

THE 1898 CHRISTMAS MAP STAMP NEWSLETTER

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Whole #11

The Journal of the Map Stamp Study Group of the British North American Philatelic Society (1999)
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EDITORIAL

As we start a new year, instead of reflecting and looking back and getting stuck in the rut, we should follow the words of Thomas Jefferson, who said, "I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."

Whatever personal priorities we follow in our chosen hobby, be it plating, postal history, square circles, roller cancels, re-entries etc, I would hope that our common bond, the 1898 Map stamp, will unite us as an active and vigorous group.

We know that there always will be challenges to be met but we should not allow negativity to stop progress.

Let us pursue our dreams. As Eleanor Roosevelt said "the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

I am grateful to those members who have made our progress possible and look forward to their continued future support.

Since our last issue the silence has been deafening. I have not exactly been inundated with responses or replies to our printed material. In addition, the request for material to be published has resulted in ZERO response!

It seems to me that we are like a choir singing to an empty church. I will no doubt have to keep reinforcing our message over time, until we draw a responsive audience.

Reader's suggestions, comments, and criticism help to improve the Newsletter.

I would like to encourage new authors to submit material and share their knowledge with other members. The Newsletter is, after all, the "glue" that holds the study group together.

The more members participate as

authors, the more diverse, and therefore better, our Newsletter will be.

New submissions will not necessarily be published in the first issue that appears after they are submitted. We ask for authors' understanding of this. We try for a balance of subjects in each issue, while at the same time attempting to adhere as much as possible to a "first received, first published" policy.

There is an ongoing need for new material.

In closing, let me quote from the Department of Social Services, Greenville, South Carolina: "Your food stamps will be stopped effective March 1992 because we received notice you passed away. May God bless you. You may reapply if there is a change in your circumstances."

Ripley's "Believe or Not"

Post Card sent from Montreal, Dec. 19, 1898 to England. The text is of historic interest since it refers to the initiation of the Imperial Penny Postage:

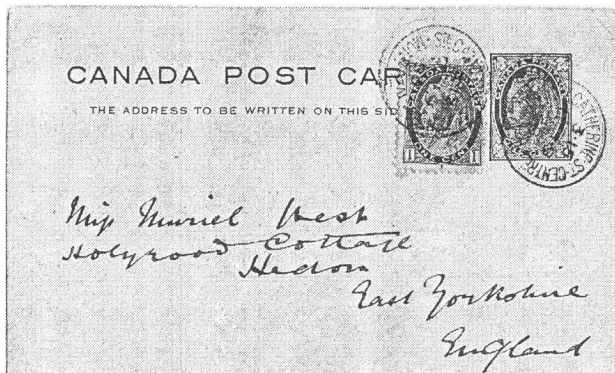
"My dear little Girlie

On Xmas eve 12 pm the new postal rate comes into force in Canada. I will the moment the clock strikes 12 midnight stamp 3 envelopes with the new issue & cancel them with our office stamp (St. Catherine St. Centre P.O.) & mail them (not legible) to you, these will be valuable to you as stamp collectors do not acquire the envelopes, as they will bear the impression of the various P. O. cancelling stamps and should in the course of time be of value. Give one to Charlie Woolf he is a collector I believe. With love from him who came in the waterproofs."

It would be interesting to discover if any of our members perchance has one of the three envelopes mentioned in the text. Check your official first day IPP covers. The card was given to me by Fred Fawn who came across it whilst searching for material.

Please see next page for the address side of this postcard.

Montreal Dec 19/98
My dear little Girlie
On Xmas eve 12 P.M. the new postal rate comes into force in Canada. I will the moment the clock strikes 12 midnight stamp 3 envelopes with the new issue & cancel them with our office stamp (St. Catherine St. Centre P.O.) & mail them to you, these will be valuable to you as stamp collectors do not acquire the envelopes, as they will bear the impression of the various P.O. cancelling stamps and should in the course of time be of value. Give one to Charlie Woolf he is a collector I believe. With love from him who came in the waterproofs.



Address of the Montreal letter

CUDOS & CONGRATULATIONS

Reproduced from "With the study groups" by Robert Lemire published in BNA Topics Vol. 59, No. 3, Pge. 76, Jly-Sept 2002 the following:

Map Stamp

Absolutely spectacular. And yet those words do not do justice to Vol 3, #2 of the Map Stamp Newsletter.

The entire 18 page issue is devoted to a series of articles, by new (!) member Ken Kershaw, which deal with plating issues, and especially the positions of dots and arcs in the map stamp design. . . . Much credit should also go to the study group for publishing such a beautiful issue of the newsletter.

Philatelic Specialists Society

November 2002 Meeting, One Frame Exhibit Competition. Eight exhibits were entered. Member Fred Fawn entered an exhibit titled "Canada Map Stamp - From Essay to Stamp. The presented exhibit shows essays and collateral material. The Major items include: Sir Sandford Fleming's submission and Sir William Mulock's letter of rejection, an engraver's model, the famous Mystery Essay, essays for postcards, the final essay and at the end the final product, a full sheet of 100, Plate 1. Fred was awarded second place for his exhibit. Congratulations.

Barrie District Stamp Club,

RPSC Chapter 73 Annual Exhibition, October 2002. The exhibit "Imperial Penny Postage - Canada 1898" shown by member John Anders was awarded a Gold Medal, the President's Award (Best in Show) and the Canadian Philatelic Society Award (Philatelic Knowledge). Congratulations.

Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

Convention of October 2002. Class: 1A Stamps and Postal History to 1902. 1st. Prize - Mac McConnell - 1898 Map Stamp. Congratulations.

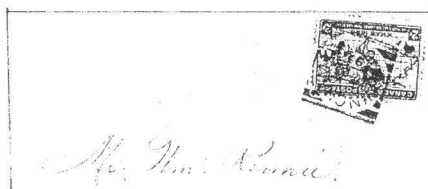
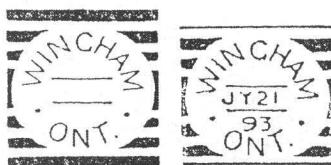
Items of Interest

A. D. Hanes

The following items were part of this extensive Map stamp collection prior to it being sold:

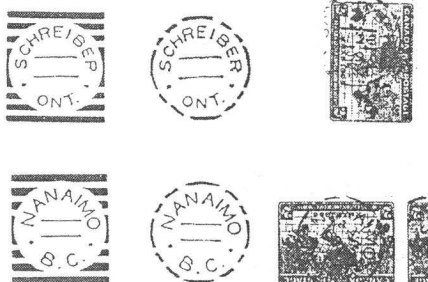
Squared Circles

WINGHAM, ONT. This town was issued the normal Squared Circle Postmark hammer with thick bars at top and bottom. After less than one month in use, the hammer was cut down and used showing one thin bar top and bottom. This is referred to as the STATE 2 hammer.



Schreiber, Ont. & Nanaimo, B.C.

Each of these two towns was issued the standard Square Circle Postmark. In both cases, the surrounding bars have been cut down, resulting in a circle which is broken at twelve balanced points, six on either side of, and at right angles to the vertical axis of the hammer. The cut down version is referred to as the STATE 2 hammer.



Quebec and Campbelltown Mail Car

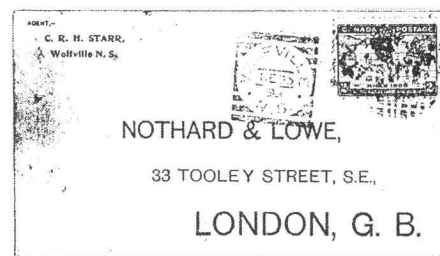
This squared circle postmark was used on the 305 mile run on the Intercontinental Railway (now CNR).

After a brief period of use, the top and bottom bars were divided into two thin lines. After a period of approximately three years use, the hammer was revised a third time, resulting in the top of the figure "20" being cut off.



Wolfville, N.S.

The cover illustrated below demonstrates a seldom seen use of the square circle cancel on the first official day of issue.

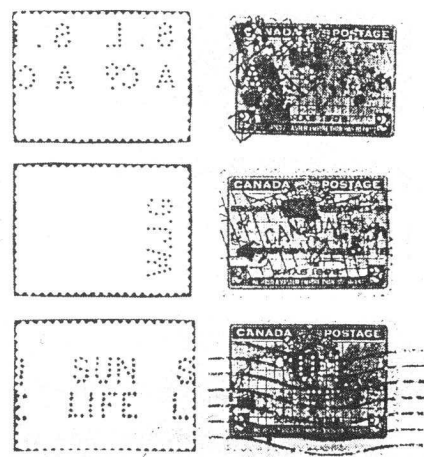


Perfins on the Map Stamp

Perforated initials on stamps were used by companies to prevent pilfering and private use of stamps. Only three designs are recorded on the Map stamp. They are:

Sun Life Assurance	S. L
W. J. Gage Co.	A Co
Sun Life	W.J.G
	SUN
	LIFE

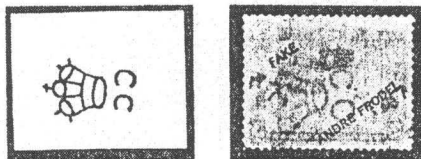
They are all shown below.



Fake Watermark

"Crown CC" a product of Andre Frodel!

Andre Frodel was born in Poland and served in the Polish Army. He emigrated to Canada after the second World War and settled in Vancouver. He lived on a war pension supplemented by dealing in stamps. His hobby was skilfully repairing and forging stamps.



Editor's Comments

Dave Hanes was one of the founding members of the original Map Stamp Study Group. He was not only an avid collector, but also an active contributor to philatelic journals and books.

He authored articles on many facets of the Map stamp. We are indeed honored to have Dave Hanes as a contributor to our Newsletter.

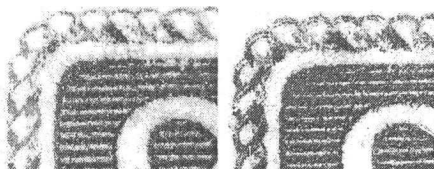
Although Dave's interests in stamps now lie elsewhere, I know he will always have a soft spot in his heart for the Map stamp.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE FIRST STATE MAP STAMPS GONE?

Ken Kershaw

I read with great interest the articles by Roger Boisclair and Harry Voss on the Plate 5 first state discoveries on positions 23, 35, 42, 44, 54, 56, 63, 64, & 92. I was even more curious as to why only first states had been located amongst Plate 5 stamps, since there are quite a number of re-entries amongst Plates 1-3. There are however innumerable re-entries in Plate 5 and perhaps the reason we have seen no first state examples from earlier plates may simply reflect their relatively low number in Plates 1-3? Seems odd!

However, with the stimulation from Roger & Harry, I have kept my eyes open no first state Plates 1-3, but some new Plate 5 examples:

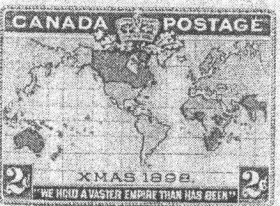
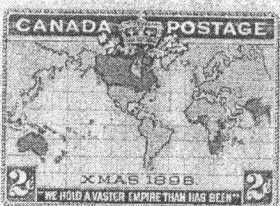


First state Pos. 55 Pl. 5 Second State: Ditto



On the left, a strong Tonkin dot is clearly visible but apparently no companion arc.

A remarkable find of a first state strip of 3 and one of 2 from the same source, mint with original gum and reasonably centered. The top stamp of the trio is position 22 with a strong Tonkin dot and companion arc.

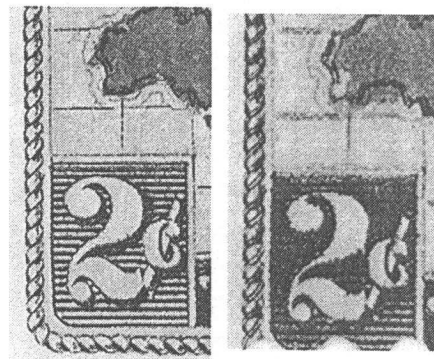


Position 32 below also has a Tonkin dot and arc with a double dot in position 42 (see below). Position 42 has already been seen in state 1 but not 32?

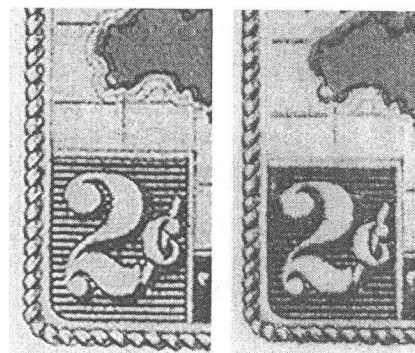


The block comparison is very pretty:

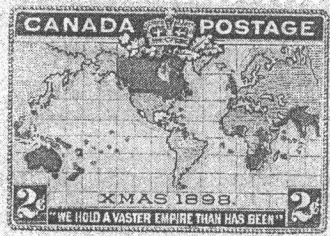
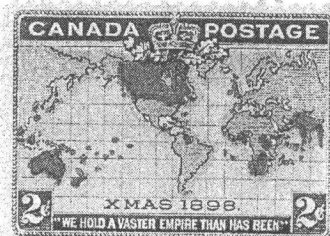
Position 32 Plate 5 State 1&2



Position 42 Plate 5 State 1&2



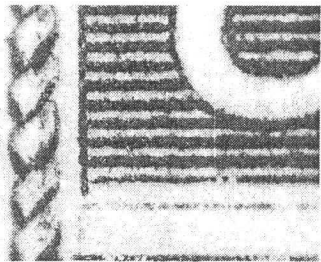
A strip of two, first state, plate 5, positions 34 & 44:



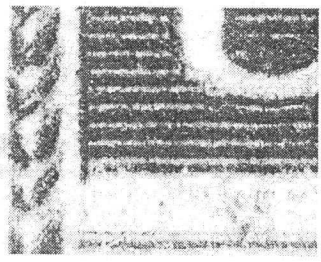
Both are re-entered with position 44 documented previously, but not position 34? The re-entry on position 44 is very clearly and strongly doubled, but the re-entry on position 34 is not as clear, particularly under a hand-lens, although doubling is quite evident at X 60. Again there is a strong Tonkin dot on position 44 but no arc. There is no clear evidence of a Tonkin dot on position 34 so that on balance, the first state positions usually

have the standard Tonkin dot-arc format. This is exactly the opposite in the second state material where it is the absence that categorises Plate 5, with a few notable exceptions. Hopefully, over the next months we will see a number of additional first states identified, now that we have very much more effective scanning and recording methods available.

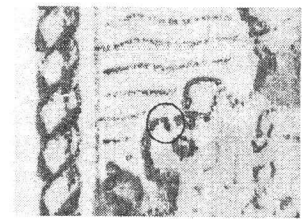
First State



Second State



Position 44



Map Stamp Bibliography

To help our new members, and as a reminder to the rest of us, the following is a list of bound publications dealing solely with the Map Stamp of 1898. Some of these publications are still available through dealers, whilst others will have to be tracked through auction lists.

1. "The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898"

A detailed study by Frederick Tomlinson, FCPS. A handbook of the Canadian Philatelic Society of G.B. First Edition 1960 47 pages s/c Printed by Regency Press, Brighton

2. "The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp."

By R. B. Winmi11. First Edition 1982, 110 pages h/c , Printed by Mission Press Toronto. This book has an extensive bibliography of Journals, Books and Articles appended.

3. Newsletter - Map Stamp Study Group - BNAPS

Editor W.L. Bradley. Complete set Vols. 1 - 21, Nov/Dec 1982 - Nov/Dec 1990. 192 Pages . Loose leaf in binder.

4. "The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898 - A Plating Study"

By Whitney L. Bradley. A Handbook of BNAPS Inc. First Edition 1989, 188 pages s/c. A small series of reference works is noted under the heading "Acknowledgments".

5. "Plating the Canadian Map Stamp of 1898"

Volumes 1 & 2 , Full colour. By Kenneth A. Kershaw. First Edition July 2002, 74 pages coil bound. This i s a revision of Bradley's work using X60 computer microscopy. New criteria have been added. "The Tonkin Dot gives the final and absolute confirmation of a stamp's position." Volumes 3 &. 4 currently in progress. Order from kenker-shaw70@cogeco.ca

REPORT ON ORB CANCELS

Bill Pekonen - Update

Several members have reported new dates on the map stamp Orb cancels. The number within square brackets [19] show the time mark (when known.) Please mark these on the charts supplied with the earlier newsletter to complete your own records. For simplicity's sake, a reporter number has been assigned as noted below. You can show this code number in the appropriate date square instead of an asterisk (*). Multiple reported dates are not noted at this stage. If you wish these to be reported, let me know.

Description	3T2	3T3	3T4
Outside Ring Diameter	33mm	32mm	31mm.
Inside Ring Diameter	27mm	27mm	26mm.
Spacing Between	outer spacing slightly wider	Both spacings almost even	no info
'O'	slightly oval	round	slightly oval
Lettering size	Straight 'D' line	Smaller than 3T2	no info

Reporter # 4: Roger Boisclair
(May be shown on previous charts.)

London 3 Ring

1898: DE 31

1899: JA 2; Feb 19; MR 17; JY 4; JY11; SP 10; NO 17; NO 28; DE 15

Hamilton 3 Ring

1899: FE 8; FE 11;

Toronto 3 Ring

1899: DE 23; DE 28;

Toronto 2 Ring (without dots)

1899: FE 6; AP 11; MY4

Toronto 2 Ring (with dots)

1899: FE 24; MR 17; AP 13: NO 18

Toronto STN B

1901: MR 8

Reporter # 5: Jim Miller

London 3 Ring:

1898: DE 21

1899: JA 29; Fe 5; FE 16; FE 17; AP 10; AU 14; SE 27; NO 14;

NO 24; NO 25; DE 5

1900: MR 2; JU 10; NO 8

Hamilton 3 Ring

1899: JA 5; FE 9; FE 16; FE 20; OC 2

Toronto 3 Ring

1899: JA 18; JA 21; FE 2;

FE 4; AU 18;

Toronto 2 Ring (without dots)

1898: DE 9;

1899: JA 5; JA 12; JA 29; MR 29;

AP 12; AP 27; MY 3; JU 3;

SP 16; NO 23;

1900: JA 3

Reporter # 6: Ken Kershaw

London 3 Ring

1899: MY 17; JU 16; JU 27; AU 1; SP 12; OC 9; DE 5;

Toronto 3 Ring

1899: AP 3; JU 7

Toronto 2 Ring (with dots)

1899: JA 2; JA 4; FE 10; FE 17; MR 10;

Jim Miller also reports that there are actually three different Toronto 3 Ring Orb Cancels which could have Map stamp cancels. He describes them as follows:

A Penny All the Way

Fifty-eight years ago, on Christmas Day 1898, a uniform Penny Postage rate was inaugurated throughout the British Empire, and in order to properly recognize and commemorate this event, Canada issued a special Tri-Colored Commemorative. It was a 2 cent denomination, the decimal equivalent of the penny in sterling currency.

The "Xmas Stamp," officially known as the Imperial Penny Postage commemorative stamp, was first issued to the public on December 7, 1898, but it was not available for its special purpose until December 25th of that same year."

The design was the work of Hon. William Mulock, then the Postmaster-General of Canada. Mulock held this position for about nine years, from 1896 to 1905. For some years after the appearance of this stamp he was frequently asked by collectors to autograph a single or block, and even today these are occasionally seen in philatelic auctions.

This was Canada's first stamp to be printed in more than one color, and still holds the record as being Canada's only Tri-Colored stamp. The original intended colors were black, carmine and lavender. This is evidenced by the fact that there do exist proofs of the "Ocean" and "Possessions" plates in lavender. Other colors and shades were unintentional. Scott's lists two colors, the blue and the lavender. Specialists recognize five different, and quite distinctly different, shades:

Carmine, Black & Pale Lavender
Carmine, Black & Lavender
Carmine, Black & Pale Greenish Blue
Carmine, Black & Greenish Blue

Carmine, Black & Deep Greenish Blue

It is generally accepted that the "black" plate was line engraved, and the "Ocean" and "Possessions" plates were typographic.

The last line of the following extract from Sir Lewis Morris' "Jubilee Ode" was incorporated into the design:

"We love not war, but only peace,
"Yet never shall our England's might decrease
"Whoever rules this realm of State,
"Let all men know it, England shall be great.
"WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE
THAN HAS BEEN."

"XMAS 1898" appears at the bottom of the map design, and the rectangular map of the world shows the world wide possessions of the British Empire in red.

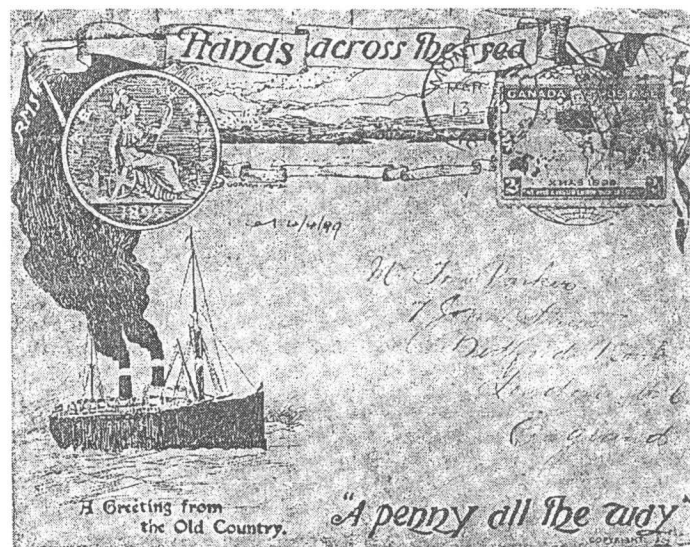
Copies of this stamp are not scarce, but on cover they turn up very infrequently. In recent years there has been a great demand for these on cover; particularly are they popular in Great Britain, where ordinary covers have brought as much as two pounds (\$5.60) at auction. The writer was indeed fortunate to pick up this gem of a cover (illustrated) recently. More particularly because it was used properly to pay the

new penny postage rate from Canada to England, and on a Penny Postage Commemorative Cover.

Well maybe you can't exactly call this a Christmas stamp, but certainly it incorporates "Xmas" in its design, and it represented a "Christmas Gift" to the Canadian public in the form of a very low international rate of postage.

Article is excerpted from
"Collect Canada Covers"
by E. Richardson & H. Harrison.
Illustration as shown in book
courtesy F. Fawn.

Penny postage commemorative cover mailed from Montreal, P. Q., March 9, 1899 to London, England, where it was backstamped March 18th. Cover illustrations are in red and black. Franked with Canada's "Xmas 1898" stamp, which commemorated the inauguration of Penny Postage on that date.



Dates, Postal Rates and the Map Stamp

J.T. Anders

It is abundantly reported and recorded in literature that the Map stamp was issued to celebrate and commemorate the introduction of the scheme known as Imperial Penny Postage.

Over a long period time, and especially from 1869 to 1897, the clamouring and agitation for lowered domestic postage rates was prevalent both in Great Britain and the Colonies.

At a conference in London attended by the Honourable William Mulock,

Canadian Post Master General, the Duke of Norfolk, the British P.M.G., plus other Colonial Agents-General, it was agreed that the question of a uniform Empire rate (Imperial Penny Postage) be rejected. However, it was left open as to whether or not individual governments would adapt the rate.

The date chosen to initiate the scheme, arrived at after much discussion and several changes, was December 25, 1898.

Great Britain, Canada and many other Colonies chose to adopt the scheme on that date.

For the postal historian several dates of special significance now came into play:

December 2, 1898

A Post Office circular was issued at Ottawa on that date. It read as follows:

INTRODUCTION OF NEW 2c
POSTAGE STAMP.

Postmasters are informed that, in con-

nection with the reduction of the postage on letters passing between Canada, Great Britain and certain British Possessions, of which they were notified in the November Supplement to the Postal Guide, a new 2c. postage stamp has been prepared, which will be supplied direct from the Department to all accounting offices and which non-accounting offices can obtain a requisition in the usual manner.

The stamp in question may be applied for as the "2c. Imperial Stamp", this term being used simply to enable Postmasters in their requisitions to make known to the Department which of the 2c. stamps in use - the Imperial or the ordinary - they require. The new stamp will be available, forthwith, to the extent of its value, for the prepayment of postage on all classes of mail matter to all destinations, whether Domestic, British or Foreign.

Postmasters are also informed that, in this case, the new stamps may be sold to the public as soon as supplies of it are received.

(The above paragraph obviously makes the establishment of ERD and the designation of "first day cover" a difficult proposition.)

The countries which, in addition to Canada, have given their adhesion to the scheme for reduced inter-Imperial postage up to the present date, and to which, consequently, letters may be sent from Canada prepaid at the rate of 2c. per half-ounce, are:

- * The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
- * British India
- * Newfoundland
- * British East Africa
- * Uganda.
- * British Central Africa
- * The Niger Coast Protectorate
- * The Niger Company's Territory
- * Jamaica
- * Bahama Islands

Depending on the time/date of release of the circular by the Deputy PMG, the notice and/or supplies of stamps could have been sent by train to all Postmasters on either the 2nd or 3rd of December. If we accept this time frame, then Ottawa would be the only post office with a possible Dec 2, 1898 day of issue.

The next factor to be considered is that December 2nd, 1898 was a Friday. Most postmasters would not have received their notification and/or supplies of the new stamp until the 3rd. or 4th. of December. These dates being a weekend, would a new issue be placed on sale at the wicket on those days? When we see these very early "first day" covers or cancels, we should carefully check the location and the time frame and make sure they are possible and genuine.

December 25, 1898 (Sunday)

This was the date selected for the introduction of Imperial Penny Postage, when the rate was reduced to one penny (two cents) per ounce. Prior to December 25, 1898, all Empire and foreign country destinations were at UPU rates of 5 cents per 1/2 ounce.

December 31, 1898

This was the final day of the three cents per ounce rate for single weight, first class mail both domestic and to the United States.

January 1, 1899

The domestic and US rate for single weight, first class mail was reduced to two cent.

Terms to be noted:

"Local" or "Drop Letter" rate

This was the practice of sending mail from one post office to an adjacent one. It was an informal arrangement amongst postmasters and was terminated by a note in the Postal Guide in October 1899.

The rate was either 1cent or 2cents.

* Letters posted for local delivery in towns or cities where free delivery by letter carriers (LCD) was in use - rate 2cents.

* Letters posted for local delivery in towns where free delivery by letter carriers was NOT in use - rate 1cent.

With these dates and terms in mind we can prepare charts showing the applicable postal rates during the official period of use of the Map stamp - 1898 to 1903 - fully realising that the Queen Victoria Numeral issue and the Provisional issue of 1899 were also available.

Chart 1 Domestic Mail Rates

	1898	1899 - 1903
Domestic letter	3cents/oz	2cents/oz
Drop letter - LCD	2cents/oz	2cents/oz
Drop letter no LCD	1cent/oz	1cent /oz
Registration	5cents	5cents
Special Delivery	10cents	10cents
Postcards	1cent	1cent
Newspapers	1cent/lb	1cent/lb
Unaddressed circulars	1/2cent/2oz	1/2cent/2oz
Parcel Post	6cents/4oz	-

Chart 2 Mail Rates to United States

	1898	1899 - 1903
Letter Mail 1st class	3cents/oz	2cents/oz
Postcards	1cent	1cent
Printed Matter	1cent/2oz	1cent/2oz
Registration	5cents	5cents

Chart 3 Mail Rates to UK and Colonies

	1898	1898(Dec25) - 1903
Letter Mail 1st class	5cents/1/2oz	2cents 1/2oz
Postcards	2cents	2cents
Printed Matter	1cent/2oz	1cent/2oz
Registration	5cents	5cents

Chart 4 Mail Rates to Foreign Countries (UPU)

	1898	1899 - 1903
Letter Mail 1st class	5cents/1/2oz	5cents 1/2oz
Postcards	2cents	2cents
Printed Matter	1cent/2oz	1cent/2oz
Registration	5cents	5cents

** Material for these Tables is quoted from "Postal Regulations, Rates and Usages Domestic and International Mail 1897 - 1911" by William S Pawluk, BNAPS Series #15 September 1999.

Any Map stamp material showing later cancellations should be categorised

as "Late Usage" or in some cases as "Philatelic covers."

Reference to these Dates and Tables should make the recognition, collection and organising of Map stamp material much easier for the postal historian.

1901 Pan-American Exposition Buffalo, N.Y. U.S.A.



Copyrighted in 1899 by I.J. Shults! Of all the nerve!
Did you think this was a Map stamp?

I first came across this seal many years ago and subsequently have acquired a few more, thanks to John Jamieson at Saskatoon Stamps. Obviously it was "pirated" from the Canadian Map Stamp. Several years ago I wrote to the two Public Libraries in Buffalo (Buffalo and Erie County Public Library and Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society). They responded with what they had:

I spoke to a local gentleman who has a major collection of Pan-American memorabilia. He is familiar with the stamp and has seen all five designs. They were made to awaken interest in and to publicize the 1901 Exposition and were meant to be used much as we use Easter and Christmas seals today. They have

very little monetary value. Enclosed is a brief description of them from the Pan-American Herald magazine for December of 1899.

While I tried a number of reference sources, I could find no biographical information on the designer of your stamp. I. J. Shults.

We have extensive materials on the Pan-American Exposition of 1901, but could find no information on the seal you inquired about.

Two seals were produced, one by Raphael Beck, showing the Western Hemisphere, and the other by George Cary, showing an Indian and buffalo. I was not able to get good prints from the newspaper microfilm, but the enclosure

should give you an idea of what these seals looked like. They were not stamp-seals.

Pan-American Stamps

One of the most effective ways of advertising the Pan-American is to attach Pan-American stickers to mail matter. 275,000 pieces of mail matter leave our city every day. This does not include matter delivered in the city. These figures are official and if the volume of this flood of matter is comprehended it will readily be seen that there would be wonderful possibilities in the way of booming the Exposition if a Pan-American stamp would be attached to every piece leaving the city for the next year or so. There is hardly a town in the country that is not reached by some of this mail, and these Pan-American stamps are so novel and interesting that they attract attention wherever they go. There are five designs, some of them being printed in two or three colors and they can be attached to any mail matter alongside of the regular stamp or they can be used on the flap of any envelope as a seal. They are gummed and perforated so that they can be used very handily, and every one living in Buffalo or having an interest in Buffalo should turn in and do his share towards making their general use a public movement. The Raynor Hubbell Stamp Co. of Ellicott Square, have handled great quantities of these stamps since getting them up and they certainly have been the means of starting a very effectual scheme for the booming of Buffalo's Enterprise.

Reproduced from the Pan-American Herald, P17, Dec 1899.

Article copied from the Map Stamp Study Group Newsletter #16, Oct. 1987



Another example of a Cinderella label

Frequently the Map stamp is mistakenly credited with being the world's first Christmas stamp. The fact is that this stamp does not commemorate Christmas but rather the initiation of Imperial Penny Postage. When the new two cent (one penny) rate was agreed to by a number of Colonial governments and Great Britain at the Imperial Conference ending July 12, 1898, the date on which the reform was to be instituted remained undecided.

The original proposal was to initiate the Imperial Penny Post scheme on the birthday of the Prince of Wales (Nov. 8, 1898) but by Aug. 8, 1898, this proposal

had been rejected in favour of Christmas day. Hence the reference to "XMAS 1898" is intended to acknowledge the introduction of the new rate rather than recognize the festive season.

While an Empire Penny and/or Ocean Penny postage had been proposed as early as 1859 by the American moralist, philosopher and thinker, Elihu Burrit, and a petition was entertained by the Canadian Legislative Assembly in 1856 from Port Sarnia, it was not until the unceasing efforts of Henniker-Heaton, an expatriate Australian sitting in the British House of Commons, that the proposal began to assume an air of legitimacy.

The push to "complete" the work begun by Sir Roland Hill began to bear fruit only in 1897 when W. Mulock attempted, unilaterally, to reduce the five cent rate to three cents. This probably resulted in the so-called "Mystery" three cent Essay. The proposed rate change failed due to the prohibitions in UPU agreement against unilateral rate reductions.

When the necessary consent for the partial implementation of the two cent rate was obtained, Mulock again borrowed an old proposal for a commemorative stamp and the result was the only Canadian multi or bi-coloured stamp issued before 1939.

Your Article Could Have Appeared Here!

Your Contributions to this Newsletter are Eagerly Awaited!

Please send your typewritten contribution, including photos, to the editor. (See masthead for address.) You can also email your material to khs@csolve.net Documents can be in any

word-processing format; photos should be scanned in high-quality jpeg format (level 10-12) at 300dpi. Thank you in advance for your interesting and timely contributions. **J.T.A.**