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This exhibit entitled "Cancellation Destinations" and "Railway Cancellation Destinations" outlines the of the Imperial Penny Postage throughout the Confederacy of Canada. Although the official date of is December 25, 1898, the unofficial first Christmas stamp was distributed to some larger Post Offices a December 7, 1898. The actual effective date of the new 2 cent per ounce rate (which was a reduction per ounce from the 3 cent current rate) was January 1, 1899. The stamp was unique in many respects: the first stamp to ever bear a complete representation of the earth's surface by MERCATOR PROJECT projection of the image in a box-like structure). It also was the first stamp to be printed in 3 colors, the Empire possessions in red and the color of the seas in many shades of lavender, blue green, and gray, the lithographic printing method. Finally, the rope-like perimeters, the inscriptions and value tablets used the engraved "intaglio" printing method. The new reduced rate for mail to most parts of the Bri Empire was conceived by Postmaster General Sir William Mulock. After many years of supposed decline volume throughout the realm, the idea of an Imperial Penny Postage rate was introduced in a meeting the universal Postal Union. After much debate, the idea was adopted. The stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Co. of Ottawa.

The purpose of this exhibit is to outline the mail volume figures before and after the reduced rate went into effect*. The exhibit contains philatelic support, including singles, covers, postcards as well as historic maps also includes maps and other ephemera for various locations and railroad mail locations throughout the Canadian Provinces.

*Information on the Assistant Postmaster reports for various dates on mail volume submitted to the Parliament was obtained from the Vincent Graves Green Philatelic Research Foundation, 10 Summer Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.