A Note on Orthography

Spelling, especially of proper names, was not consistent in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century records. In the text, I have chosen one form and used it consistently. For place names, I used current South African spellings so that readers might connect locations in this book with modern maps and road signs. In citations and quotations from specific documents, however, I left the spelling as it appears in the original, hence Piketberg in text and Piquetberg in the notes, or Maria Fick and Maria Tik in reference to the same person.