

PLACE NAMES

IN THE CAPE PROVINCE

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CAPE TOWN

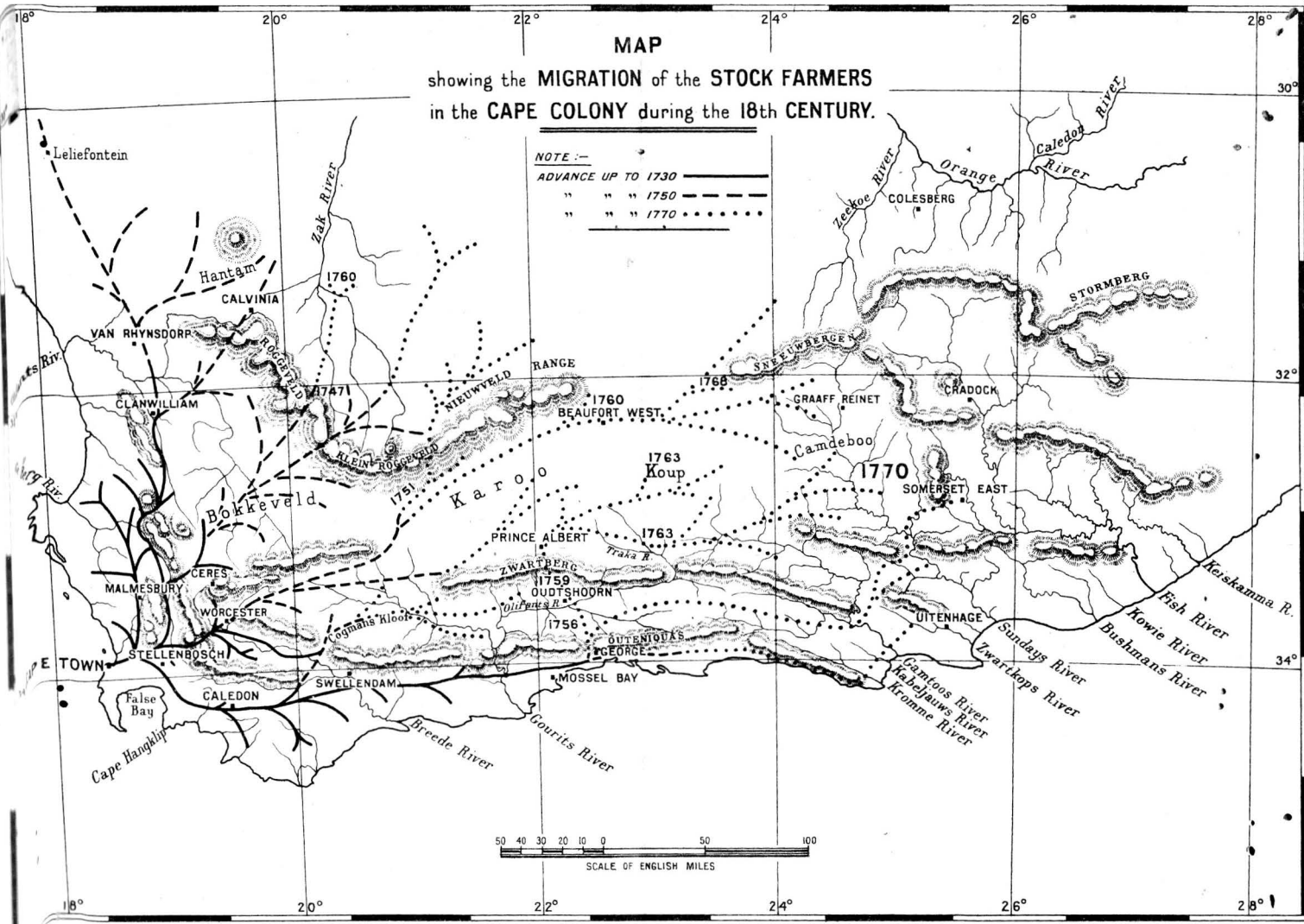
JOHANNESBURG

MAP

showing the **MIGRATION** of the **STOCK FARMERS**
in the **CAPE COLONY** during the **18th CENTURY**.

NOTE :-

ADVANCE UP TO 1730 —————
 " " " 1750 - - - - -
 " " " 1770



PREFACE.

This book has been compiled to stimulate an interest in the subject of "Place Names" and arouse those who read it to study the origin and history of the names in their own district or locality. The study of place names will therefore, I hope, give a deeper knowledge of South African history and geography and may prompt others to publish material regarding their own locality. I have only touched the fringe of the subject as far as the Cape Province, formerly the old Cape Colony, is concerned giving special attention to the period before the 19th century. To tabulate and give an historical account of every town, village and physical feature of the province would entail much research and require a thorough knowledge of each district, and the native languages. Such an undertaking would be best achieved by several workers. Those who feel competent to take up the study of names in their own district or locality should be encouraged, so that the public may receive the benefit of their knowledge. This will then form the basis of the information for those who undertake the larger work.

About nine years ago I issued a booklet on "Place Names in the Cape District." The reception it received and the constant demand for copies, which have been long out of print, indicates that there is room for an extension of such a study. I was therefore persuaded that no better area could be chosen than the Cape Province around which the early history of this country is woven. The result of my work is represented in this slight contribution to the fascinating study of place names. The examples I have given will disclose how wide the field of research is and that the treasure house for material has not been entirely ransacked. This will be evident to those who know their own district more intimately than I do.

Some readers may be disappointed because this or that name has not been included. I trust the above remarks

will indicate to them that to tabulate every name requires long and careful research and could best be done by several workers. Therefore, I welcome any information and suggestions which may be used at some future date. If my work stimulates others to take up the study and results in the publication of the fruits of their labour then I shall be satisfied that my own effort has not been in vain. I am aware of the shortcomings of the present book but feel that it would be selfish to withhold the information which I have acquired from a variety of sources.

I would like to express here my feelings about the retention of original place names. There seems to be a tendency now and again to change and translate from one language to another original place names. This is particularly noticeable in farm names. It is granted that when a new Post Office or Railway Station is established there is nothing so confusing as to have two names alike. But it is to the change of long-established names that I particularly refer. Many of these have a history attached to them, or are so called on account of an event which occurred there or because of the nature of the surroundings. Take a name like Hout Bay. Many ask to-day why Hout Bay (Wood Bay)? Where are the forests? It was a name given in the days of van Riebeeck because of the forests of fine trees which grew along the mountain slopes. But one day it might be suggested that the name be changed. Such a thing would be deplorable. Let us retain original names as far as possible. Let careful scrutiny be made and great care exercised by those who have to give a place name to-day so that the generations of the future will find no reason to alter it.

One difficulty which I have encountered in my work is with regard to the spelling of some names. If we lay down the rule that they should be spelt as they first appear in the records then we should have to make many changes which would also cause amusement. This is particularly noticeable in the records of native names in the 17th and 18th centuries. The same writer may spell them in the same document in three or four ways. Which one should be used? I think the one which has prevailed by long custom. The same applies to the spelling of many Dutch names. The earlier ones are recorded in an

archaic form of spelling. Like the native names we find some of the Dutch given in a variety of forms; a good example of this is found in the references to Rondebosch as given on page 82. In many instances I have written down the names as found in the Dutch records.

I have to acknowledge my thanks to the S.A. National Society and Senator Sir Charles Smith for-making it possible for me to have this book published.

C. GRAHAM BOTHA.

Cape Town.

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LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL AUTHORITIES CONSULTED.

Printed Books:—

- BARROW, JOHN.**—"Travels in the Interior of Southern Africa;" in two volumes. Published in London, 1806.
- BOTHA, COLIN GRAHAM.**—"Early Cape Land Tenure;" South African Law Journal, 1919.
- BOTHA, COLIN GRAHAM.**—"The French Refugees at the Cape." Published at Cape Town, 1921 (Second Edition). On pages 117 to 124 will be found grants of farms made to the Refugees.
- COBY, SIR GEORGE E.**—"The Rise of South Africa." Volumes 1-3, published by Longman's, Green & Co., 1910-1919. Interesting details are given of the building and naming of the military forts in the Eastern Province.
- DU PLESSIS, PROFESSOR J., LITT.D., B.D.**—"A History of Christian Missions in South Africa." Published by Longmans, Green & Co., 1911. This authoritative work gives the names and history of many of the mission stations.
- HAHN, DR. THEOPHILUS.**—Tsumi-Goam. Published in London, 1882.
- INDEX OF GOVERNMENT PROCLAMATIONS AND NOTICES FROM 1803-1881.** Printed at Cape Town by Authority. The proclamations and notices to which the index refers will be found in the Government Gazette.
- KOLBE, PIETER.**—"Naaukeurige Beschryving van de Kaap de Goede Hoop," in two volumes. Published at Amsterdam in 1727. Kolbe arrived at the Cape in 1705 and from 1710 to 1713 was Secretary of the Stellenbosch District.
- MAP OF THE COLONY OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.** Published under the signature of the Surveyor-General of the Cape Colony in 1895.
- MAPS DIVISIONAL OF THE CAPE COLONY,** given out by the Surveyor-General's Department.

MOLSBERGEN, DR. E. C. GODEE.—"Reizen in Zuid Afrika," in three volumes. Published by the Linschoten Vereeniging, 's Gravenhage, 1916-1922. These volumes are invaluable to the student of place names, especially volumes I and II. They contain the journals of expeditions to the north-west and south-east of the Cape Colony kept in The Hague Archives. Many of these are to be found in original or as a copy in the Cape Archives.

PETTMAN, REVEREND CHARLES.—"Africanderisms." Published by Longmans, Green & Co., 1913.

PETTMAN, REVEREND CHARLES.—"South African Methodist Place Names." Published at Queenstown, 1923.

RAVENSTEIN, E. G.—"Journal of Vasco da Gama's Voyage to India, 1497." Hakluyt Society, 1898. A useful list of Place Names is given with the names on maps and modern names.

RAVENSTEIN, E. G.—"The voyages of Diogo Cão and Bartholomeu Dias, 1482-1488." Transactions of the Royal Geographical Society, 1900.

SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE. Volumes XVI, XVII and XIX.

THEAL, DR. GEORGE MCCALL.—"Abstract of the Debates and Resolutions of the Council of Policy at the Cape," from 1651 to 1687. Published at Cape Town in 1881.

THEAL, DR. GEORGE MCCALL.—"Belangryke Historische Dokumenten." Vols 1-2 published at Cape Town in 1896. Vol. 1. contains "Reis van Gouverneur Joachim van Plettenberg, 1778" and Vol. 2. "Reis van Vaandrig Bentler 1752." These are also given in Molsbergen's "Reizen in Zuid Afrika."

THEAL DR. GEORGE MCCALL.—"History of South Africa" in eight volumes, latest edition. Volumes 1-3 contain the history before 1795 and volumes 4-8 since 1795. The work of the late Dr. Theal is too well known to remark upon. Every student of South African history at the beginning of his enquiries should consult this history.

THEAL, DR. GEORGE MCCALL.—"Records of the Cape Colony" in thirty five volumes. Published 1897-1905. The records begin with 1793 and end with 1827 and are transcriptions from the papers in the Public Record Office in London. This monumental work is of the greatest value to those

studying this period of South African history. The early history of several towns and villages established after 1806 will be found in them.

THEAL, DR. GEORGE MCCALL.—"Records of South Eastern Africa," in nine volumes, referred to in this work as the Portuguese East Records abbreviated as P. E. R. Published from 1898-1903. These are copies of documents collected in various libraries and Archive Departments in Europe. Those who wish to study the early history of South Africa, especially the Portuguese period, will find useful information in these volumes.

VALENTYN, REVEREND FRANCOIS.—"Beschryving van Oost Indien" in 5 volumes. Published in 1726. Volume 5 contains a description of the Cape of Good Hope. Valentyn called at the Cape in 1685, 1695, 1705 and 1714. Valentyn gives an interesting map of the Cape of Good Hope and an inset of a portion of this showing the principal farms and names of the owners. Portion of the larger map will be found published in Molsbergen's "Reizen in Zuid Afrika," vol. 1, p. 48. He also gives the journal of Simon van der Stel to the Copper Mountains in 1685, the original of which is missing both in the Archives at The Hague and Cape Town. See page 58 and footnote as to original. It is reprinted in Molsbergen.

Documents in the Cape Archives.—

"RESOLUTIEEN." These are the resolutions of the Council of Policy and run from 1652 to 1795. They form one of the most important portions of the records of this period.

"INKOMENDE EN UITGAANDE BRIEVEN.—Letters Received and Despatched. These letters cover the period 1652 to 1795 and contain the official correspondence to and from the Government with the authorities in Holland and Batavia and various individuals and officials at the Cape.

DAG REGISTER OF JOURNAL kept by the Dutch East India Company from 1652 to 1795. This journal contains references to a variety of subjects, the arrival and departure of vessels, strangers or persons of note, weather conditions, local incidents, matters relating to the natives, reports of expeditions sent out to barter cattle or for exploration purposes, outstanding events affecting a locality or the whole community, and many other incidents too numerous to mention. I have made most use of the journal from 1652 to 1730.

"MEMORIALS."—In the Colonial Office Records from 1806 will be found a series of volumes marked "Memorials." These are petitions to the Governor from various individuals and bodies on a variety of subjects. Amongst them will be found a number from the inhabitants of certain areas in the Colony, asking permission to lay out and establish a village.

SCHRYVER, ENSIGN ISAAC.—Journal of his trip to the Inquas in 1689. Verbatim copy in the Cape Archives. See also Molsbergen's Reizen.

HARTOGH JAN.—Journal of his trip to the Hottentots in 1707 to barter cattle. Original in the Cape Archives. See also Molsbergen's Reizen.

VISSEB JAN LOURENS.—Journal of trip to the Hessequas in 1676 to barter cattle. Verbatim copy in Cape Archives.

BEUTLER, ENSIGN A. F.—The journal of his trip in 1752 will be found in Theal's "Historische Dokumenten" and Molsbergen's "Reizen in Zuid Afrika" and a verbatim copy in the Cape Archives.

VAN PLETENBERG, Governor Joachim Baron.—The journal of his trip to the Eastern frontier will be found in the Cape Archives and in the publications of Theal and Molsbergen.

"ORDONNANTIE BOEK."—Volume 1 and volumes 3-30 were received recently by the Cape Archives from the Surveyor-General's Office. The first volume commences in 1730. They contain copies of permits issued to farmers to occupy "loan" places and have proved of the greatest value in my researches. Reference to these volumes is made in this book. Sometimes they are referred to as "Ordonnantie Boek" and at others as "Wildschuts Boek." This series has given me most of the information of the early farm names and has helped me to trace the migration of the 18th century farmers.

"WILDSCHUT BOEK" 1687-1730, 1747-1748. These contain copies of the licences or permits issued to shoot game and graze cattle. The first years contain only permits to shoot game but afterwards refer to "loan" places occupied. See Ordonnantie Boek.

"OFFICIAL INDEX TO NOTICES" 1790-1837.—A manuscript volume in the records of the Colonial Office, Cape Town. This has reference to the various Government proclamations, notices and advertisements issued.

INVENTARIS DER VERZAMELING KAAFTEN BERUSTENDE IN HET RYKS-ARCHIEF. Published at 's Gravenhage 1867. In this inventory will be found the maps, charts and plans relating to the Cape. Copies of most of the latter are preserved in the Cape Archives of which an inventory has been prepared.

Attention is drawn below to the more important maps and charts of the above which have been used by me.

Chart showing journey to the Amaquas in 1682. No. 77 Cape Archives Catalogue.

Chart showing the journey of Simon van der Stel in 1685.— No. 78 Cape Archives. This was published by Dr. Theal in 1882 in his Report upon the Archives of the Cape Colony.

Chart showing the march of Ensign Beutler and his party in 1752. No. 79. Published in Molsbergen's "Reizen," volume 3.

Map of the Cape to the "France Quartier," showing the extent of the Colony before the close of the 17th century. No. 42 Cape Archives.

APPENDIX I.

Place names which appear in several of the early journals, some of which are not identified. The names are given as they are spelt and will indicate the variety of forms of spelling.

Journal¹ of Sergeant Jan Lourens Visser on a bartering expedition to the Hessequas in 1676.

Cnoflocks Corael.

Swarte Revier.

Rivier Sonder Endt.

Calbas Crale.

Tygerhoeck.

Hosiquas Kloove.

Brede revier.

Klippige revier.

Qualbergs casteel.

Buffelsjaght.

Oliphants revier.

Buffelsjagt.

Backleyplaats.

Drooge coraal by de Kleyne
revier.

Hosiquas cloove.

Copere craal.

Calbas craal.

Hoogewagen Craal.

Eselsjagt by de revier Sondér
Ende.

Botterrevier.

Caffer kuil revier.

Hottentots Holland.

¹Verbatim Copy.

APPENDIX II.

Journal of the Ensign Isaac Schryver to the Inqua Hottentots in 1689.² Those marked with a † were names given by the Dutch travellers, and those with an * the names applied to the place by the natives.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Hottentots Holland. | Steekdoorns revier. |
| Palmit Revier. | Capteins revier. |
| Knoflooks Coral. | *Kamnasij Revier. |
| Houthoek. | Valley called by Hottentots |
| Botte Revier. | Xanga: |
| Swarte Revier. | Rivier Kamna. |
| Calabas Coral. | *Humtata |
| Revier Sonder Endt. | *Thuata by Hottentots, <i>i.e.</i> , |
| Tygerhoek. | Oliphants revier. |
| Aloe-berg. | *Naukoti or Roodsand. |
| Hessequaskloov. | *Quanti, <i>i.e.</i> , Dagkloov. |
| Ganse-Coral. | *Naudau, <i>i.e.</i> , Wittekloov. |
| Breede revier. | *Kxaki, <i>i.e.</i> , Sout Water |
| Klip revier. | (Soute revier). |
| †Klipveld. | *Kalij revier. |
| Backeley revier. | *Udigauga. |
| Qualbergs Casteel. | Kalniga revier. |
| •Buffelsjagt. | †Vervallen Casteel. |
| *Phaeruh by Hottentots. | Kromme Kloov. |
| †Drooge revier by Dutch. | *Ikunsaij, <i>i.e.</i> , Steen rivier. |
| Duijvenhok. | *Kaarte (rivier). |
| Diepe revier. • • | *Vygenkoral (aan de |
| †Armoeds weijde. | Kannasij). |
| Gauris rivier. | Dubbeltjies Coral. |
| †Brandveld. | *Bikamma, <i>i.e.</i> , Melkrivier. |
| †Kromme revier. | †Noorwegen. |
| †Lang ^e Kloov. | *Hore, <i>i.e.</i> , Tweelingsrivier. |
| Valleij de Goede Hoop. | *Nungor, <i>i.e.</i> , Lustig rivier. |
| †Schralweijde. | *Arna |
| *Koukou by Hottentots, <i>i.e.</i> , | *Abna. |

²See Dag Register, volume C 395 Archives.

Palmit.
 *Gauka rivier.
 Diepe revier.
 *Anhau.
 †Regtplaats.
 *Gamkana.
 †Wolvsjagt.
 Qualberghs Casteel.

Backeleys Plaats.
 Backeleys Revier.
 *Caertse or Kaertse revier.
 Revier Sonder End.
 Ganse Coral.
 Hysiquas Cloov.
 *Tirri (rivier).
 Esels jagt.

APPENDIX III.

Journal ³ of the Master Gardener Jan Hartogh's trip on a bartering expedition to the Hottentots 1707.

* Gantouw or by Dutch
 Elandspat. (Hottentots
 Holland Kloof.)
 Palmit Rivier by Hottentots
 Koutema or Slange Rivier.
 Knoflooks Craal.
 Bot rivier or Gouga by Hot-
 tentots.
 Swarte Rivier or Doggha
 Kamma by Hottentots.
 Sergeants rivier or Geska by
 Hottentots.
 rivier sonder ent.
 Hessequaas Cloof or Gaski
 Kamka.
 Drooge rivier or Os Stamma.
 by Hottentots.
 rivier sonder ent or Kanna
 Kam Kanna by Hottentots
 breede rivier or called Synna
 by Hottentots.
 het Swarte Land,

een droge rivier (by de
 Hottentots gent Ouka.)
 het Swarte Land,
 een droge rivier (door de
 Hottentots Oukamma gent.
 Oukamma.
 Soute Rivier or Cisiqua.
 Koukema-kraal of the "Oude
 Heers" brother.
 Kars rivier.
 langs de gem. rivier naar
 boven aan het hooge ge-
 bergte, in een vlakke by de
 Hottentots Gronnega.
 rivier Gonuka Goggo.
 Steenbokken rivier or Gam
 Dachama.
 Swartebergs rivier or hacqua.
 Warme Water or Dispore-
 camma.
 quamen wij aan de Swarte
 Rivier op ons oude pat.
 bot rivier.

³Original.

APPENDIX IV.

Journal of M. Bergh and J. Q. Rhenius, 1725.

Jan Boontjes Craal — a drift
 over Swarterivier.
 Swarteberg.
 Sergeants riviertje.
 Quartel rivier.

Ganse Craal.
 Appels Craal.
 Zoute rivier.
 Quartel, Sergeants rivier.
 Warme water.

APPENDIX V.

Journal of expedition of Ensign A. F. Beutler in 1752 to the Great Kei.* Those marked with a † were names given by the travellers.

The journalist begins his entry by stating that as the route between the Castle and Mossel Bay was well known he will only record briefly the places passed.

He mentions *inter alia*:—

| | |
|--|---|
| Poespas Valleij. | Matjes rivier. |
| Coornlands rivier (on which Swellendam is situated). | Ganse craal, †Modder rivier, †diepe rivier. |
| Klip rivier. | †Quacharivier, Ceurbooms rivier. |
| Compagnies post de Rietvalleij. | Wolve craals rivier. |
| Camped at farm of Esais Engelbregt Meyer at Mossel Bay. | lange Rietvalleij's rivier. |
| Klijne Brakke riviere. | moordenaars revier. |
| Hagel craal (last farm). | Kruijs rivier. |
| Proceeds over Attaquas Cloof. | Klipriviertje †Groene rivier. |
| Bracke rivier, Paarde Kraal. | †Pannekoeksrivier, Cromme rivier. |
| Saffraan Kraal, Moeras rivier. | Melkhoutbosch. |
| Klip Banks rivier, Saffraan rivier anders Muijse Kraal hier begint het Canas land. | Essen Bosch, Zeekoeij rivier. |
| lange Cloofs rivier. | Gamtousch revier, |
| | Cabeljousch revier. |
| | Leeuwenboschrivier. |
| | Galgenbosch. |
| | van Stadens rivier. |
| | Cracha Camma. |
| | Swartekops riviere. |

- Zondaags revier.
 Koernoë and Hoendercraal.
 †Springbokken fontijn.
 Bosjesmans rivier.
 †Gonaquas cloof.
 Buffels bosch rivier.
 Visch rivier.
 Chijs Chamma.
 rivier kromanka.
 rivier Gromanka.
 Kauka or Buffels rivier.
 Meehouw or Matjes rivier
 tributaries of the Kauka.
 Dewana rivier.
 Korouw — of Klaauwen
 rivier.
 Goeasa.
 Caninga or Elands rivier.
 Goenoëbe.
 Goadar meaning Moeras
 Goerecha or Aloes rivier.
 Boerrechaaij en Tinsa
 rivieren.
 de riviere Quenoncha alias
 Menschen ooren.
 de riviere Y meaning as
 much as Zand rivier.
 Quenoncha r.
 Keram rivier.
 Messina rivier.
 Anamo rivier.
 Danka rivier, meaning
 Quaade rivier, Pabagaas.
 rivier.
 Goenoëbe.
 Qucoanimbo rivier.
 Gonacha rivier, Nagoerij
 rivier, Cammacha rivier.
 Macala rivier. Saleni rivier.
- rivieren Niacela, Kauka and
 Kokewe.
 Navani rivier.
 Tewe revier, i.e., Brak
 revier.
 Chijs Chamma.
 Goeanger rivier, Gosachs
 alias Tyger rivier.
 Godecha rivier, Katterevier.
 revier D'Arvaga, revier
 Telloemoe.
 Kohakoecka or Ezels rivier
 Conna rivier.
 Aga rivier or Rietvelt.
 Gomee or Baviaansrevier.
 Kavahe or Vrolyke rivier.
 Tarka or Vrouwenrivier.
 Gornts rivier.
 Cava, water as white as milk.
 Vischrivier.
 †Bosjesmans cloof, Bosjes-
 mans rivier.
 Springbocke fontijn.
 Sondaags rivier.
 Swartekopsrivier.
 Cabeljauwsche rivier, Keij.
 Keijka or Witterrivier,
 Leeuwe rivier called by
 Hottentots chammago.
 Ou, chamma rivier, i.e., Vet
 water, Soma rivier.
 Hartenbosch at Mossel Bay.
 Kleyne Brakkerivier.
 Groote Brakke en Klippen
 driften rivieren, Gouras-
 rivier.
 Keerom.
 rivieren Koeakamka en
 Gouringa.

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