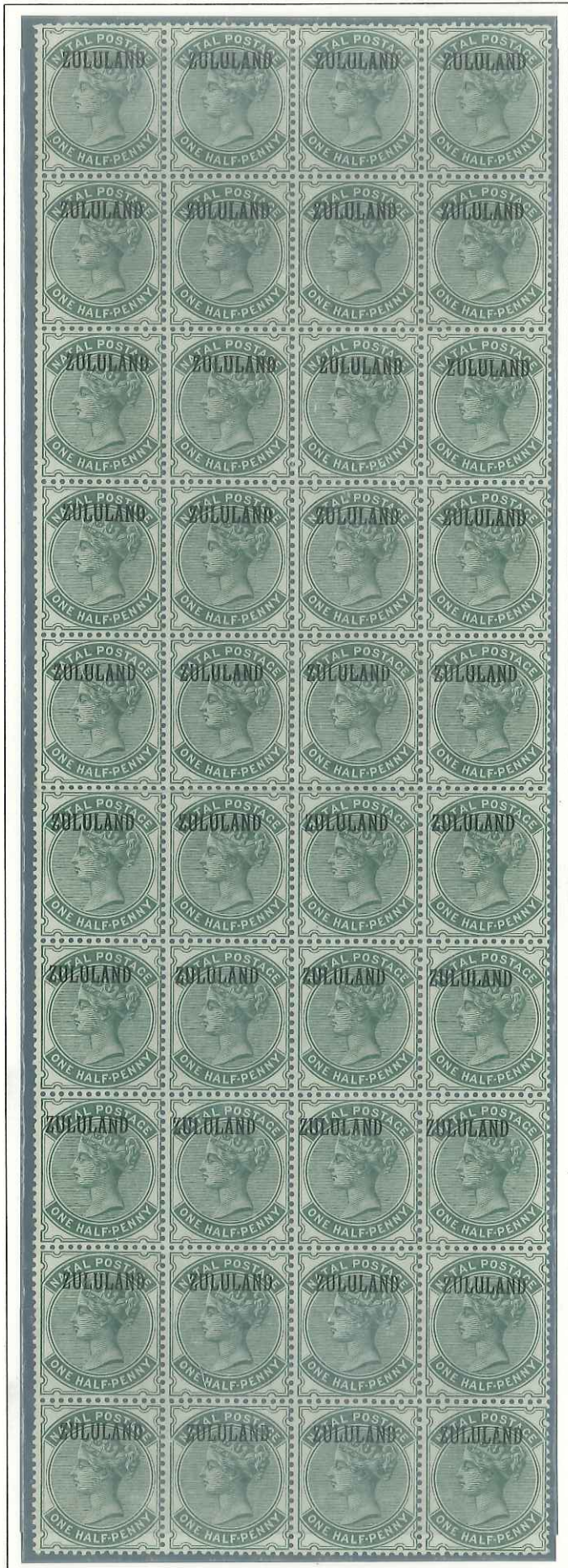
A marginal block of four
'without stop'



1891 (11 February) A cover from Eshowe to Scarborough in England, overpaid by 1d. with six 1888 ½d. stamps 'without stop'. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Scarborough.

The 1888 Provisional 1/2d. stamp

Without stop



Bottom left - hand corner control block of six from the left - hand pane of sixty. Control no. 1.



Bottom right - hand corner control block of six from the right - hand pane of sixty. Control no. 1.

Unused block of forty. Holcombe cert. 18.5.92

The 1888 Provisional ½d. stamp

Without Stop Varieties.

Without stop varieties appear to be far rarer than those with stop.



Double overprint



A strip of 3. The two top stamps normal and the bottom with double overprint. Ex Birkhead.



1891 (6 July) A part of a registered envelope from Eshowe to Paris bearing G.B. overprinted 2d., 4d. and 6d. stamps as well as a vertical strip of three of the Natal ½d. green stamps overprinted in serif letters without stop, the lower two stamps with the variety 'overprint double'. The 2d. stamp is tied with a c.d.s. from the T.P.O. of Calais à Paris. Ex Robson. Holcombe cert. 5980/93.

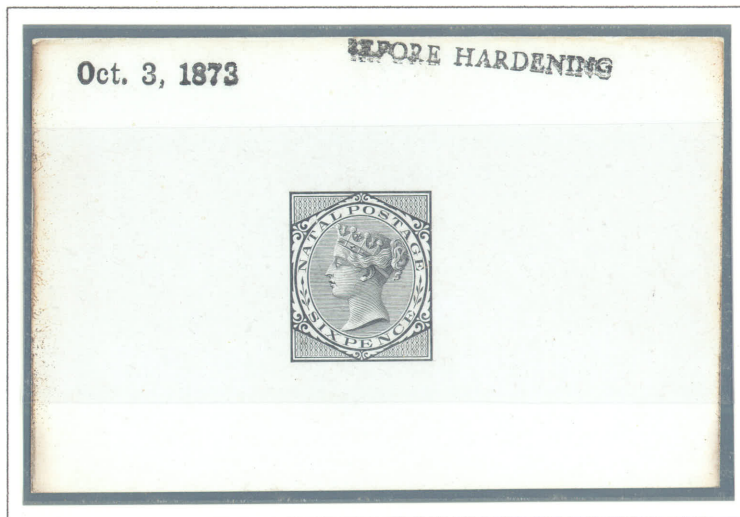
The Provisional 6d. Stamp

The 6d. Natal stamp watermark Crown over CA perf. 14 was overprinted 'ZULULAND' in London by Messers De La Rue & Co. and was issued on 6 January 1894.

This stamp was originally ordered as a revenue stamp as per this excerpt from The Crown Agents letter dated 28 May 1889 'As regards the 6d. duty it will be sufficient if the Natal 6d. Postage Stamp is used, and overprinted in the same manner as the other stamps. It will not be necessary to overprint the word Revenue'.

On the following day De La Rue & Co. informed the Crown Agents that the stamps would be ready in six weeks and stated 'The 6d Natal Postage Stamp will for this requisition have to be printed in doubly fugitive ink, as the stamps required are for revenue purposes'.

These stamps however seemed not to be used for revenue purposes and were kept in stock from 1889 until they were issued in 1894 In his letter dated 13 November 1896 Mr H.Gardner The Treasurer of Zululand wrote that 'This 6d. Natal overprinted stamp was never used for revenue purposes'.



The Die Proof of the Natal 6d stamp in black on a glazed card, the same Dies were used to print the stamp used for Zululand in a different shade.



Imperforate proof.



Bottom left corner control block from the left pane of sixty. Control no.1.

The Provisional 6d. Stamp

A complete used right pane of sixty 1895 (10 April) showing control no.1 and the constant variety ;

(a) The bent midsection of the letter 'Z' (row 5 stamp 1)

(b) The bottom limb of the letter 'Z' turned downwards (row 5 stamp 2)

The fact that these varieties occur illustrates that the same plates were used to overprint the 6d. stamp as the ½d. Deep Vermillion and the 1d. Postal / Fiscal stamp.

The 6d. stamp was printed from plates of 240 but were divided into panes of 120 before overprinting.



The Provisional 6d. Stamp

1896 (4 June) A pair covers from Eshowe to Nylstroom in the Transvaal illustrating the postal usage of the Provisional 6d. stamp. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Pretoria/Z.A.R.

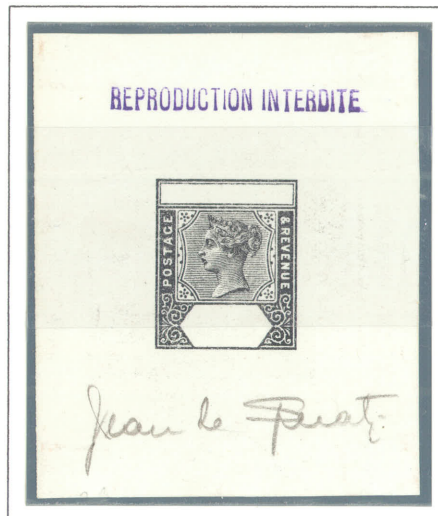


The De La Rue - Unified Key Plates

The rationale for using the key plate system of stamps was to provide a common design for several governments to use, from key plates with complementary duty plates. This was to provide an efficient and economic method of providing postage stamps, especially if only a small quantity was required.



A 1888 'Postage & Revenue' unmarked master colonial head die proof, printed in black on a glazed card.



The Jean De Sperati forgery of the same die proof.

The De La Rue Imperium Unified Key Plates

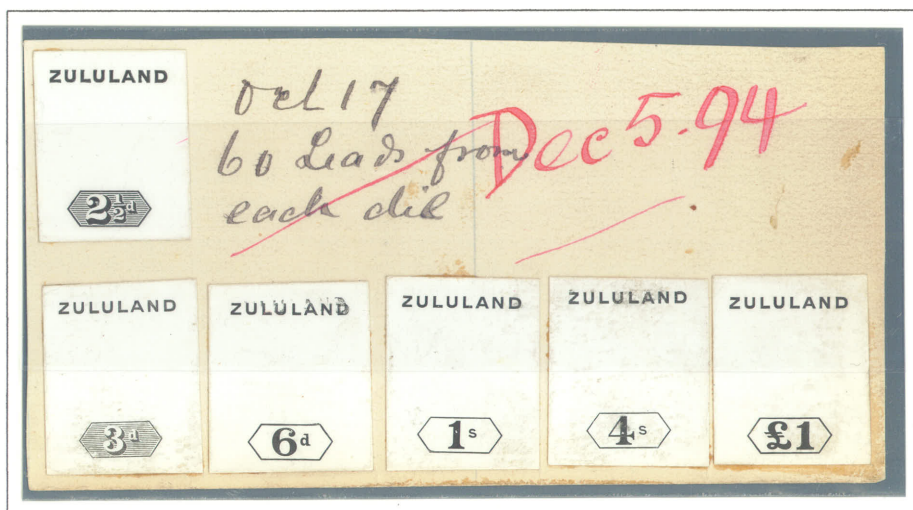
The word 'Imperium' identified the stamps as belonging to the British Empire. The bi-colored trials were produced for the twenty colonies, which used the imperium types to order their stamps.



The vertical pairs of bi-colored trials were provided after a request by the Crown Agents from the printers on 4 November 1897. It appears that only one sheet of six i.e. three vertical pairs of each of the bi-colored combinations were made from manually inked plates. They are all from the 6d. duty, with the solid numeral above the white numeral. The trials printed on white, gummed paper have a watermark Crown/C. A. (1d., 2½d. and 4s.), and those produced on buff paper (½d., 1s. and 2/6d.) have the watermark Crown/C.A. reversed.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The approved country and duty die proofs from the ½d. to £1, which were stuck into a DE La Rue day/date book. Sixty leads were then ordered on different dates for the different values, making up one pane. Both the left and right - hand master plates of each value were made from the same sixty dies, hence the variety of the sloped 'Z' in Zululand that occurs on the 1d. value appears in the same position on both the left and right - hand panes.



Specimen Stamps

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The set of ten stamps overprinted 'SPECIMEN', by Messers. De La Rue & Co. Samuel type D12. This was the commonest and most long lived 'SPECIMEN' overprint used by De La Rue & Co. to cancel the stamps which they supplied for U.P.U. distribution.



The £1 stamp overprinted 'SPECIMEN' in violet locally in Natal. Samuel type NA 2. This was the only value in this set to be overprinted in this manner, and is extremely rare.



The main portion of the design was printed from one of the 'Stock' head - plates first introduced by Messers De La Rue & co. in 1891 for the production of the 5s., 10s. and 20s. stamps of Gold Coast, and subsequently for some of the issues of British Honduras, Grenada, Leeward Islands, Northern Nigeria, St Vincent and Sierra Leone. There was a separate duty plate for each value for printing in the name and the tablet at the base.

Specimen Stamps

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The stamps overprinted 'SPECIMEN', by Messers. De La Rue & Co. Samuel type D12 in multiples.



The £1 strip showing the constant 'Broken M' variety, which occurs as stamp no. 41 on the setting of sixty.



65

Specimen Stamps

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The stamps overprinted 'SPECIMEN', by Messers. De La Rue & Co. Samuel type D12 in multiples.



This block of four is interesting as these specimens were always sent in strips thus this block may be unique.



The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The set of 10 stamps printed by Messers De La Rue & Co.. Watermark Crown over C A.
Perf. 14. The £5 Brandon cert. 29761.



It was proclaimed by Proclamation no. V111 1894 dated 24 April 1894, which was signed on 18 April 1894 by both Sir Healy-Hutchinson (Governor of Zululand) and W.Windham (Secretary for Zululand) that, "The stamps shall be deemed available for both revenue and postage purposes." The 1/2d. - 4s. stamps were printed on white wove paper, and the £1. and £5. stamps on red paper. All the values except the 2/6d. appeared in 1894, the latter in 1896.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The set of 10 stamps printed by Messers De La Rue & Co. Watermark Crown over C A .Perf. 14.Used .



1898 (7 March) A philatelic cover posted at Eshowe, to Fort Curtis /Eshowe showing all the values up to the 4s.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 1/2d. mauve and green

There are two known varieties relating to the 1/2d. stamp.

(A) The inverted watermark



Normal



Inverted watermark

(B) The broken 'N'



The top right - hand corner control block of four from the left - hand pane of sixty showing the constant plate variety, the broken 'N' on the first stamp of row two.



A color enlargement of the relevant stamp.

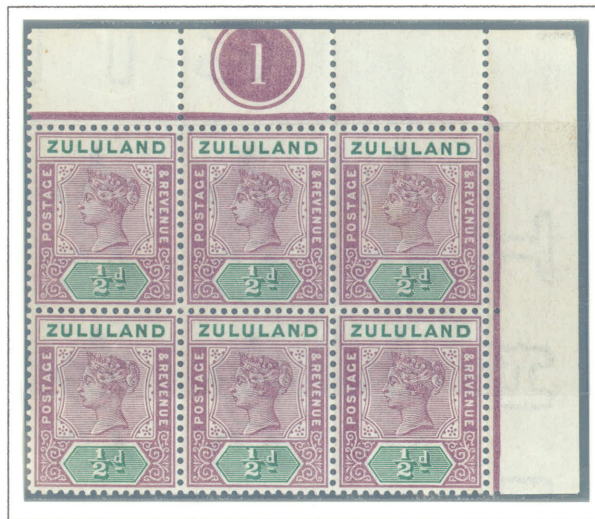
24

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The ½d. mauve and green



Top left - hand corner control block of six from the - left hand pane of sixty. Control no '1'



Top left - right hand corner control block of six from the - left hand pane of sixty. Control no '1'



Bottom left - hand corner control block of six from the - left hand pane of sixty. Control no '1'



Bottom right - hand corner control block of six from the - left hand pane of sixty. Control no '1'

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The ½d. mauve and green



A mint block of four with interpanneau margin



A used block of four with Eshowe c.d.s.



1898 (9 March) A registered cover from Eshowe to Toronto via London, showing the 9d registered rate to North America backstamped Durban/Natal and Toronto/Canada.

70

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The ½d. mauve and green



Top right - hand control strip of three.
Control no 2 from the second printing



Bottom left - hand control block of thirty six. Control no '2' from the second printing.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 1d. mauve and carmine



There were two printings of the 1d. stamp. Control no.1 shows the first and Control no.2, the second.



1896 (19 October) A registered cover from H.Gardener, Treasurer of Zululand to Paris showing the correct 6½d. overseas registration rate. 4d. for the registration and 2½d. for the postage. This cover also illustrates two different strikes of the 'R' in oval registration mark.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 1d. mauve and carmine



Top left - hand corner control block of six from the left - hand pane of sixty.
Control no. '2'.



Top right - hand corner control block of six from the right - hand pane of sixty.
Control no. '2'.



Bottom left - hand corner control block of six from the left - hand pane of sixty.
Control no. '2'.



Bottom right - hand corner control block of four from the right - hand pane of sixty.
Control no. '2'.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 1d. mauve and carmine. Sloped 'Z' variety



Sloped 'Z'



Sloped 'Z' variety on top
left hand stamp.



1896 (24 December) A cover to Durban showing the correct 1d. rate to Natal. Tied with an Eshowe/Zululand c.d.s.. Backstamped Lower Tugela/Natal and Durban/Natal. The 1d. stamp has the sloped 'Z' in Zululand variety.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 1d. mauve and carmine



1898 (13 May) A cover to Pietermaritzburg showing the correct 1d. rate to Natal. Backstamped Durban/Natal and G. P. O./Natal.



1895 (28 Nov.). A cover from Eshowe to Germany showing the correct 2½d. rate with two 1d. stamps tied with the Eshowe/Zululand double ring c.d.s.. Backstamped Durban/Natal.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 1d. mauve and carmine

A control block of 42 stamps from the bottom of the right - hand pane of sixty from the second printing (control 2), showing the constant plate variety of sloped 'Z' in Zululand . This variety occurs in the same position on both the left and right - hand panes of the full sheet. Thus concluding that both the left and right master plates were made from the same set of dies.

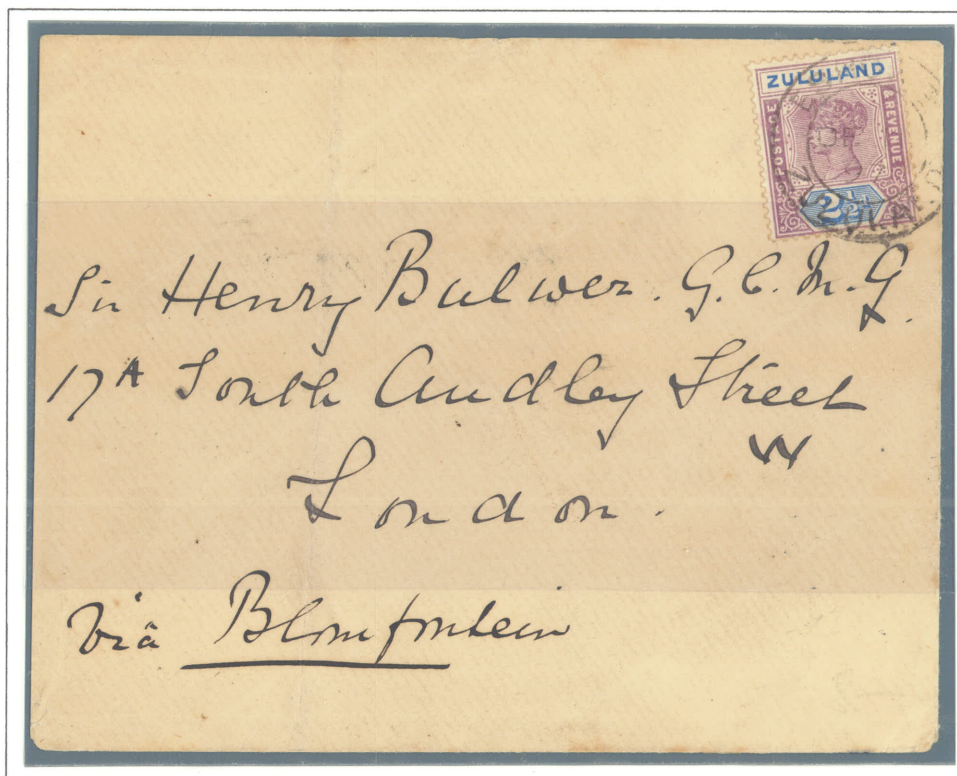


The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 2½d. mauve and blue



An unused block
of four



1897 (13 December) A cover from Eshowe 'Via Bloemfontein' to Sir Henry Bulwer in London showing the correct 2½d. overseas postage rate. Sir Henry was the Governor of Natal during the Anglo Zulu War and was vehemently opposed the war. This cover would have been sent via Bloemfontein in order to save time, as it would have gone directly onto a mail ship in Cape Town bound for England as opposed to travelling around the coast from Durban to Cape Town first. This cover appears not to have gone through Bloemfontein as it does not have the extra 2d. postage required for this route.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 2½d. mauve and blue



1896 (16 July) An entire from Eshowe to Denmark showing the correct 2½d. rate. Backstamped Durban/Natal, London and Kjøbenhavn (Copenhagen).



1896 (17 December) A registered cover from Eshowe to Metz showing the correct 6½d. registered overseas rate. i.e. 2½d. for postage and 4d. for the registration. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Metz.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 3d. mauve and olive-brown



Top left-hand corner control block of six from the left-hand pane of sixty. Control no. '1'



Top right-hand corner control block of six from the right-hand pane of sixty. Control no. '1'



Bottom left-hand corner control block of six from the left-hand pane of sixty. Control no. '1'



Bottom right-hand corner control block of six from the right-hand pane of sixty. Control no. '1'

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 3d. mauve and olive-brown



Used in Nongoma



Used in Nondweni



Used in Melmoth



Used in Eshowe



1896 (6 September) A registered cover from Eshowe to Durban with four 3d. stamps (overpaid by 7d.) and a handstamped registration mark. Backstamped Durban/Natal.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 6d. dull mauve and black.



A top left - hand corner control block of four from the left hand pane of sixty. Control no. 1.



A top right - hand corner control block of six from the right hand pane of sixty. Control no. 1.



1896 (20 October). A registered cover from Eshowe to Metz showing the correct overseas registered rate ie. 2½d. for the postage and 4d. for the registration. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Metz.

82
The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 6d. dull mauve and black

1896 (15 September) A registered cover from Eshowe to Durban with two 6d. Zululand stamps. Backstamped Durban/Natal.



1895 (27 December) A registered cover from Eshowe to the U.S.A. via England with a 9d. registration rate. Both a 3d. and 6d. Zululand stamp was used. Backstamped Durban/Natal, Liverpool, St Louis and The Kansas City Registry Division.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

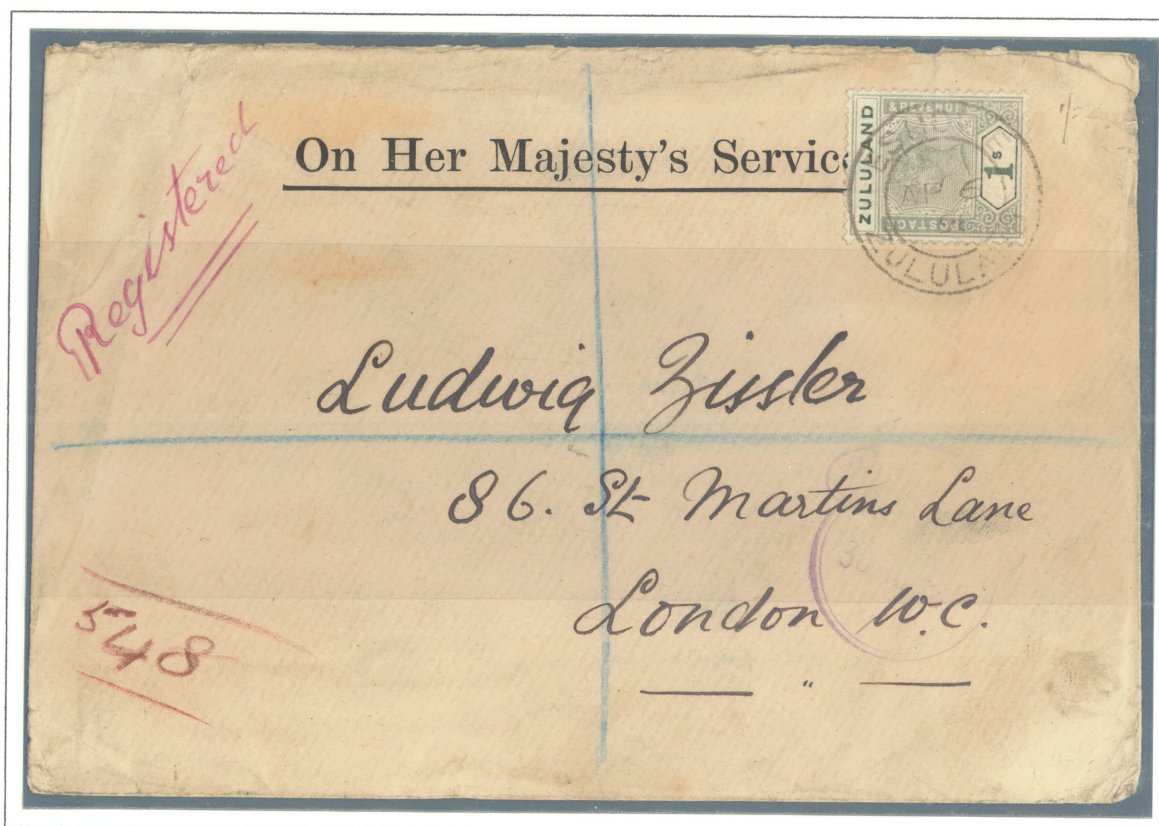
The 1s. green



The bottom left - hand control block of four from the left - hand pane of sixty. Control no.1.



The top left - hand control block of four from the left - hand pane of sixty. Control no.1.



1898 (6 April) An O.H.M.S.cover registered to London with a 1s. Zululand stamp. Tied with an Eshowe c.d.s. and London registry receiving mark.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 1s. green

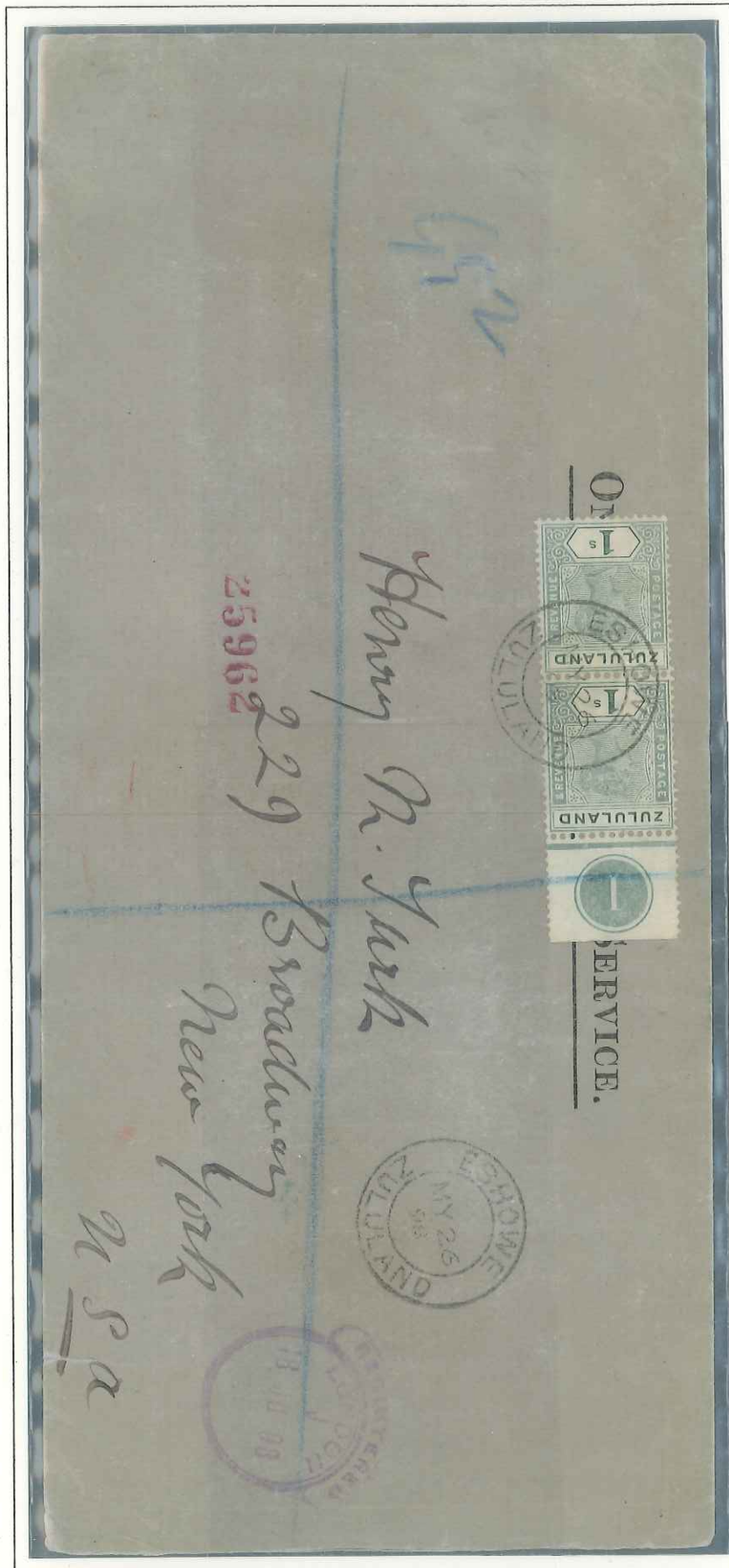


1896 (26 February) A registered cover from Eshowe to Montreal in Canada via London with a 1s. Zululand stamp. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Montreal/Canada.



Top right - hand corner control block of twelve from the right - hand pane of 60. Control no. 1.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue



1898 (26 May) A registered cover from Eshowe to New York via London with a pair of 1s. stamps with margin showing control no.1. Backstamped Durban/Natal and New York/N.Y.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The 2/6s. green and black



Mint block of four



A used pair on piece with Eshowe c.d.s.



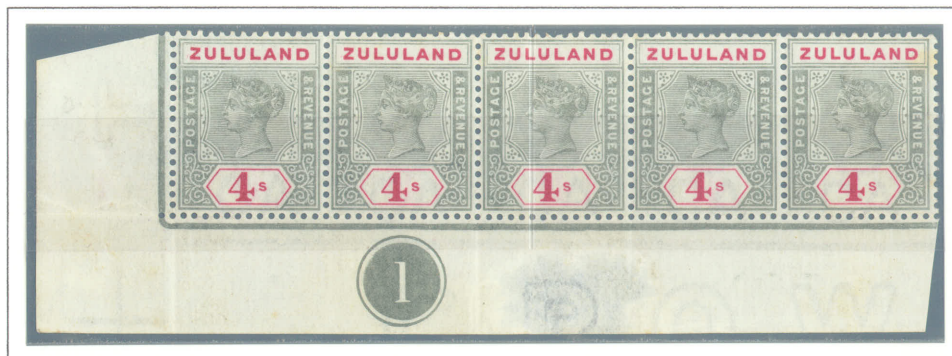
1898 (22 February) An O.H.M.S. cover to Paris via London With a 2/6s. Zululand stamp. The registration number, handstamped registration mark and the London registered datestamp also appears. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Paris.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

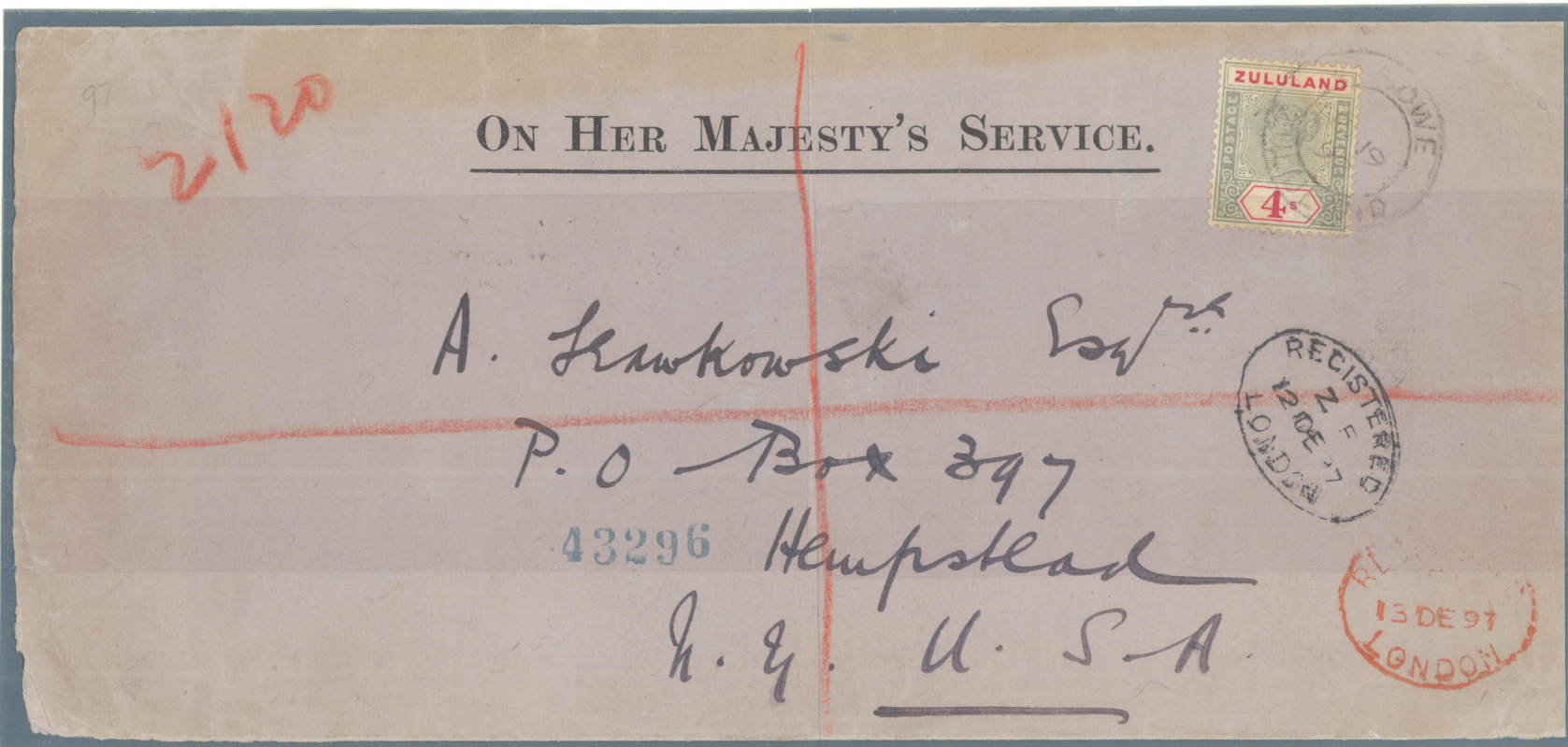
The 4s. green and carmine



Unused block of four



Bottom left-hand control strip of five from the left-hand pane of sixty. Control no. 1.



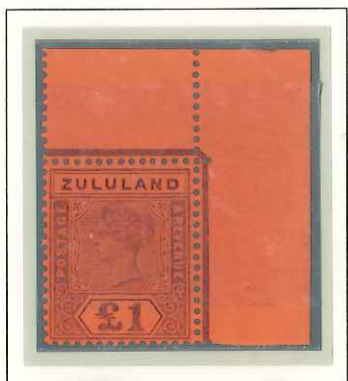
1897 (19 November) An official registered cover from Eshowe to the U.S.A. via London with a 4s. Zululand stamp. Showing the registration no.s from Zululand and London as well as the receiving and despatch London Registry datestamps. As this was an overseas destination stamps had to be applied for postage. Backstamped Durban/Natal, New York/N.K and Hempstead/N.Y..

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The £1 purple on red & the £5 purple and black on red.



An Imperium proof in the colours of the £5.



A top right hand corner stamp with complete corner margin and jubilee line. Position no.six from the right hand pane of sixty.



A bottom right hand corner stamp with complete corner margin and jubilee line. Position no.sixty from the right hand pane of sixty.



The £5 purple and black on red and the £1 purple on red in a blocks of four, the £1 with interpanneau margin at right, fiscally used on piece with central 'Registry Of Deeds' c.d.s. Ex John Gartner. Dated 1890. This is interesting as these stamps were only issued in 1894. However on the complete title deed one can see that the date has been altered manually on the Circular Date Stamp to remedy this fault.

The 1894 - 1896 Definitive Issue

The £5 purple and black on red. 'THICK PRINTING' / FORGERY.



An enlarged copy of the £5 'specimen' stamp (on page 66) used as a control to show the correct printing of 'ZULULAND and the £5 value



An enlarged copy of the £5 forgery showing a much thicker printing of 'ZULULAND and the £5 value



A genuine £5 stamp used for revenue purposes.



A genuine £5 stamp used for revenue purposes, cleaned with forged postmark added to defraud stamp collectors.



A copy of the 'THICK PRINTING' £5 with genuine postmark and clean American Philatelic Foundation cert. no. 0194616.



A block of four of the £5 forgery genuinely used on the 23 /02 /1897 and initialled by John Windham Register of Deeds in Zululand. This block is subject of an article written by P. Whitmore & C.A.Sergay and published in Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal December 2010 pages 156 - 165 on the £5 forgeries.

Our conclusion re the 'THICK PRINTING' is as follows;

- (A) There was only one printing of the £5 value authorised.
- (B) The printing of the £5 value and ZULULAND are completely different to the proofs, specimens, other values, and other copies of the £5 stamps in the collection.
- (C) For want of a better explanation, we believe that a sheet of these stamps were mechanically printed on a blank sheet of preprinted Imperium stock of the purple on red watermarked paper.
- (D) Why would a new set of plates been used to print these stamps?
- (E) All used copies of these stamps appear to be used in the correct time period.

We believe that these stamps were created to defraud the fiscal authorities rather than the stamp collectors, and are not a newly discovered 'Black Doubly Printed' genuinely stamp as proposed by a well known dealer. The fact that they were used in the correct period may make them far rarer than the genuine stamps.

on mortgaged by Susanna Sapya Labuschagne
Stephanus Vermaak for the sum of One hundred pounds.

Windham
Registrar of Deeds Zululand



W.F. Hely-Hutchinson

710.9
1495



By His Excellency the Honourable Sir Walter Francis
Hely-Hutchinson, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished
Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-
in-Chief in and over the Colony of Natal, Vice-Admiral of the same, and
Supreme Chief over the Native Population.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty Victoria, by the Grace
of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,
Queen, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India.

Fiscal - usage
1895 (6 June) A unique complete title deed signed by The Governor Of Zululand W.F. Hely - Hutchinson and The Treasurer of Zululand J.Windham, with two vertical strips of three of the £1 and 1s., tied with two Registry Of Deeds Office/Zululand c.d.s. and the same date in manuscript.

Postal Stationery

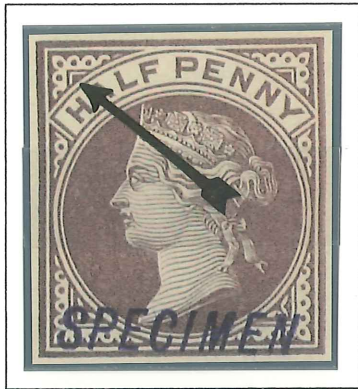
The ½d. Postcard and Reply - card

During March 1893 both the ½d. and 1d. postcards and reply-cards were overprinted 'ZULULAND' by Messers De La Rue & Co. There are three distinct groups of varieties for the ½d. cards ;

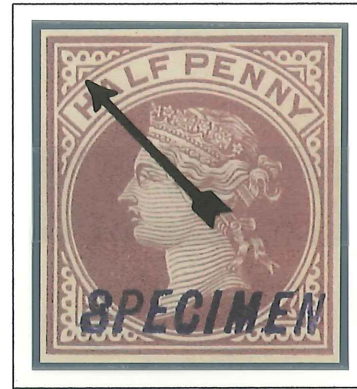
(1) These cards have been produced from two separate plates, showing differences in the thickness of the innermost white band in the spandrels above the arched tablet carrying the value 'HALF PENNY.' The thin band is designated type 'A' and the thicker band is designated type 'B.' On the reply - cards a combination of type 'A' and 'B' may occur.

(2) There are two distinct variations in color i.e. chocolate and red/brown. Other intermediate colors are thought to be caused by variations in the aging process.

(3) The Shaved 'Z' in the overprint 'ZULULAND.'



Type 'A'



Type 'B'



1897 (15 December) A red/brown reply - card posted to Durban with type 'A' and 'B' showing. The variety with the Shaved 'Z' also appears. The card is tied with an Eshove c.d.s. and is backstamped Durban/Natal.

Postal Stationary

The ½d. Postcard



1893 (3 June) An early usage of the ½d. red/brown postcard type 'A' addressed to the Resident Magistrate of Eshowe, announcing that he, the writer had shot a turkey buzzard (ground hornbill) in terms of a permit granted to him. Tied with an Eshowe c.d.s. and not backstamped.



1895 (11 April) A red/brown post/reply card type 'B', 'B' showing the shaved 'Z' variety. Tied with an Eshowe and Noordsberg - Road c.d.s. Backstamped Durban/Natal and G.P.O./Natal.

Postal Stationary

Specimen --- The ½d Postcard/Reply-card.



A red - brown postcard/reply-card type ' B ' ' B ' handstamped "SPECIMEN" in violet in Durban. Samuel type NA 1.



A red - brown postcard/reply-card type ' B ' ' B ' handstamped "SPECIMEN" in black. Samuel type G.B.9.

93

Postal Stationery

Specimen --- The 1/2d. Postcard



A red - brown 1/2d. postcard type 'A' handstamped "SPECIMEN" in violet in Durban for U.P.U. reference purposes. Samuel type NA 1.



A chocolate - brown 1/2d. postcard type 'A' handstamped " SPECIMEN " in violet as above.

Postal Stationary

The ½d. Postcard



1894 (1 September) An unusual local usage of the ½d. red/brown postcard type 'A' with an unrecorded stike from the Legal Advisors Office. This office was entitled to send and receive O.H.M.S. correspondence.



1897 (2 November) A ½d. red/brown postcard type 'A' from Eshowe to England with a pre-printed Christmas greeting .Uprated with a ½d. stamp to make up the correct 1d. overseas postcard rate.

Postal Stationary

Specimen --- The 1d. Postcard and Reply - card



The 1d .brick red (Light shade) postcard with a thin 'ZULULAND' overprint and handstamped "SPECIMEN" in violet in Durban for U.P.U.reference purposes. Samuel type NA '1'.



The 1d .brick red (Dark shade) postcard/reply - card with a bold 'ZULUIAND' overprint and handstamped "SPECIMEN" in violet in Durban . Samuel type NA '1'.

Postal Stationary

The 1d. Postcard



1893 (24 October) An early usage of the 1d. postcard with bold overprint to Middleburg in the Cape tied with an Eshowe single circle c.d.s., with Durban/Natal, East London and Eastern Travelling Post Office transit marks. The banking institutions were common users of postcards for their communication.

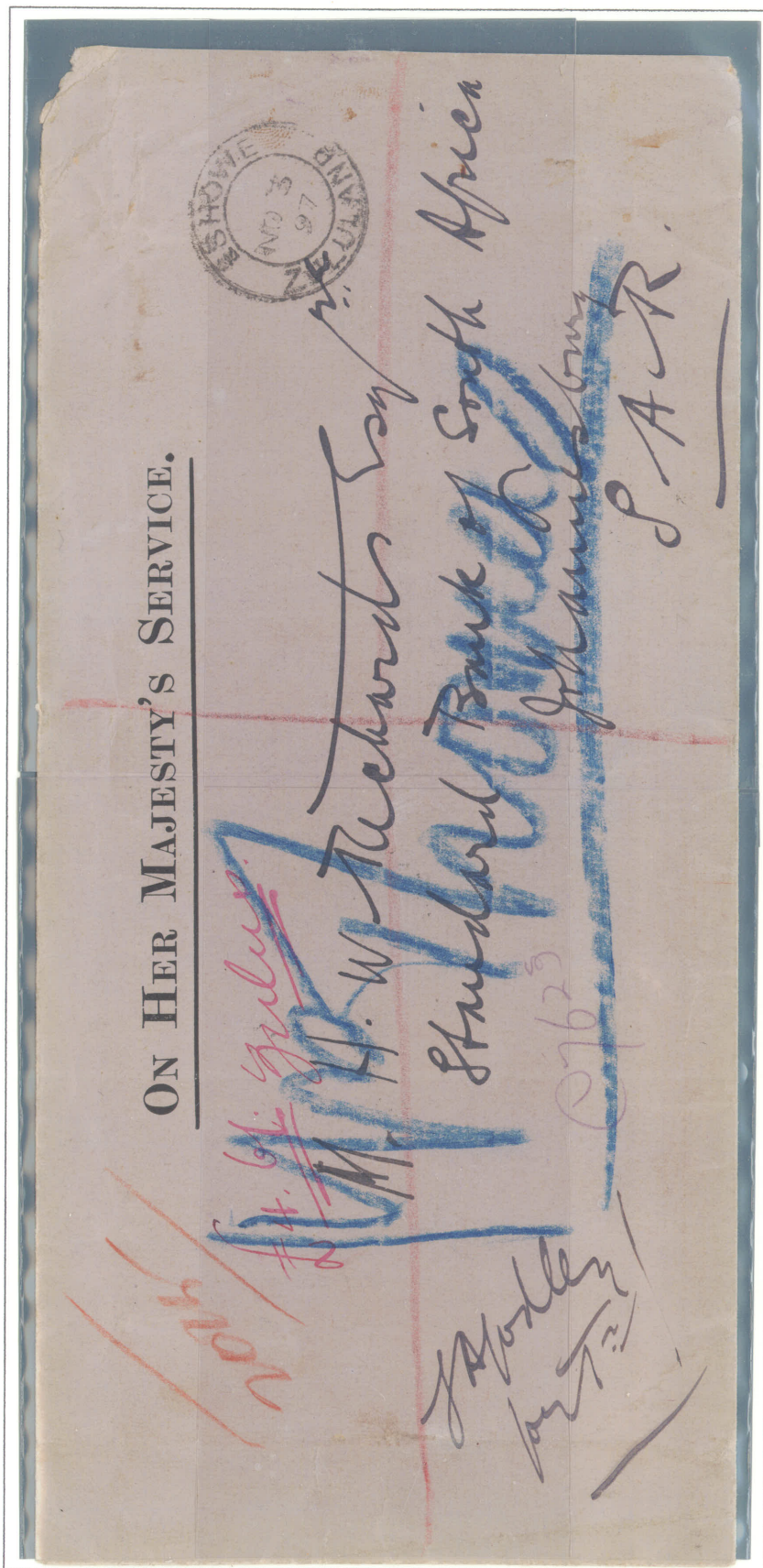


1894 (31 August) A 1d. postcard with thin overprint written by a missionary C. Johnson from the St. Augustines Mission Station at Nqutu to Cape Town and tied with a Nqutu c.d.s. Other interesting marks are the two T.P.O. UP c.d.s. Backstamped Rorke's Drift/Natal and G.P.O./Natal.

Official Mail

Local usage

On 28 December 1896, a circular was sent by J Chadwick the Postmaster General of Zululand, to all official offices concerning the 'Franking of official correspondence in Zululand', where it was stated that a large number of senior officials were entitled to send or receive 'On Her Majesty's Service.' (O.H.M.S.) correspondence, with the proviso, 'That they are franked by the signatures of the senders'.

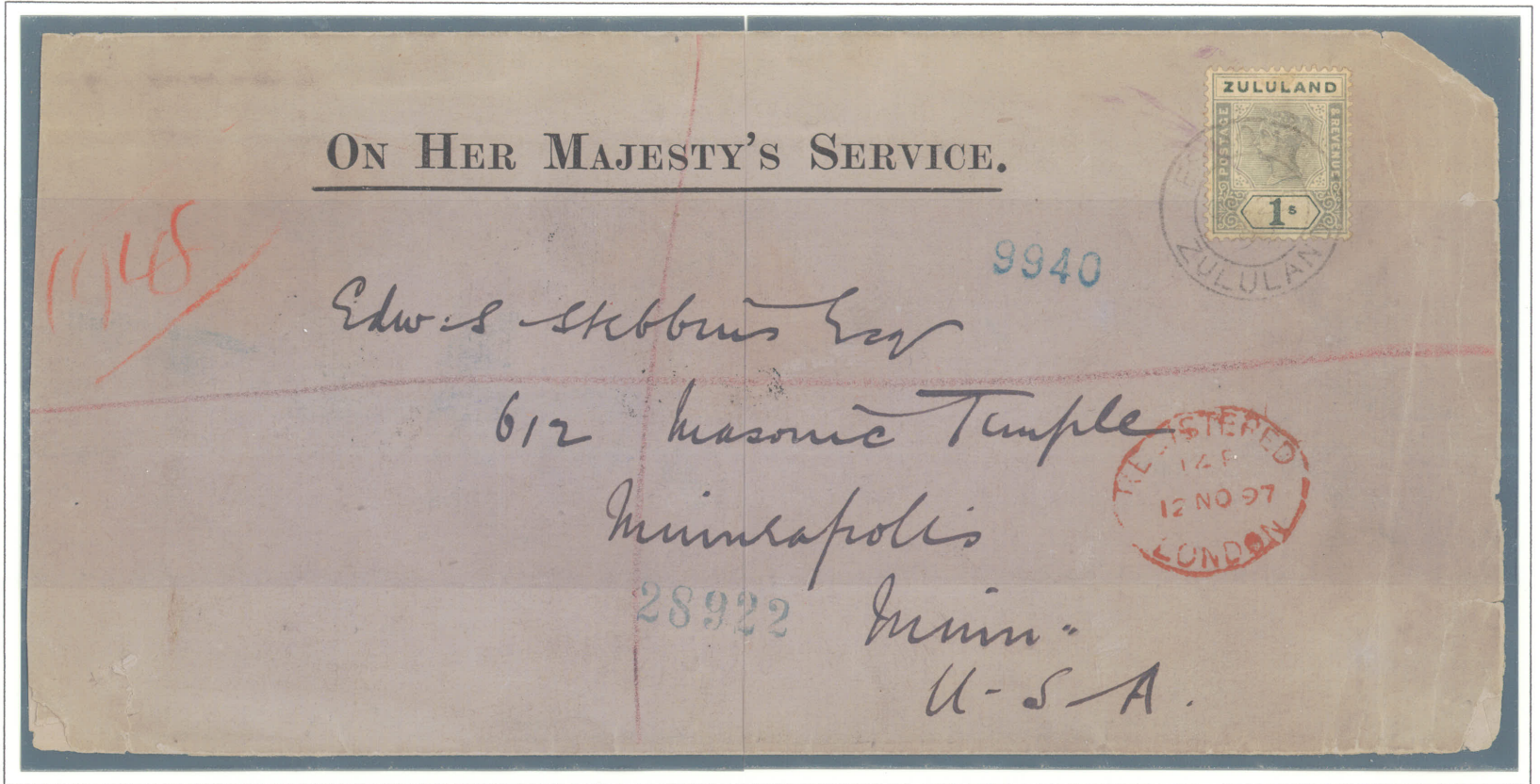


1897 (28 November) An unstamped registered O.H.M.S. envelope from Eshowe to Mr. H.W. Richards Esq at the Standard Bank of South Africa, Johannesburg S.A.R. The red registration number, the sender's name and office (bottom left) and an Eshowe c.d.s. appears. This cover shows that no stamps were required for O.H.M.S. postage within Zululand or to the neighbouring colonies. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Johannesburg/Z.A.R.

Official Mail

Overseas usage

1897 (22 October) A registered O.H.M.S. cover from Eshowe to Minnesota in the U.S.A. via London, tied with an Eshowe/Zululand c.d.s. and showing a red London registry datestamp and registration number. O.H.M.S. envelopes sent overseas had to contain the correct postage and could not be sent as an official stampless cover.



A reduced color photocopy of the back of the above cover.

The 1889 - 1890 Natal Overprinted Revenue Stamps

On 10 May 1889 the Crown Agents forwarded to De La Rue & Co., under reference 'Zululand 34/1889' a requisition for Natal Revenue Stamps overprinted 'ZULULAND.' These sheets of one hundred and twenty stamps were printed from plate no.2 and arranged in two panes of sixty with a gutter margin in between. They were overprinted in one pass and were supplied in both 1889 and in 1890.



Imperf. block of four



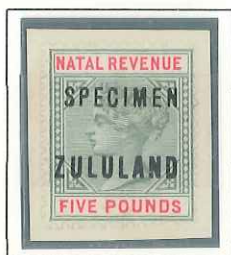
Perf / Imperf block of four.



Imperf. block of four



Perf / Imperf pair.



A unique set of File copies of the Zululand revenues overprinted SPECIMEN by De La Rue & Co. with the Samuel Type D12 overprint.

The 1889 - 1890 Natal Overprinted Revenue Stamps

The 1d., 1s., 5s., 9s., £1, £5 and £20 revenue stamps of Natal overprinted 'ZULULAND' by Messers De La Rue & Co. Watermark Crown over C A. Perf 14. £5 R.P.S.cert. 10865 and £20 B.P.A.cert 19439.

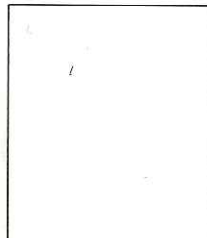
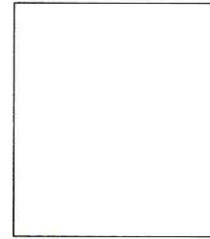
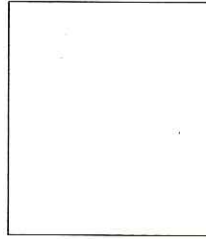


The 1d., 1s., 5s., £1 and £5 revenue stamps of Natal overprinted 'ZULULAND' cancelled by the revenue authorities in manuscript or with a deeds office c.d.s.

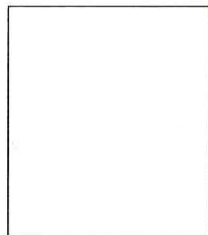
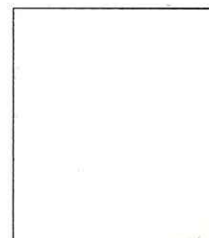
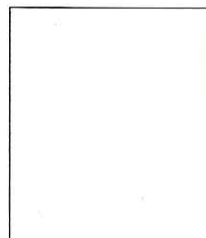


The 1889 - 1890 Natal Overprinted Revenue Stamps

The 1d., 1s., 5s., 9s., £1, £5 and £20 revenue stamps of Natal overprinted 'ZULULAND' by Messers De La Rue & Co. Watermark Crown over C A. Perf 14.



The 1d., 1s., 5s., £1 and £5 revenue stamps of Natal overprinted 'ZULULAND' cancelled by the revenue authorities in manuscript or with a deeds office c.d.s.



The Postmarks Of Zululand

There were 17 post offices and postal agencies for Zululand for the period 1 March 1888 to 30 June 1898. These were Entonjaneni, Eshowe, Hlabisa, Ingwavuma, Inyoni, Lower Tugela, Lower Umfolozi, Melmoth, Nkandhla, Nondweni, Nongoma, Nqutu, Qudeni, Rorke's Drift, Ubombo, Ulundi and Umlalazi.

There were twenty five recorded types of postmarks (PM) broken up into the following four groups;

- (a) The most common - A black double circle (PM).
- (b) The next most common - A violet or black single (PM).
- (c) The scarce large violet triple circle (PM) from Rorke's Drift and Nkandhla.
- (d) The very scarce, large tripple oval (PM) used at Nondweni.

There were two manuscript cancellations from Inyoni and Nqutu.

Initially, there was some confusion amongst collectors with regard to the usage of violet postmarks. They believed that these postmarks were fiscal defacements, however, this letter from the Zululand Treasurer Mr. H. Gardner to a collector on 13 November 1896 clarified this issue.

Eshowe
13.11.96

Dear Sir

I have recieved letters asking me if rubber postmarks are genuine. Perhaps you would kindly set collectors minds at rest by a small note in the monthly journal, if I am not asking to much.

All our postal agencies use rubber stamps. I enclose specimens, which please do not trouble to return

Collectors appear to be under the impression that rubber stamps are fiscal defacements The old issue viz. English & Natal Postage ½d. Fiscal 1d. & 6d. overprinted Zululand, was never used for fiscal purposes.

Apologising for troubling you

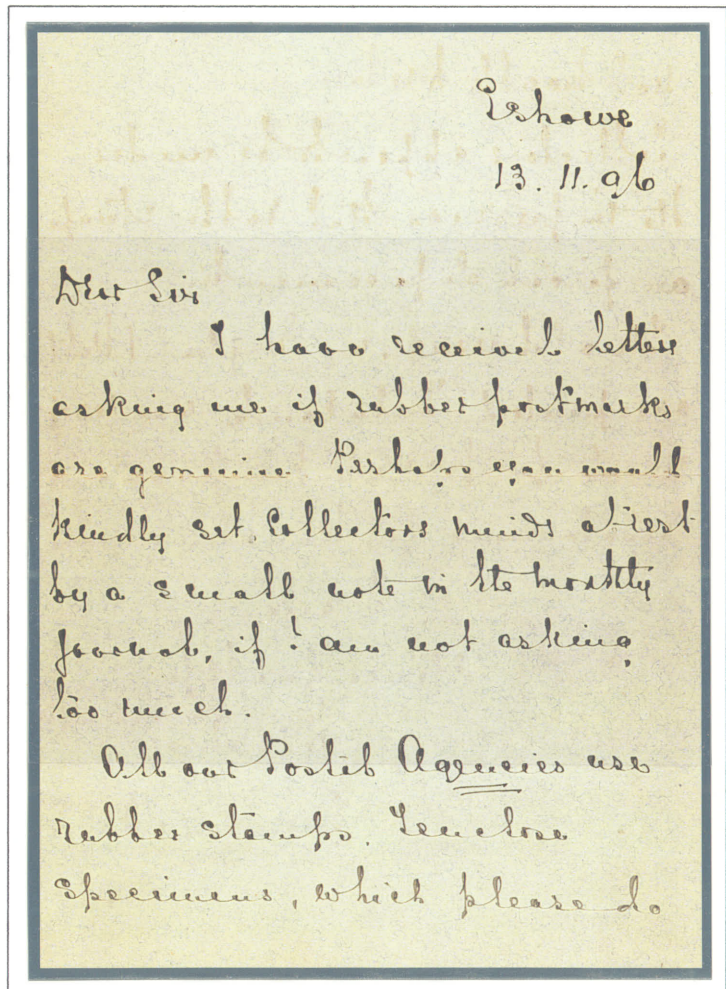
I am

Yours faithfully

H. Gardner

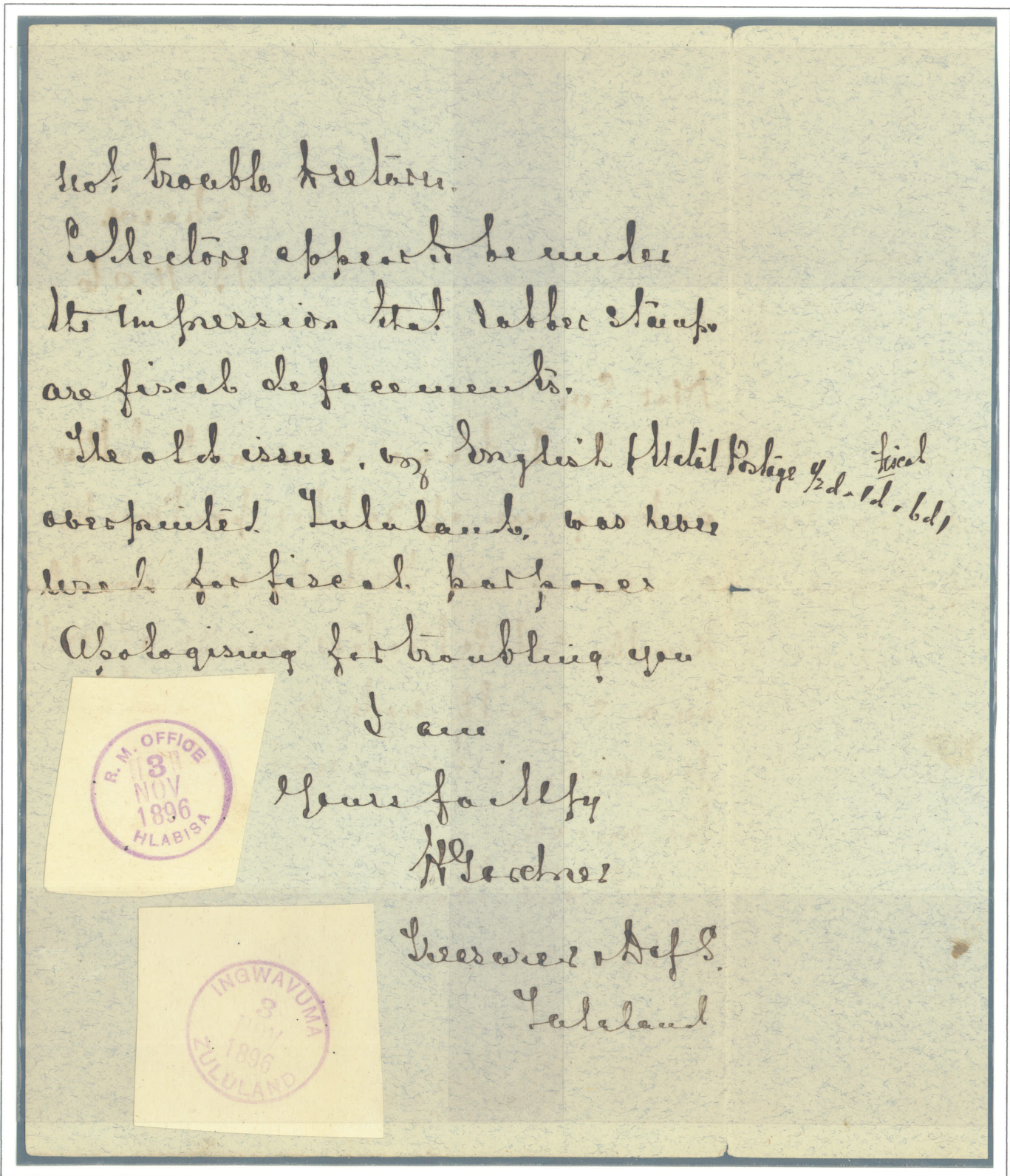
Treasurers Dept.

Zululand.



A reduced copy of the
First page of the letter

The Postmarks Of Zululand



The original letter from the Treasurer Of Zululand to a stamp collector as illustrated on the previous page showing two specimen postmarks of the violet single circle postmark from Hlabisa and Ingwavuma dated 3 November 1896.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Eshowe

The Eshowe Post Office was established by the Natal administration prior to the inception of the Zululand postal system and was provided with a steel double circle canceller with no colony name under Eshowe as Zululand was not part of the Colony of Natal. Violet ink was only used for three months, thereafter black ink until December 1889. In total this Post Office used four different cancellers.



1888 (11 June) A cover with the early 6d. rate to England. Taxed 1d. and redirected in England. Tied with the early violet c.d.s. and backstamped Lower Tugela/Natal, Durban/Natal and Bristol & Clifton.



1888 (October 22) A cover to England with the correct 6d. rate and tied with the black Eshowe c.d.s. Backstamped Lower Tugela/Natal, Durban/Natal and Cosham Hants.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Eshowe

The second canceller in use at Eshowe was 26 mm. in diameter with Eshowe at the top and Zululand at the bottom. It can be distinguished from the type three canceller in that it is slightly wider in diameter and the central bar of the letter 'E' in Eshowe is offset towards the top. This canceller was always used with black ink. The earliest recorded usage was 24 November 1888 and the latest 15 November 1892.



1890 (11 March) A double rate cover (the ½oz. overseas rate had changed from 6d. to 4d. and would still be further reduced to the 2½d. U.P.U. rate in 1891.) from Eshowe to London with eight G.B. 1d. overprinted stamps and tied with four type two cancellers in black. Backstamped Durban/Natal and South Kensington.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Eshowe

The third and most common double circle steel canceller used was 25 mm. in diameter and was always used with black ink. It was 1 mm. smaller than the type 2 in diameter. The earliest recorded usage was 3 January 1890 and was used into the Natal annexation.



1896 (5 July) A cover from Eshowe to the U.S.A. via London, showing the 2½d. rate and tied with two type three cancellations. Backstamped Durban/Natal, London and Milwaulkee.



1897 (30 March) A cover from Eshowe to The Transvaal tied with three type three cancellations. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Pretoria/Z.A.R.

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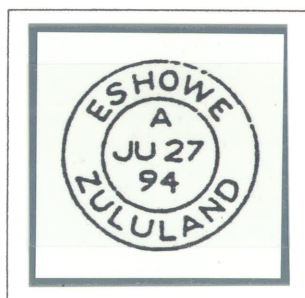
The Postmarks Of Zululand

Eshowe

The type three canceller exists with 'A' and 'P' time indicators. The 'A' indicates the morning processing of the postal item and the 'P' the afternoon. These cancellations are always found in black and exist from February 1894 till at least April 1895.



1896 (3 April) A 1d. Postcard from Eshowe to Noodsberg - Road in Natal showing the 'A' time indicator. The 'A' indicators are far more common than the 'P', thus most of the post was processed in the mornings. Backstamped Durban/Natal and G.P.O./Natal.



'A' indicator



A 5s. stamp with complete c.d.s. showing 'P' indicator



'P' indicator

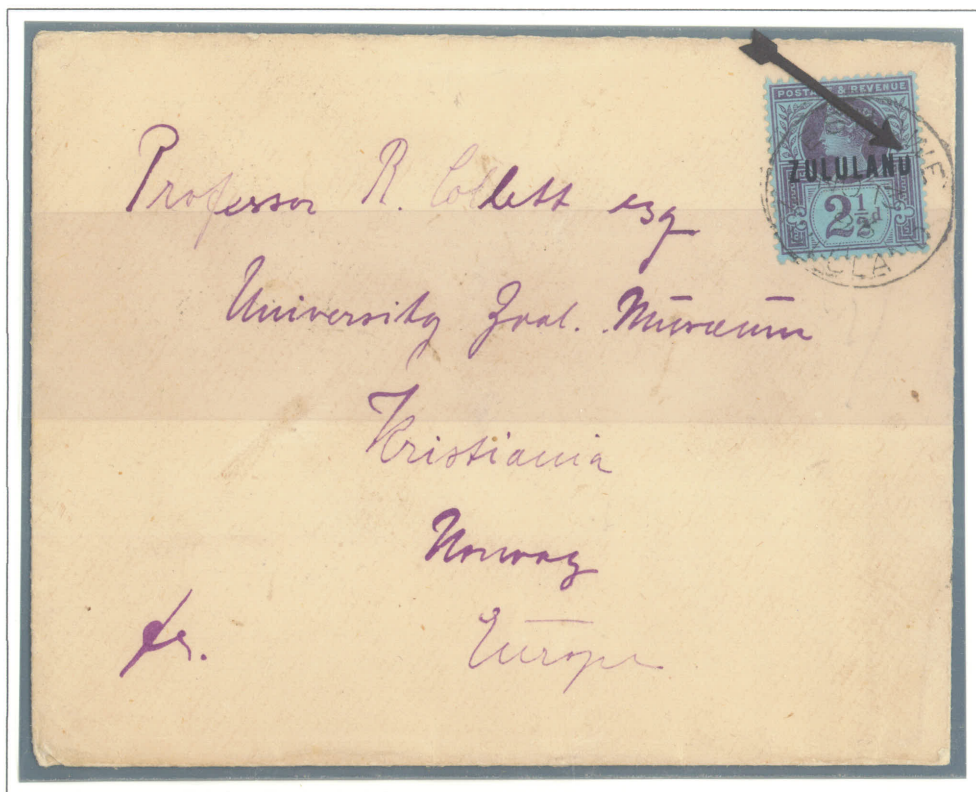
The Postmarks Of Zululand

Eshowe

The 25mm. single circle Eshowe canceller was used with black ink from 1893 until into the Natal annexation. The earliest recorded usage was the 31 May 1893. It is sometimes found with a 'A' or 'P' indicator indicating a morning or afternoon posting.



1893 (13 November) A cover from Eshowe to Norway with the later 2½d. overseas rate. Tied with the Eshowe single circle c.d.s. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Kristiana. The 2½d. stamp has a broken 'D' in Zululand.



1893 (7 December). A registered O.H.M.S. cover from Eshowe to England, showing the correct 6½d. rate and tied with the Eshowe single circle c.d.s.. Backstamped Durban/Natal and Hull.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Entonjaneni

The Entonjaneni Post Office was the second to be established in Zululand in 1888, but its tenure was short lived as it was replaced by the Melmoth P.O. in 1893. It used a 30 mm. dia single circle canceller with violet ink for a short period and then black ink for the rest of its duration. This cover was used less than one after the earliest recorded usage of 30 June 1888.



1888 (July 28) An early usage cover from Entonjaneni to Pietermaritzburg, tied with the rare violet c.d.s. and showing the correct 1d. rate to Natal. Backstamped Eshowe. Lower Tugela, Durban and G.P.O..

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Entonjaneni

The Enoonjaneni Post Office mainly served the military who were deployed in the area to put down the uSuthu uprising. Both covers are from Col. Henry Stabb to his wife in Pietermaritzburg. He was the officer commanding for the district. The earliest recorded usage was 30 June 1888 and the last in November 1892.



1888 (22 Aug.) A cover from Entonjaneni to Pietermaritzburg showing a double 2d. rate to Natal and tied with the more common black c.d.s. Backstamped Eshowe, Lower - Tugela, Durban and G.P.O.Natal.

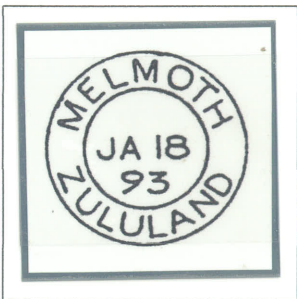


1888 (September) A cover from Entonjaneni to Pietermaritzburg showing the correct 1d. rate to Natal and tied with the black c.d.s. Backstamped Eshowe, Lower - Tugela, Durban and G.P.O.Natal.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Melmoth

The Post Office at Melmoth was opened in January 1893 after the closure of the Entonjaneni P.O. and was issued with a 26 mm. diameter double circle steel canceller which was always used with black ink. The earliest usage was in January 1893 and lasted into the Natal annexation.



1897 (19 May) A cover from Melmoth to Scotland with five Zululand 1/2d. stamps and tied with three Melmoth postmarks and showing the correct 2 1/2d. overseas rate. Backstamped Eshowe/Zululand and Durban/Natal.



1895 (16 November). A 1/2d. post/reply card from Melmoth to Germany uprated with a 1/2d. stamp to make up the correct 1d. overseas rate. Backstamped Eshowe/Zululand, Durban/Natal and Zwickau/Sachsen.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nondweni

The Nondweni Post Office opened in 1891 and used two types of cancellers. The large oval tripple circle rubber canceller which was similar to those used in the revenue offices was always used with violet ink and although this office had a steel double circle canceller at this time it appears not to have been used while the rubber one was in use. The earlist recorded usage was 8 August 1891 and the latest 7 December 1894.

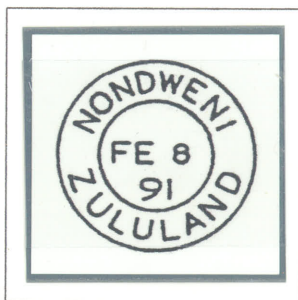


1892 (25 November) A cover from Nondweni to Scotland with two overprinted 1d. Natal postal fiscal stamps and a 1/2d. overprinted G.B. stamp, illustrating the new 2 1/2d. overseas rate on joining the U.P.U., and tied with one oval violet cancellation. A practical reason why this canceller may have been preferred to the the smaller double circle steel canceller was that you could cancel upto nine stamps with one strike as opposed to four. Backstamped Rorke's Drift/Zululand, Rorkes - Drift/Natal, G.P.O./Natal and Glasgow.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nondweni

The 26 mm. diameter steel canceller was used with black ink and its earliest recorded usage was 15 February 1891, and was earlier than that of the large oval violet postmark, however it disappeared from use until 1894. Thereafter it remained in use into the annexation until it was destroyed by the Boers in 1900.

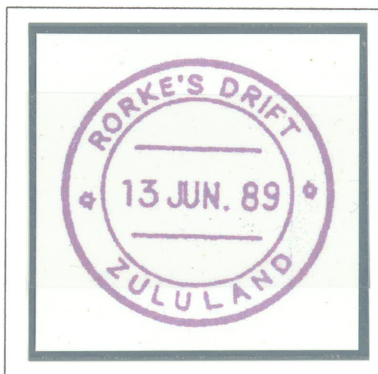


1895 (28 October) A cover from Nondweni to Durban with a 1d. Zululand stamp and tied with the double circle c.d.s. in black. This cover shows the correct 1d. rate to Natal and also the route via Dundee. Backstamped Dundee/ Natal and Durban/Natal.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Rorke's Drift

The Rorke's Drift Post Office opened in May 1889 in order to facilitate the post generated in the Nqutu District and to alleviate the problems being caused by the manuscript cancellations emanating from Resident Magistrate's Office. It used two types of cancellers, the first was a large 36 mm. diameter triple circle rubber date stamp, always used with violet ink. The earliest recorded usage was 5 May 1889 and the last, 9 February 1891.

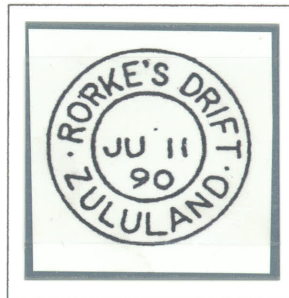


1889 (6 October) A cover from Rorke's Drift to London with four G.B. 1d. overprinted stamps and tied with two violet cancellations. This cover shows the correct 4d. overseas ½ oz. postal rate prior to the joining of the U.P.U. The postmarks also show the variety 'short bar added to a single day slug'. Backstamped Rorke's - Drift/Natal, G.P.O./Natal, Durban/Natal, and London.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Rorke's Drift

The 27 mm.diameter steel canceller superseded the large rubber canceller in May 1890, and was always used with black ink. The earliest recorded usage was 9 May 1890 and the last 3 March 1893.

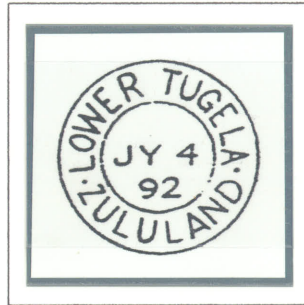


1891 (11 October) A cover from Rorke's Drift to Ireland with three 1d. overprinted Natal postal - fiscal and two G.B. overprinted stamps and tied with five double circle cancellers. This cover illustrates the shortages of the 1d. stamps in the colony at this time. Backstamped Rorke's Drift/Zululand, Rorke's - Drift/Natal and G.P.O./Natal.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Lower Tugela

The lower Tugela Post office opened in 1891 and was provided with a permanent 26 mm. diameter steel canceller which was used with black ink. Partial strikes of a temporary large triple circle violet canceller are known. The earliest known usage was 20 August 1891. It seems the this Office operated until Zululand was annexed into Natal and was then closed in favour of the Natal Office which was located north of the Tugela River.

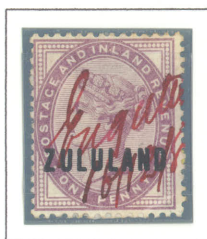


1895 (14 November) A cover from Lower Tugela to Durban written by John Dunn with a 1d. Zululand stamp, tied with the Lower Tugela double circle c.d.s. and showing the correct 1d. rate into Natal. Backstamped Lower - Tugela/Natal and Durban/Natal. It seems that the suppliers of steel cancellers to Natal and Zululand were different companies because in the case of Zululand, Lower Tugela and Rorke's Drift are two separate words in but in Natal they are spelt with a hyphen.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nqutu

Nqutu did not have an official postal service until around April 1893. However from September 1888 to April 1889 the Resident Magistrate Mr. E. G. Pennefather was probably given the responsibility for the postal affairs of the district of Nqutu. He gave permission to his staff to cancel stamps on post by manuscript and then to forward this post to Rorkes - Drift for onward carriage through Natal. There are four distinct handwritings identified to these cancellations. These manuscript cancellations were problematic for the Natal postal authorities, and in order to alleviate this he requested a rubber canceller. He was instructed not to cancel the stamps but to forward all letters by runner to the Rorkes - Drift Post Office who would then complete the necessary postal function. The reason for this is that the Magistrates Office for the District of Nqutu was situated near Rorkes - Drift and only moved to the town of Nqutu in 1893. The obliterator supplied was the large triple circle canceller for Rorkes - Drift



Cancelled in
red manuscript
Enqutu16/12/88



A 4d. G.B. overprinted stamp cancelled
in manuscript Nqutu 24 - 1 - 89, with a
Rorkes - Drift c.d.s. on the same day.



Cancelled in
manuscript
Nqutu 28 - 1 - 89.

Herewith follows the contents of E. G. Pennefather's letter to the postal authorities requesting an obliterating stamp.

*Nqutu
4 January 1889*

"Six

I have the honour to request that the obliterating stamp may be furnished for the use of the Post Office here.

At present the only means of obliterating the postage stamps is for the acting postmaster to do it with pen and ink. As there are often fifty or more letters for each post, this involves usually an hours work. Besides this, complaints have been made by persons residing in the district, that the Natal postal authorities do not recognise this obliteration and the letters are charged as not prepaid.

Although I feel sure that the Natal postal authorities have no right to make any such charge, or claim that the postmasters in Zululand shall obliterate in whatever way the Natal post office may choose to order. I beg that my request for an obliterating stamp may be complied with, to avoid further inconvenience."

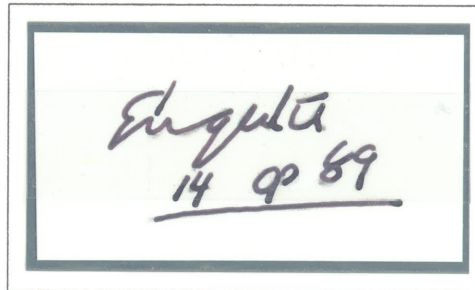
*I have the honor to be
Six*

*From your most obedient servant
Edward G Pennefather
AC & R.M Nqutu.*

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nqutu

1889 (15 April) A cover from Nqutu to Stellenbosch in the Cape Colony with two 1d. G.B. overprinted stamps applied over a Transvaal 2d. Arms issue. The cover was tied with a Enqutu manuscript cancellation together with a Rorkes - Drift/Natal c.d.s. Enqutu was an earlier form of spelling for Nqutu. It appears that the writer had carried the letter from the Z.A.R. already bearing the Transvaal stamp, but because it was being posted in Zululand ,it had to have added to it 2d. worth of stamps being the correct ½oz.rate from Zululand to the Cape Colony. This is the only recorded manuscript cancellation on cover from Nqutu.

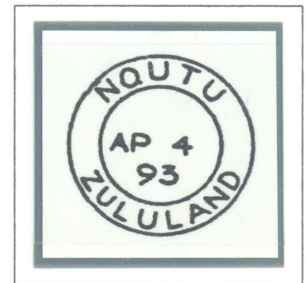


Backstamped G.P.O./Natal, Cape Town/Cape Colony and Stellenbosch

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nqutu

The official Nqutu Post Office opened in the town of Nqutu in 1893 and used a 25 mm. dia. double circle steel canceller with black ink. The earliest recorded usage was 12 March 1893 and the last into the Natal annexation.



1894 (30 April) A cover from Nqutu to Londonderry in Ireland with a 2½d. overprinted G.B.stamp and tied with a Nqutu double circle c.d.s. Backstamped Nqutu/Zululand, Rorkes - Drift/Natal, Durban/Natal and Portstewart.

1895 (8 February)
An incoming card from Johannesburg to Nondweni with a Nqutu transit strike. Backstamped Charlestown/Natal, Rorkes - Drift/Natal and Nondweni/Zululand.



The Postmarks Of Zululand

Ntingwe

The Ntingwe post office opened in September 1895 and closed in May 1896 giving it a life span of only nine months. Being situated in a rural area and in close proximity to the Nkandla post office it was probably deemed not practical to maintain and was thus closed down. No examples from this post office were known until after the 1970's. There were two known transit strikes on incoming mail until this year when two covers were offered for sale at Warwick & Warwick. The example below is one of them. Any examples of strikes from this post office are extremely rare.



1896 (April). A cover from Ntingwe to England overpaid by ½d. with three 1d. stamps. Tied with a single strike of the Ntingwe single circle post mark in purple. The cover is backstamped Nqutu 26 Apr, Dundee 29 Apr, Durban 30 Apr, and Aylesbury 23 May 96

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nkandhla

The Nkandhla Post Office opened in 1890 and used two types of cancellers. The first being a large 37mm, diameter triple circle rubber canceller used with violet ink. This canceller varies from that of Rorke's Drift in that there are no horizontal lines above and below the date. This canceller was used between September 1890 and may 1893.



1891 (25 February) A cover from Nkandhla to Pietermaritzburg in Natal, showing a double 2d. rate to Natal and tied with a complete strike of the large violet Nkandhla canceller. Backstamped Eshowe/Zululand, Durban/Natal and G.P.O./Natal.



1891(7 March). A cover from Nkandhla to Greytown in Natal showing the correct 1d. rate and cancelled with the large 37mm. diameter double circle rubber canceller in violet. Backstamped Durban, Pietermaritzburg(G.P.O.) and Greytown. Cert. Briefmarkenprufstelle No.Zulu - 2. 2001.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nkandhla

The permanent 25mm. dia. double circle steel date stamp was received in 1893 and put into immediate use. Violet ink was used initially but there after black. The earliest recorded usage was 12 August 1893 and the last into the Union Of South Africa in the 1920's.



1896 (20 June) A 1d. Postcard/reply card from Nkandhla To Johannesburg tied with a black Nkandhla c.d.s. Backstamped Eshowe/Zululand and Johannesburg/Z.A.R.



A 1/2d. pair showing the Nkandhla c.d.s. in violet.



1898 (8 January) A rare genuinely used reply section of the 1/2d. postcard/reply card from the Umhlatuzi Drift near Nkandhla to Durban showing the ' Shaved Z 'variety and tied with a black Nkandhla c.d.s. Backstamped Eshowe/Zululand, Durban/Natal and Point/Natal.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nkandhla

1898 (13 January) A mixed franked cover from Nkandhla to Johannesburg posted 13 days after Zululand was annexed into Natal. Covers like this were legally permitted between 1 January and 30 June 1898, where both Natal and Zululand stamps were supplied from the Zululand post offices. It appears that the sender stamped this envelope from their own stock of stamps but on arrival at the post office decided to send the letter by registered post, thus purchasing the four 1d. Natal stamps from the stock that had recently been supplied. This cover shows the correct 6d. registered rate to the Transvaal and is tied with five black Nkandhla postmarks.



This cover illustrates the later more direct route via Nqutu and Dundee to the Transvaal as opposed to the route via Eshowe as illustrated on the previous page. Backstamped Nqutu/Zululand and Dundee/Natal.



A reduced copy of the back of the cover.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Hlabisa

The Hlabisa Postal Agency was operated by the Resident Magistrate who automatically became the postmaster. This agency opened in 1894 and always used a rubber date stamp with violet ink. The earliest recorded usage was 26 October 1894 and the last 17 November 1898



1897 (1 August) A cover to Kent in England with five 1/2d. Zululand stamps showing the correct 2 1/2d. overseas rate. This cover is tied with three violet postmarks. Backstamped Lower Umfolozi/Zululand, Eshowe/Zululand, Durban/Natal and Maidstone.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Ingwavuma

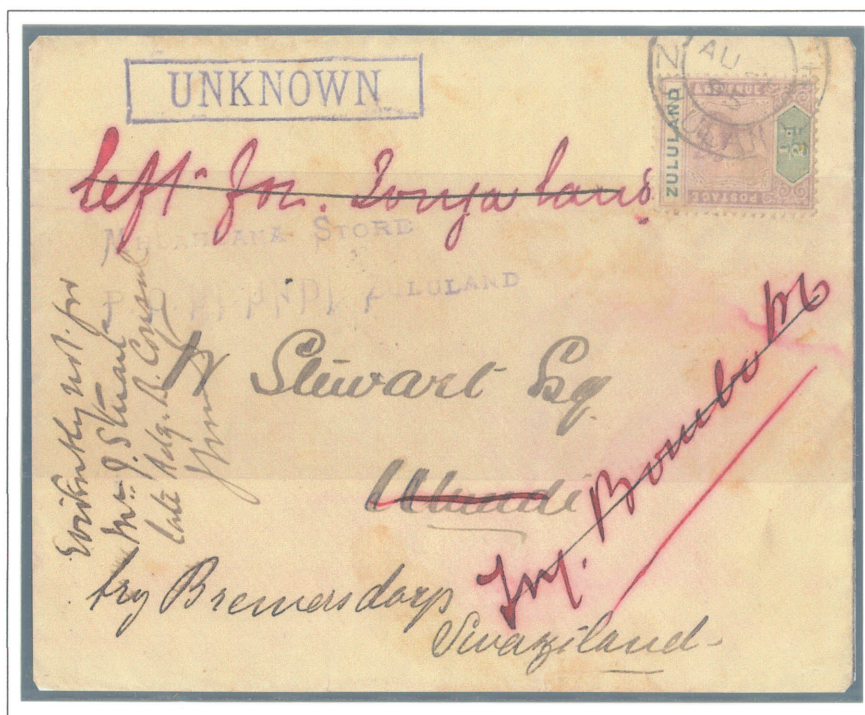
The Ingwavuma post office opened in 1895 and was the most northerly in Zululand. It always used a 24 5mm. dia. rubber date stamp with violet ink. The earliest recorded usage was 22 June 1895 and lasted into 1899 when the Boers destroyed it.



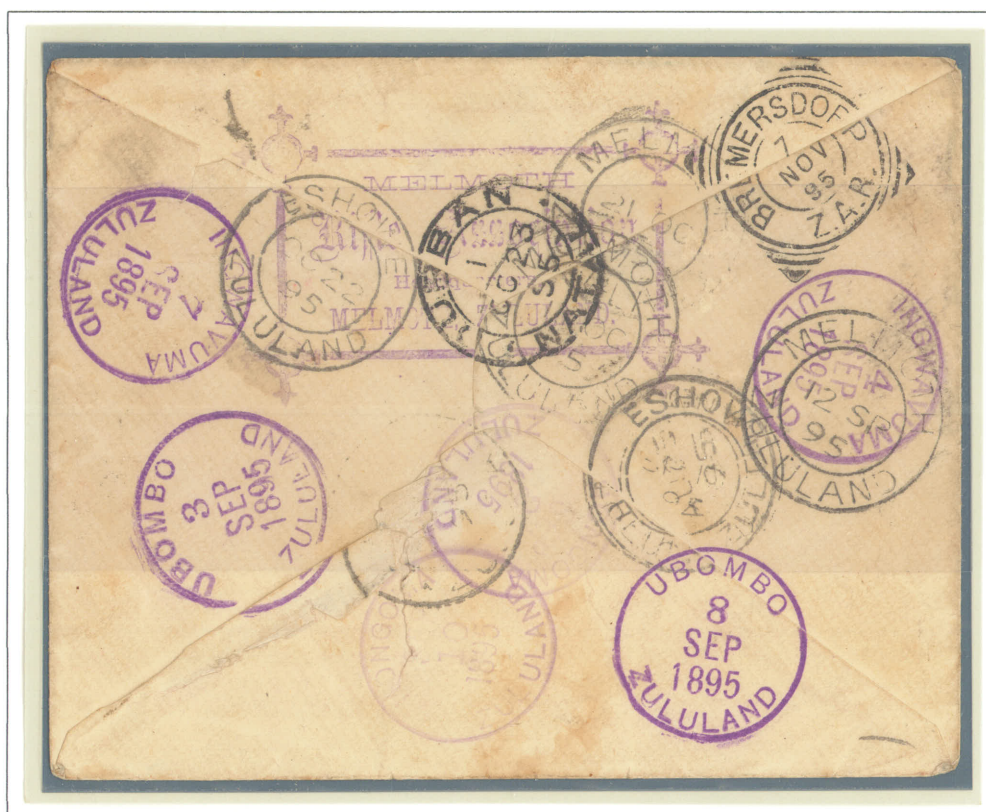
1897 (28 May) A large corner piece of twenty four stamps probably off a parcel from the top left - hand pane of sixty showing control no. '1' and the constant variety ie. 'The broken N' , and is cancelled with twelve violet Ingwavuma postmarks.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Ingwavuma



A reduced copy of a local cover from Melmoth to Ulundi.



1895 (25 August) A unusual cover from Melmoth to Ulundi, Ubombo and ultimately to Bremersdorp in Swaziland, showing some of the rarest Zululand strikes on cover during this period. The Ingwavuma strikes being the only ones known on a commercial cover prior to Zululand being incorporated into Natal. This is the only example of a local usage cover in this exhibit and the only one recorded from Melmoth. Post cards are more common. Another interesting aspect of this cover is that it should have been taxed when it left Zululand as the rate to Swaziland was 2d.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Lower Umfolosi (R.M. Office)

The postal agency opened in 1894 and used two types of cancellers. The first was a rubber one, reading R.M.Office (Resident Magistrate's Office) Lower Umfolosi. As the agency was operated by the Resident Magistrate this general purpose canceller was used to cancel the mail with violet ink. A Postmaster Mr Archibald C. Edmonstone was appointed on 1 April 1895 due to the increase in postal volume. Once the onus had shifted to the postal authorities a new dedicated canceller was ordered. The earliest recorded usage was 23 October 1894 and the latest 4 December 1895.

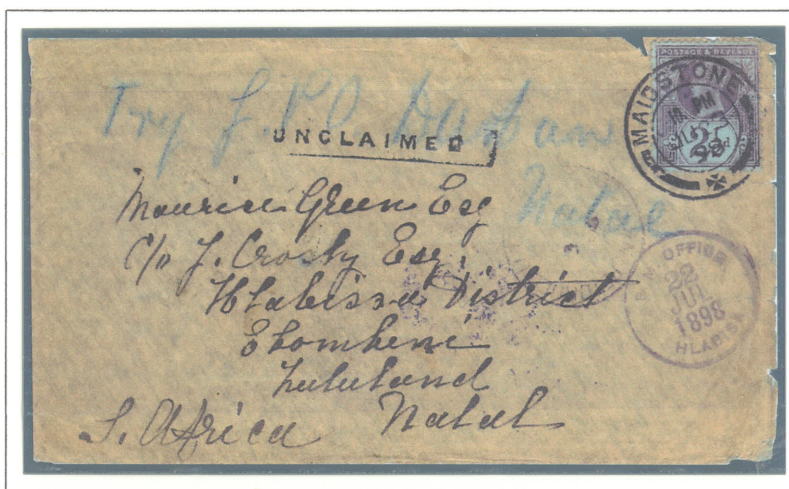


1895 (16 November) a 1d. postcard from Hlabisa to England showing the R.M.Office/Lower Umfolosi transit postmark on the front.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Lower Umfolosi

With the appointment of the new Postmaster came a new dedicated rubber canceller for the post which read Lower Umfolosi on the top and Zululand on the bottom. The earliest recorded usage was 19 October 1895 and continued into the annexation of Zululand into Natal. It occurred in violet except for a short period around September 1897 where it occurred in blue.



A reduced copy of an incoming cover showing an unlisted type of 'UNCLAIMED' as well as a RETURNED LETTER/Natal c.d.s.



1898 (23 June) The back of an incoming and unclaimed cover showing two strikes of the Lower Umfolosi / Zululand violet single circle cancellation.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Ulundi

The Ulundi Post Office opened in 1893 and used two types of cancellers. The first was a single circle rubber canceller used with violet ink which was in use from April to August 1893. There are no recorded examples of this canceller on cover. The second was a 25 mm. dia. double circle steel canceller used with black ink. The earliest recorded example was 10 May 1893 and the last into the Natal annexation.



1894 (30 July) A cover from Ulundi to Nottingham Road in Natal with two ½d. overprinted G.B. stamps and tied with the double circle Ulundi c.d.s. in black. Most examples of this canceller appear to be very watery. Backstamped Melmoth/Zululand, Durban/Natal and G.P.O./Natal The Melmoth c.d.s. has inverted year slugs.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Nongoma

The Nongoma Post Office opened in 1894 and used a single circle 25 mm. diameter rubber canceller which was always struck in violet. Although this is a fairly common strike it almost is never found on cover. The earliest recorded usage was 10 August 1894 and lasted into the Natal annexation.



A reduced color copy of the card front.



1896 (22 October) An incoming Natal 1/2d. post card to Surgeon Major D. Bruce at Ubombo. Backstamped with two Melmoth/Zululand c.d.s. and the Nongoma date stamp in violet

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Ubombo

The Ubombo Post Office opened in 1894 and used a 24.5 mm. single circle rubber canceller with violet ink. The earliest recorded usage was 16 February 1894 and the latest into the Natal annexation. This was the main Post Office for the Ndwandwe District.



1896 (13 September) A stamps O.H.M.S. cover from D.Bruce the Surgeon Major of Ubombo to Pietermaritzburg, tied with the Ubombo single circle postmark in violet. Backstamped Nongoma/Zululand, Melmoth/Zululand, Eshowe/Zululand , Durban/Zululand and G.P.O./Natal.

The Postmarks Of Zululand

Qudeni

The Qudeni Postal Agency opened in 1897 and used a 25 mm. dia. single circle rubber canceller with violet ink. The earliest recorded postmark was dated 16 February 1897 and the latest 10 February 1898. As Qudeni was situated in a remote rural area of the Nkandhla District very little post emminated from it.



1897 (15 December) A registered cover from Qudeni to Durban with six Zululand 1d. stamps and tied with three Qudeni violet single circle postmarks. Backstamped Nkandla/Zululand, Eshowe/Zululand and Durban/Natal. This is the only recorded cover from Qudeni and is one of the rarities of this exhibit