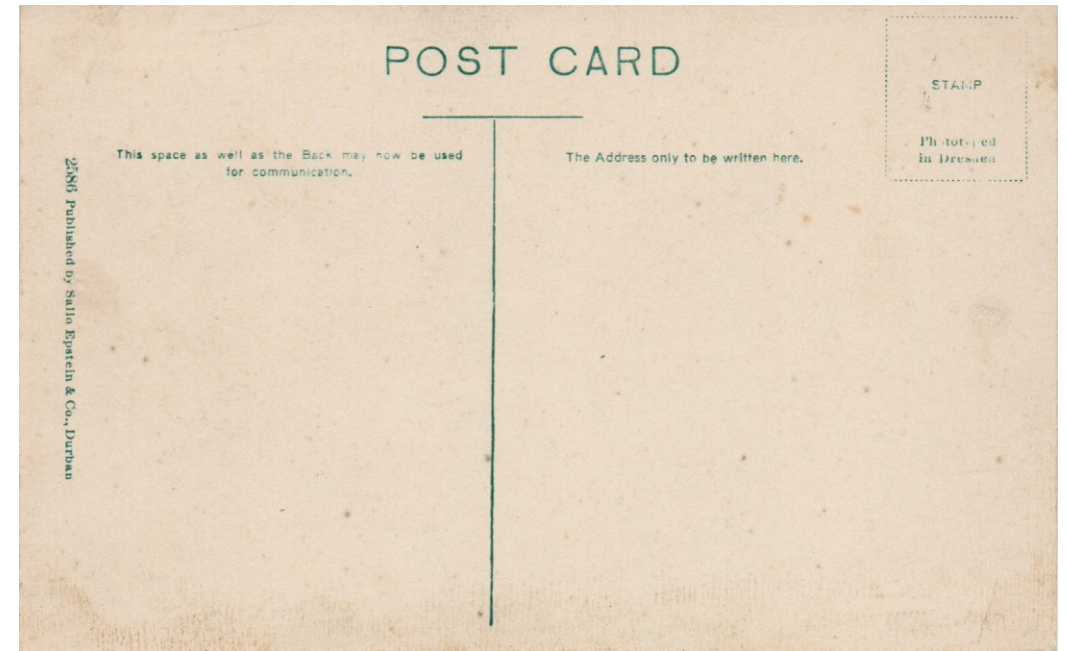


The Bambatha Rebellion began in February of 1906, and was essentially a refusal to pay an annual One Pound Poll Tax which had been imposed on all adult unmarried men. The motivation behind the tax seems to have been to encourage younger unmarried men to seek out employment in the colony, as there was a shortage of available labour at the time.

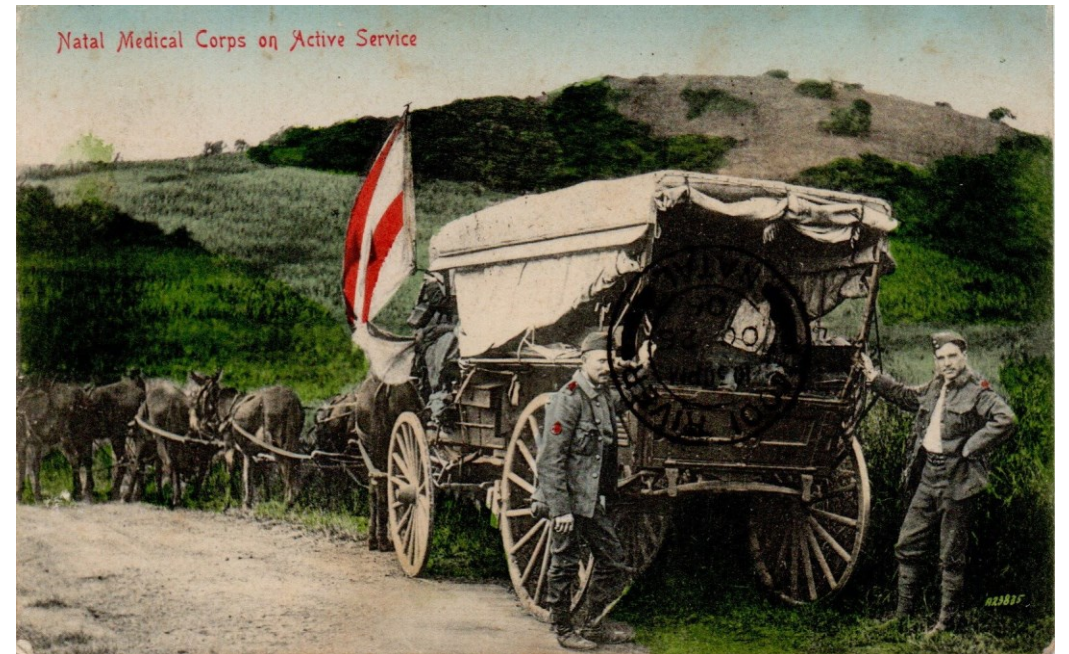


DB Postcard published by Sallo Epstein & Co, Durban is a rare card. It is a photograph depicting the loading of condemned men to be taken for execution. Richmond, was the only location during the rebellion where captured rebels were tried by a military court, found guilty and sentenced to death and where the execution was summarily carried out. All other rebels captured during the rebellion were tried in the civilian courts mainly in Pietermaritzburg and Durban. Richmond was the location of the first confrontation between the authorities and the rebels.



During the skirmishes that happened in Richmond there was a general mobilisation of troops and volunteers in the Colony. Pictured above is the Natal Field Artillery on the move. This a used DB postcard which was sent after the Rebellion from Broadmoor near Mooi River to Pietermaritzburg.

Below is pictured the Natal Medical Corps who were also mobilised for Active Service. This a DB postcard also used after the Rebellion had been quelled, sent from Mooi River to Pietermaritzburg.





This postcard depicts convicts preparing defences in Greytown against possible attacks by rebel impi's. A number of other postcards are available depicting the defences erected at the time.

The postcard has a DB, and has no details of the publisher. Although it has a Greytown cancel dated May 24th 1906 it doesn't appear to have been addressed and sent through the post.

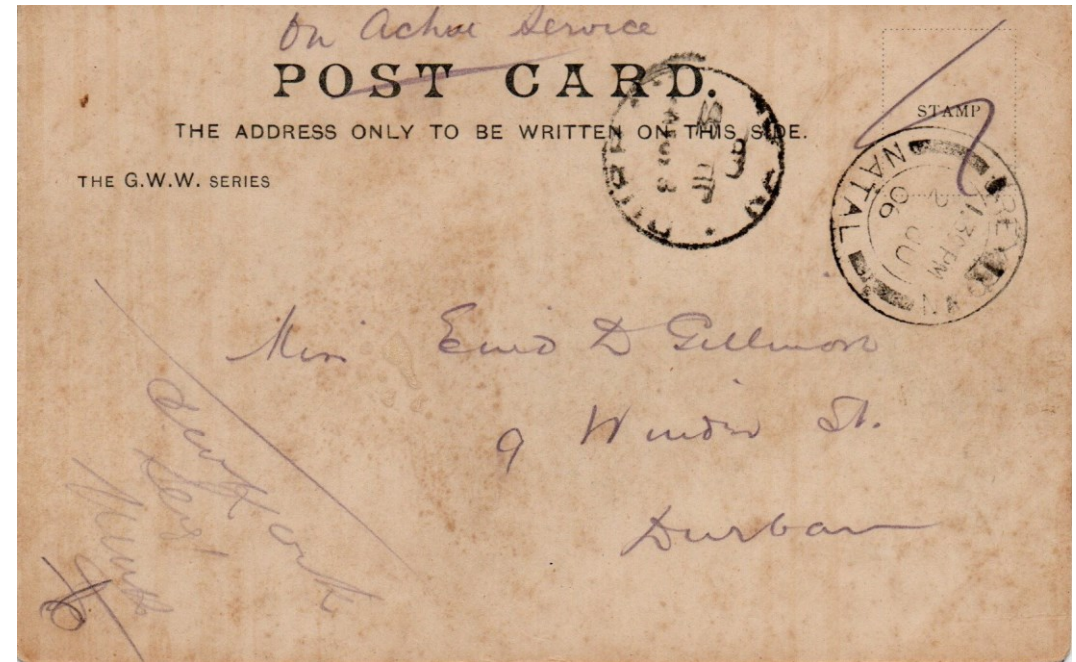


Fort Dartnell, Greytown at the time of the Rebellion. This must have been one of the centres of high activity for the Colonial Forces. This postcard has a DB and was published by Vause Slatter and Co. of Greytown.

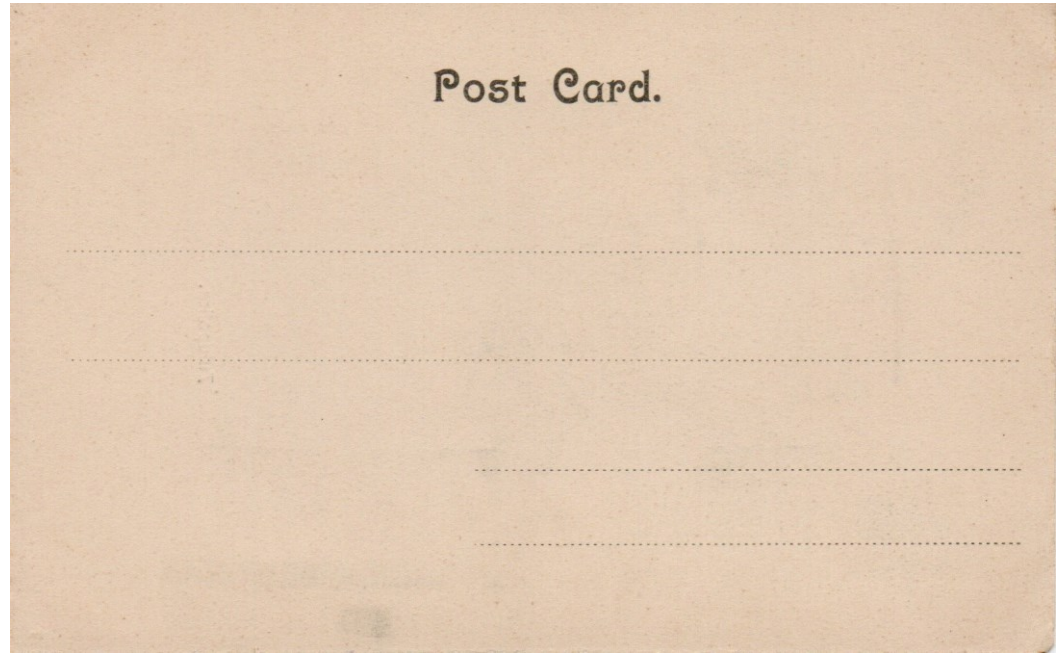
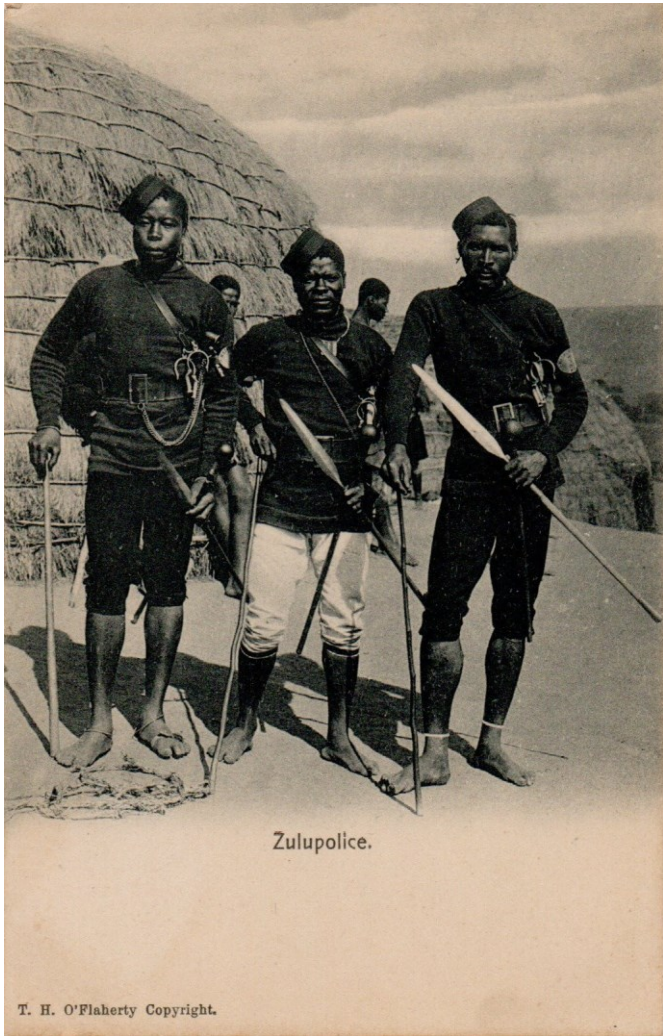


FORT DARTNELL, GREYTOWN.

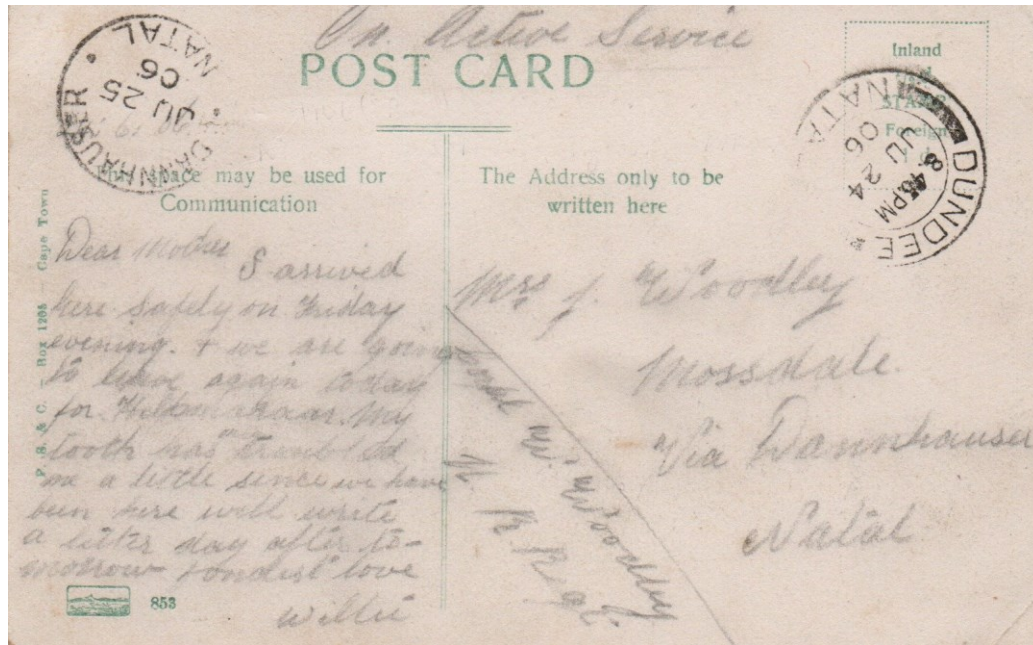
PUBLISHED BY
VAUSE, SLATTER & CO.
GREYTOWN



An UB postcard sent from Greytown to Durban on 2nd July 1906 during the Rebellion. The On Active Service has been endorsed by an officer allowing free postage to the destination. The front of the card depicts the repaired Town Hall in Ladysmith which is remarked on by the sender, as well as having been in Ladysmith the previous evening.



This postcard depicts the Zulu Policemen who were stationed throughout Natal and who played an important role in putting down the Rebellion. They were generally armed with knobkerries and spears but were also issued with firearms during the Rebellion. It is an unused UB card and was published by T.H. O'Flaherty.



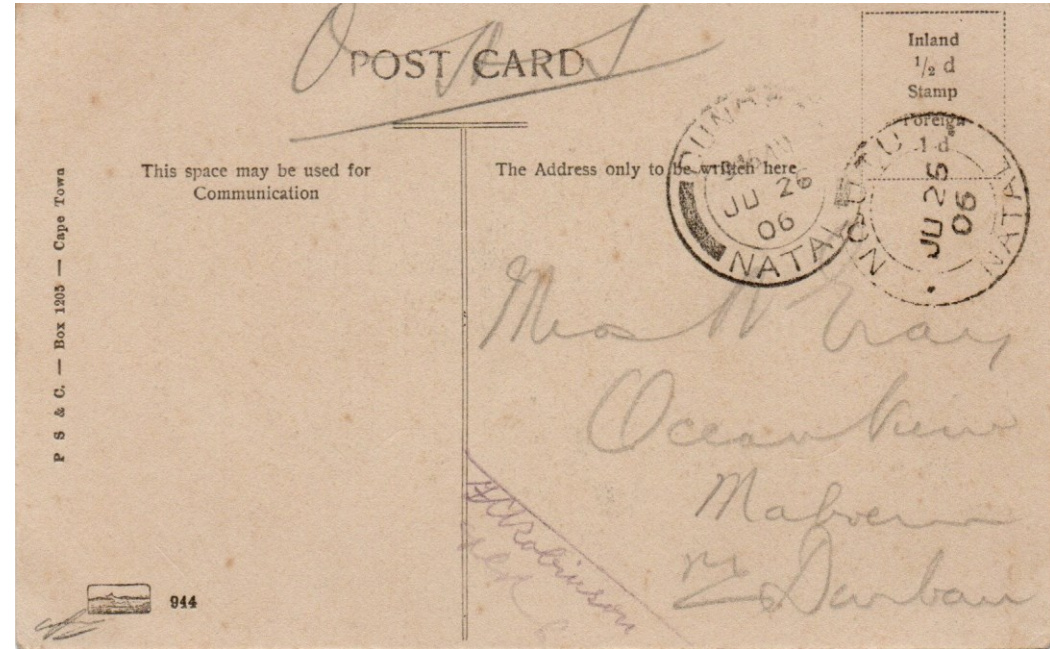
The postcard pictured above was sent from Dundee on 24th July 1906 and received on 25th July in Dannhauser. The card is ON Active Service endorsed by the sender Cpl. W. Woolley who is recorded as having served in the Natal Mounted Police. He mentions in the message that he is on his way to Helpmekaar, an important location not only during the Rebellion but also in the Anglo Zulu War. DB Card published by P&S, Cape Town.

Major Colin Wilson has endorsed this On Active Service card sent from Helpmekaar on about the 9th May 1906. Wilson is recorded as having served in the Natal Carbineers for the duration of the Rebellion. The card has no record of the sender and is an UB card published by W.H. Doige, Dundee.





The Mlungusi Cascades are situated just outside of Melmoth in Zululand.



Reverse of the card on the left, endorsed OAS (On Active Service) by F.G. Robinson of the Natal Carbineers which regiment, under command of Colonel Roysten patrolled the Nkhandla / Nqutu districts during June of 1906. The card was sent from Nqutu on June 26th via Dundee on the same day to final destination of Durban. Published by P S & C, Cape Town.



“Native Rebellion in Natal, Preparations for the Front by the Transvaal”. This is an unused DB card. Many troops from the Transvaal volunteered to serve in Natal during the Rebellion, which was known as the Transvaal Mounted Rifles. Volunteers came from The South African Light Horse, the Imperial Horse, the Scottish Horse, the Johannesburg Mounted Rifles and the Northern, Eastern and Western Mounted Rifles. It was formed on the 26th April and disbanded on the 28th July. The card was published by Hallis & Co, Port Elizabeth.

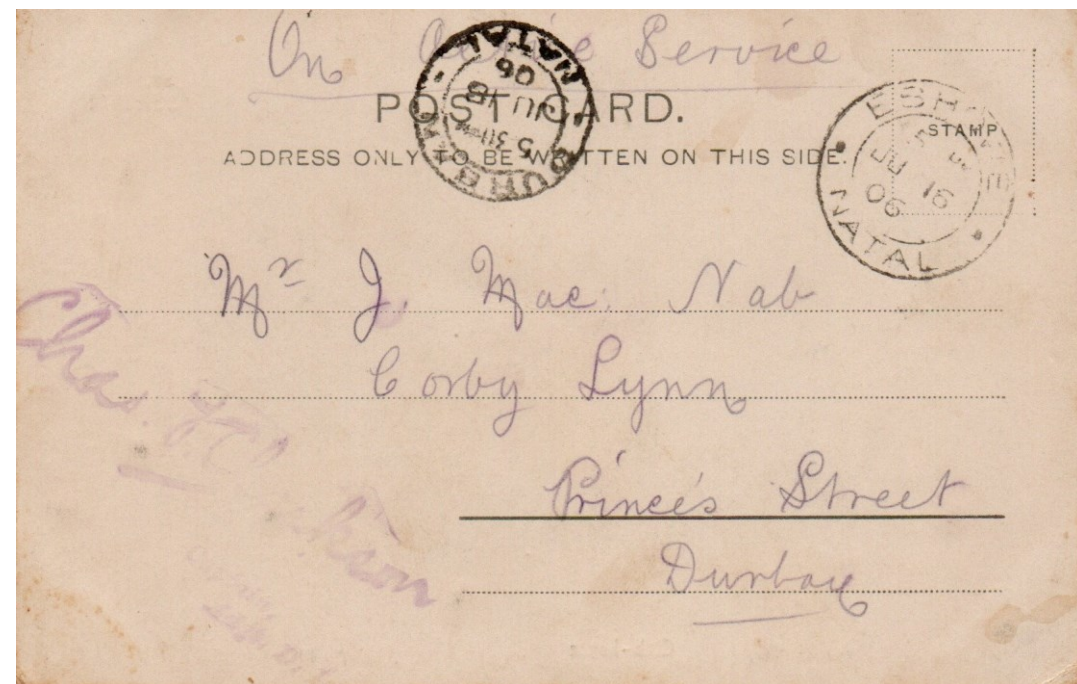


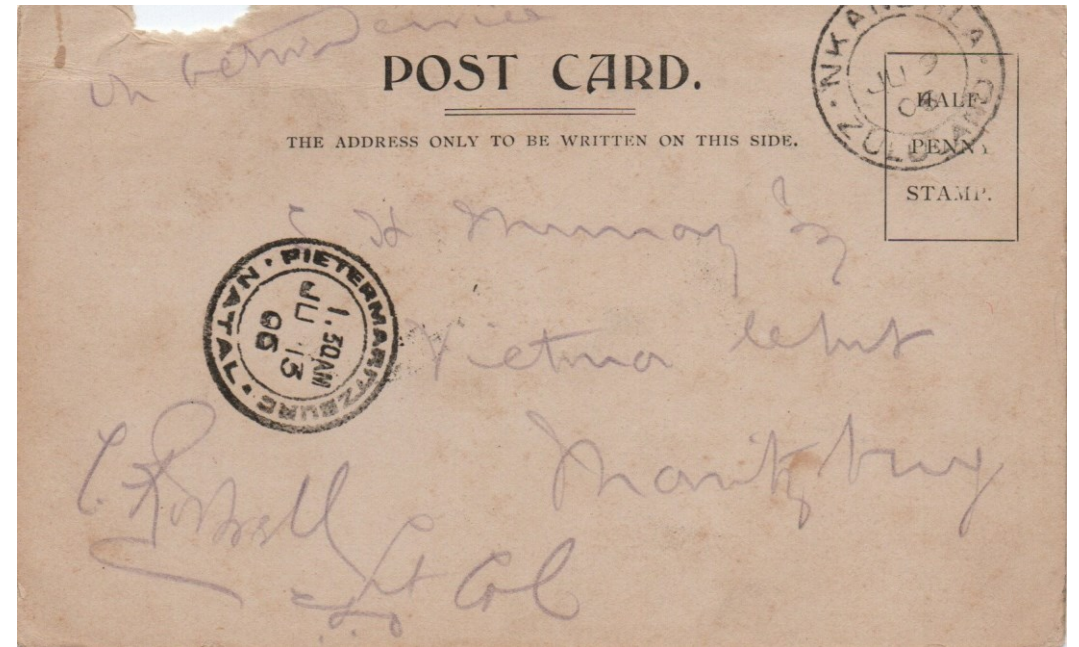
This postcard shows the parade on the return and disbandment of the Transvaal volunteers. Published by Sallo Epstein & Co, Durban. It is an unused DB card.

“In Camp, during the rebellion in Natal – Extracting a Native’s tooth” Card published by Sallo Epstein, Durban and is a DB used card.



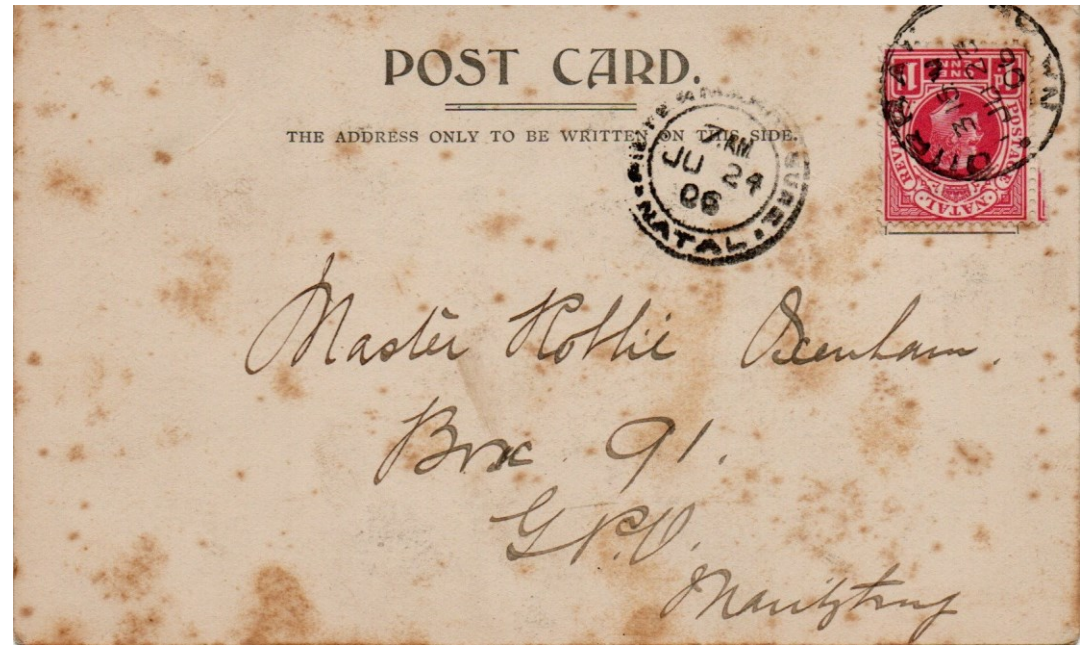
The Postcard to the right shows the Club-House at Eshowe. The card an On Active Service endorsed by Capt. Clarkson of the Natal Carbineers. Sgt. F.J.Edwards of the Durban Light Infantry is the sender. The card was sent from Eshowe on the 16th July 1906.



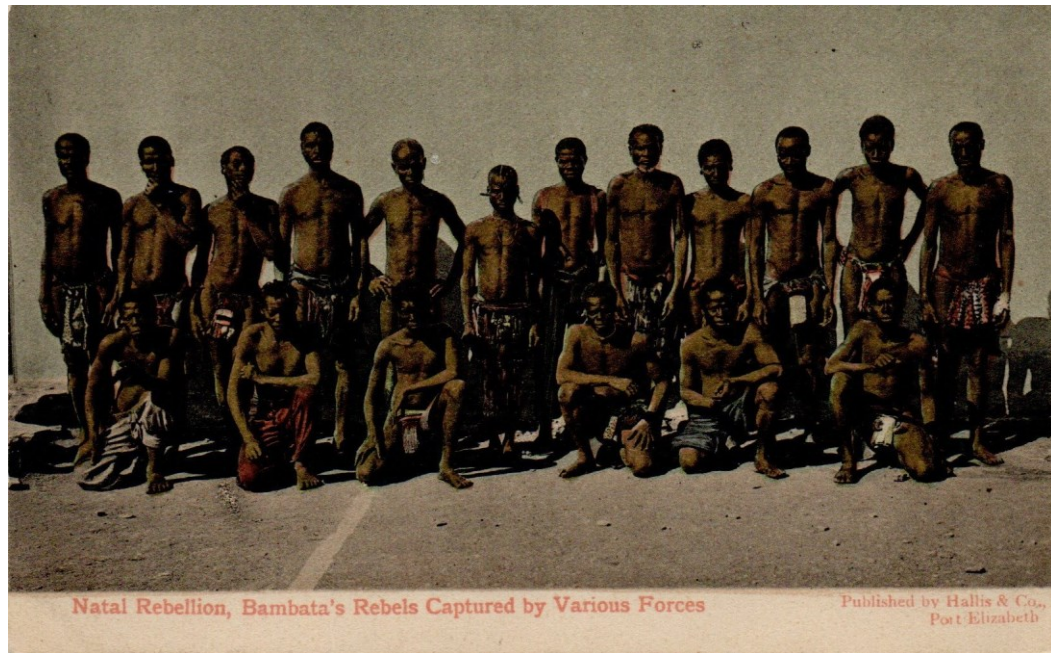


Although not in good condition, this is probably one of the most important cards of this display. The On Active Service card was endorsed by Lt. Col. C.N.H. Rodwell who was on Col. Duncan MacKenzie's Natal Field Force Staff as the Adjutant. The card was posted on the 9th of June from Nkhandla, the day before the decisive battle of Mome Gorge.

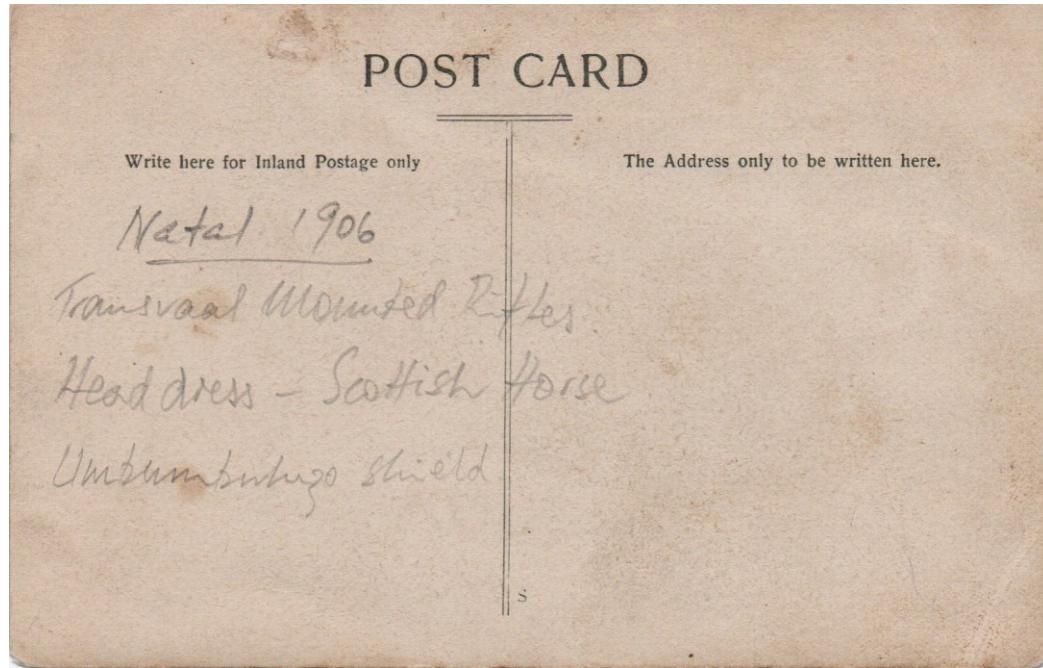
The silhouette cartoon postcard by H.H. Grellier of the "First Reserves" was printed by John Singleton and Sons of Durban and was one of a number of this style of card that Grellier produced.



This is another of Grellier's cards, the card was certainly produced during the time of the Rebellion because of the reference to Nkhandla. The card was sent from Durban to Pietermaritzburg on 23 Jun 1906 only 2 weeks after the battle of Mome Gorge.

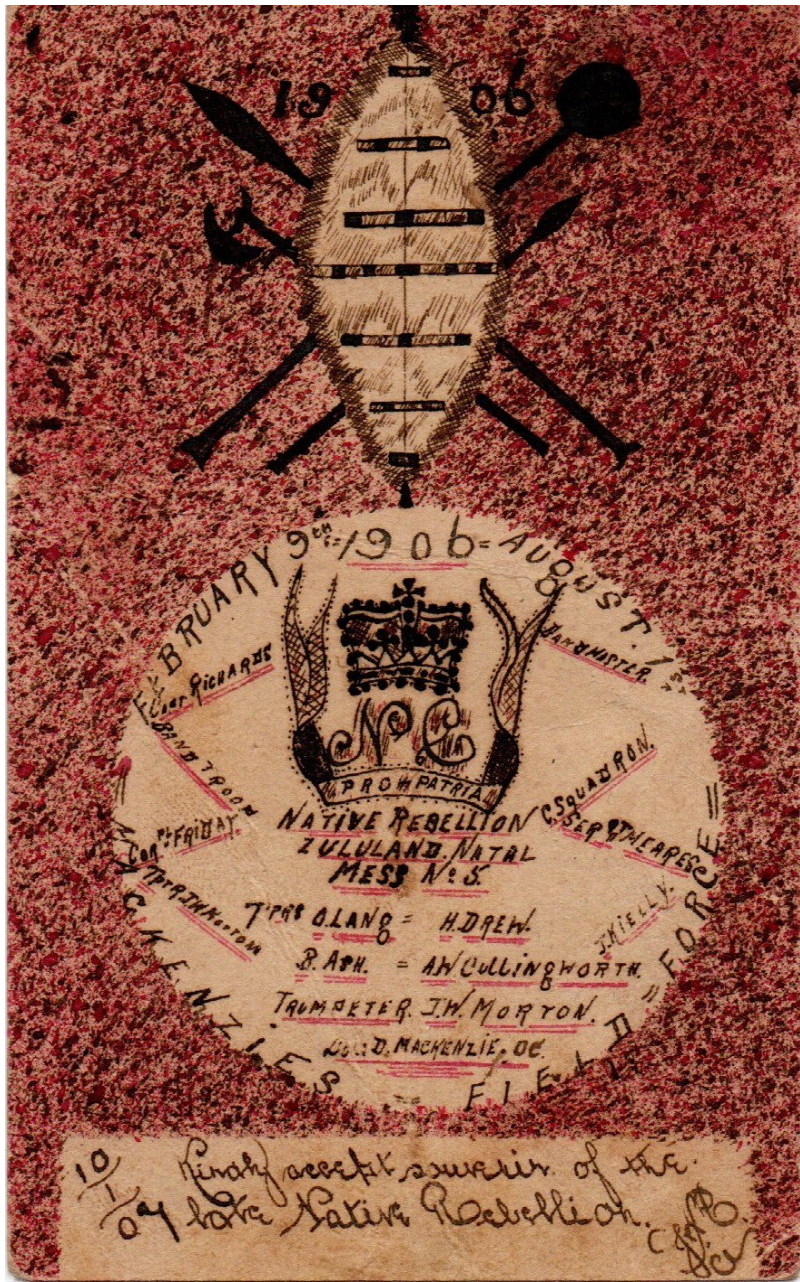


The top left postcard shows the D.L.I. escorting rebel prisoners to the Eshowe Jail pictured on the left. Above is another postcard showing captured rebels, published by Hallis & Co, Port Elizabeth.



A postcard depicting the spoils of war. There is no publisher noted for this DB postcard. As written on the card above the soldier is part of the Transvaal contingent, but more specifically of the Scottish Horse. His trophies include a 'umbumbuluzo' (small fighting shield that can be held in one hand), an 'iwisa' (knobkerrie) and two imikhonto (spears).





The final card of this display is a hand drawn postal stationery card, produced as a souvenir of the “Late Native Rebellion”. The image on the left has been enlarged just to help make out some of the detail.

It is this card that peaked my interest in the Bhambata Rebellion.