

THE 1898 CHRISTMAS MAP STAMP NEWSLETTER

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

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THE IMPERIAL PENNY POST THE IMPERFECT STAMP

An editorial

It was, originally called the Imperial Penny Postage issue but we now refer to it as the "Map Stamp", and it has had many books written about it as well as quantities of research, so what made this stamp so fascinating as to capture this attention?

Do you suppose that the stamp designer and printer who created this image over 100 years ago ever contemplated that they had developed such an intriguing object?

Did the engravers, who worked on the various plates, realize they were creating numerous re-entries which would entertain philatelists for over a century?

What is it about this stamp, that makes it somewhat unique within the philatelic world, and comprises such a fascination? Let me suggest that we should more properly define it as a one design stamp, since there was never really one uniform stamp printed, and that fact combined with the constant reworking of the plates makes the study of the stamp a fascinating pursuit.

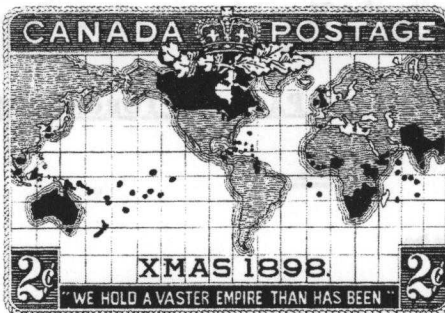
Aside from the various reentries and the fascination of the various cancels as well as plating studies and other areas of philatelic pursuits, there is one basic question, which is - Of the almost twenty million stamps ordered by the postal authorities, was there one stamp printed, that we can hold up as the absolutely perfect example of the contemplated design?

An examination of those remaining stamps over one century later, be they used or mint, has yet to yield one single stamp which is identical to all the others. This arises as a result of the way the stamp was ultimately printed. Remember that of all the stamps

issued up to that time, such as the Beavers, the Cartier's, the Prince Consort and all the Queens, almost all were identical, one to the other. However in the instance of the Map Stamp, it does not appear that there were even two stamps which can be documented as identical.

Whit Bradley in his excellent plating study, published in 1989, on a joint basis by BNAPS and Saskatoon Stamp Centre, references what Whit refers to as the 'perfect' Map Stamp i.e. the stamp with the least number of variations from the original design.

The stamp to which Whit refers, is the one which adorns the front cover of the publication¹.



It is stamp 1-A-26, which the writer has copied above.

Another factor influencing the production of so many variations was the way in which the essential "red" portions of the design, were plated and applied in the processing. One has only to peruse the tremendous publication of plating studies compiled by Ken Kershaw and Roger Boisclair² to gain

an appreciation of the variations that exist within each of the sheets printed, and then with each of the stamps on a specific sheet.

As Whit Bradley indicates in the introduction to his study in 1989, while every effort was made to ensure that the design of the plates used for applying the red was consistent through all 100 copies of each of the stamps on the sheet, it was further distorted by the inking for some of the minute areas such as Pacific Islands, West Indies etc. that was so inconsistent since the drums were turning at such a speed, that the dots became distorted, and hence the variations of islands and other inconsistencies which we find in the finished product. Therefore while we have stamps which probably appear very similar, if one studies a single sheet of stamps, we are able to see variations from stamp to stamp, and if we were able to expand our study and compare consecutive sheets, we would see similar inconsistencies from the same areas.

The writer has reviewed various blocks of stamps in an effort to determine if there were as many varieties as this hypothesis implies, and has not been able to find any duplicates. In one block of twenty-two stamps from the same sheet, there were twenty-two distinctive copies. The varieties ranged from blue shifts left, red shifts right, as well as red shifts right and lower to missing islands in the Pacific, extra islands in the Pacific, red dots in Norway, and extra islands off the west coast of Africa. One has only to assess various copies of the stamp itself to determine how difficult it is to find an example of the "perfect" stamp.

By "perfect" I am referring to a stamp where the blue oceans are properly aligned within the borders established by the cable and the country borders, and the red areas are aligned within the perimeters established by the appropriate country

¹ The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898
- A Plating Study - BNAPS
- ISBN 0-9684137-2-2
- Whitney L. Bradley

² The Canadian 1898 Christmas Map Stamp
a Definitive Plating Study, -
Ken Kershaw - Roger Boisclair - Privately Published

limits, with all of the Islands appropriately located.

In Bradley's book the author references an article which appeared in the publication *STAMP COLLECTOR*, VOL 53, which apparently focuses on this very topic. Unfortunately the author has not been able to locate this article by Paul Roling, but would love to read this if anyone knows of its whereabouts.

To our knowledge, there is no other Canadian issue, and perhaps in the world, that has such a variety of copies. We feel very comfortable in stating that the majority of philatelists specializing in BNA issues and/or Canadian issues, probably have the two basic stamps, which we now refer to as Scott numbers 85 and 86, in their albums, and have never thought about the varieties that exist, nor what inconsistencies their copies contain. They may upgrade these

with more appropriate or finer examples, but are they aware of the variations of this stamp which exist.

As the publication by Ken Kershaw and Roger Boisclair, indicates in the 356 pages of microscopic copies and text, the varieties that exist in the application of the red portion of the empire to the stamp itself, is inestimable, and further serves to amplify the varieties that occur within this issue.

THE WINMILL PAPERS:

In 1982, Ron Winmill published a delightful book entitled *"The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian Map Stamp"*. The book is hardbound measuring 4" X 9" and contains 110 pages and focuses mainly on the various usages, applications and cancellations of the stamp, as well as extensive research as to the types of cancels applied in various postal offices. When I assumed the role of editor of the bulletin, I was delivered a container of materials, apparently a collection of Ron's papers, which had been acquired by the study group at some point of time.

I set about sorting the papers, and to my pleasure and delight I discovered among various research notes and correspondence, Ron Winmill's original holograph manuscript, as well as his meticulously typewritten document, which was obviously sent to the printer for setting up in preparation for printing the final manuscript. Also within the papers was the typeset document, and finally the proof of the final documents and plates from which the book was finally published.

Included in the Winmill book is a chapter on the precancel use of the Map Stamp, and the written accompaniment suggests that only the Lavender shades were used for this purpose. The chapter on Precancels includes actual black and white illustrations of horizontal and vertical examples, including the fake Montreal Horizontal. It is interesting to note, that within the various notes I sorted, I found the following two pages of Ron's sketches of Toronto Precancels, which were possibly contemplated for use in the book, but do not appear to have been utilized in the final manuscript. There is however a copy of the block of six precancels, which is noted as being the largest block of map stamp precancels known to exist.

RON WINMILL'S HAND SET PAGES OF TORONTO MAP STAMP PRECANCELS

GENERAL BARS.

TORONTO.

ONTARIO.

TYPE T(a).

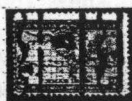
STANDARD SETTING 10 mm. between outer lines.

1898 MAP.

2a. LAVENDER AND CORALINE.



VERTICAL.



DOUBLE VERTICAL.



Four shading combination of both STANDARD SETTING of 10 mm. and NARROW SETTING of 9 mm. on the same Cancellation Device.

NARROW

STANDARD



TYPE T(a).

STANDARD SETTING 10 mm. between outer lines.

1898 MAP.

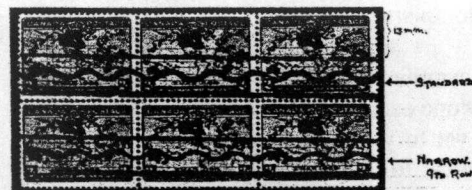
2a. BLUE and CORALINE.



VERTICAL.



Block of 6 shading combination of both STANDARD SETTING of 10 mm. and NARROW SETTING of 9 mm. on the same Cancellation Device.



BOOK REVIEWS OF FRED FAWN'S "Canada - Imperial Penny Postage 1898"

While we are on the subject of books on the Map Stamp, a new book was released in 2004, which is an absolute treasure. This book was written by the chairman of the study group and, as the following book reviews will attest is a must for anyone who has a fascination for this unique item. We are grateful to the publishers for granting their permission to reproduce these here.

The following is submitted by Fred Fawn:

These lines are meant as a hearty "Thank you" to four distinguished philatelists, Michael Nowlan for his review below Ken Kershaw, and David Handelman whose reviews appear on the following pages and Tony Shaman whose review follows the other two. A special thanks to Canadian Stamp News and to Michael O Nowlan's "Philatelic Workshop" (Feb 22/05) for the finely detailed review and endorsement, as well as for the reproduction of the cover of the book. The stamp of approval for both the exhibit section as well as for the articles displayed is of significance. It is appreciated that Michael grants these such import.

Fred Fawn exhibit sets high standards for hobby

The Imperial Penny Postage Stamp of 1898 by Fred G Fawn



Philatelic BOOKSHELF

By Michael O. Nowlan

Much has been written about Canada's famed Map stamp - the world's first Christmas stamp, Canada's Imperial Penny Postage stamp, and the first adhesive in the British Empire or the Americas to be printed in three colours. All of these titles and more could apply to this 1898. stamp issue.

Notable among the literature is F. Tomlinson's *The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898* (1960) and Ron B. Winmill's *The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and The Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp* (1982).

A new, and just as significant, title now joins the rest of the literature. Fred Fawn's international gold- medal-winning- collection: *Canada - Imperial Penny Postage 1898* (British North America Philatelic Society and Auxano Philatelic Services, available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5B6 - \$96 for colour version; \$34.95 for black and white version. BNAPS members 40 per cent discount) is now available for quiet review by interested collectors. I strongly recommend the colour edition.

Award-winning stamp exhibits do not always make great books, but *Canada - Imperial Penny Postage 1898* is an outstanding exception.

Credit should go to Fawn, whose long and ardent study of the Map stamp has resulted in a magnificent collection of historical documents, proofs, stamps, covers, and other valuable information. The exhibit, moreover, is presented in classic fashion with an excellent outline, appropriate sequence, and wonderful illustrations of both stamps and documents.



Canada-Imperial Penny Postage 1898 goes beyond the actual exhibit by including reprints of several of Fawn's papers which appeared in *BNA Topics*, *Canadian Philatelic*,

Maple Leaves. Each of these expands the information on this historic stamp.

More than half of this 128page (eight frames) exhibit are one-of-a-kind items, which will not be seen elsewhere.

Fawn who has done in-depth studies in several philatelic areas, has had the Map stamp on his agenda for 25 years.

His efforts have paid off handsomely with, not only an International Gold medal, an excellent volume of his exhibit, but also the prestige that goes with such study and expertise.

As a student of Canadian philately, Fawn has contributed greatly to the philatelic literature and he has set high standards for others to follow.

Canada - Imperial Penny Postage 1898, becomes the classic walkthrough exhibit to accompany the rest of the studies of the world's first Christmas stamp.

The latest from Fawn assisted by Kenneth A. Kershaw, is the cover story in the November-December issue of the *Canadian Philatelist*, which examines the lower quarter sheet of the engraved Plate 5 proof of the Map Stamp, lot 1833 from an ABN Co. Auction.

Transcript From

CANADIAN STAMP NEWS,

February 22, 2005

BOOK REVIEWS

Fred Fawn writes:

Thanks to the Editor, David Handelman, for the following review, which appeared in BNA Topics, Whole 500, Vol.61, No.3, pp.69. Within his review, he also touches on historical background, politics of the time as well as postal rates. The contents of the book are well summarized. May I quote his reference to Stamp dealer covers: "The only criticism of the choices of covers is the inclusion of at least two stamp dealer covers ("philatelic") not described as such". The 8 frame exhibit does contain a Montreal Coin Dealer cover to Italy. Would like to mention my experiences at National and International shows, where a "small Number" of stamp dealer covers was deemed quite acceptable, regardless corner-card type or others.

*It was interesting to view a One-Frame exhibit at **TORONTO STAMPEX 2004** entitled: "Stamp dealer Covers" It showed nothing but, and I believe received a high reward.*

Thank you David, for stating that part of the book offers "good source of information". It is hoped the book will offer ideas and motivation to collectors.

Imperial penny postage of 1898 (2004), exhibit prepared by Fred Fawn. Published by BNAPS, Exhibit series #32, 154+ ii pp, 8½ x 11", soft cover, O-ring binding. Available from BNAPS Book Department in colour.

WHEN the Imperial penny post scheme (2¢ for a single-weight letter between the participating British dominions and colonies) was announced for late 1898, Canada responded by issuing the 2¢ map stamp. This has been described as the first Christmas stamp (**XMAS 1898** appears on the stamp), but of course it was intended to pay the Empire rate. The rate abroad to participating jurisdictions began 25 December 1898. (Owing to a bureaucratic mix-up, the 3¢ domestic rate did not change until 1 January 1899; thus for one week, it cost more to mail a letter from Toronto to Hamilton than from Halifax to India.)

The Empire rate scheme was a result of decades of lobbying for cheap postage in the Empire. There are 1850's British propaganda envelopes lauding the potential of cheap transatlantic postage to enhance prosperity.

The exhibit book follows the exhibit, discussing the historical documents and essays for the stamp, followed by the proof, plate, and paper varieties. There is an enormous literature on this one stamp, and some relevant articles by the exhibitor are added at the end. There are an amazing number of blocks and part sheets shown to illustrate the plates and locations of varieties. This part of the exhibit book is a good source of information.

The uses shown are phenomenal-worldwide destinations, large multiples (commercially used!), in combination with other services, and some very strange uses. There are spectacular illustrated covers. The only criticism of the choice of covers is the inclusion of at least two stamp dealer covers ("philatelic") not described as such. There are also a number of contrived covers.

The images are sharp, except for the reproductions of some of the articles at the end. And again, this suffers from the lack of an index, although the detailed table of contents is very useful.

The Editor

BNA Topics, Volume 61, Number 3,
July-September 2004 pp 69

An Article which Appeared in a Recent National Canadian Newspaper

NATIONAL POST, SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2005

FP WEEKEND

**Stamp collecting
not just for
schoolboys
anymore**

TAKING A LICKING

Stamp collecting, once the province of schoolboys and enthusiasts, is becoming cool again. That is the view of Michael Hall, chief executive of postage stamp dealer with The Stanley Gibbons Group, which last year lifted operating profits by 42% to £1.7-million (US\$3.2-million). The company is increasingly attacking the top end of the market, which attracts not only the traditional collector but also investors keen to benefit from the increasing value of rare stamps. The 31% rise in the GB Rarities index last year reflects a classic case of rising demand for a dwindling supply of goods. Mr Hall cited the one penny brown lilac stamp of 1882, of which only five are known to exist. The company sold one privately last year for £65,000, more than twice the price it fetched five years earlier. The company is in the process of setting up a stamp investment fund with a large international bank. *Financial Times*

BOOK REVIEWS

Fred Fawn writes:

Our Study Group member, Professor Ken Kershaw, is the author of three books on Map stamp plating, as well as a book co-authored with our member, Roger Boisclair. The kind comments on my book, from so eminent an author as you, Ken, are greatly valued.

This review appeared in the 1898 Christmas Map Stamp Newsletter, September 2004, pp 151-2.

Book Review**Imperial Penny Postage of 1898.***An Exhibit Prepared by Fred G. Fawn*

As would be expected from a collection awarded an International Gold, the breadth and detail of the material illustrated is remarkable. This book, printed in full color, will become one of the major reference works on Canadian philately.

The book starts with illustrations of several of the original early documents from notable supporters of the concept of an Imperial Penny Postage. These letters are then followed by several illustrations of a number of Stamp Essays, the engravers model, and the Die Essay, leading to definitive evidence for the sequence of printing: Black-Red-Blue.

The next section illustrates the early proof material of plates 1, 2, 4 and 5, either as part sheets or blocks, leading on to a short section on re-entries, re-touch positions, paper varieties, pre-cancels, and the range of cancels found on the map stamp, ranging from fancy cork cancels to the early machine cancels.

The rest of the illustrations in the book are devoted to Domestic covers and Postal History. This major section leads off with December the 2nd and 7th cancels as the earliest days of issue, including a Dec 7th with Special Delivery stamp, valid only within Toronto city limits, and so far the only recorded example. Examples then follow of Domestic Letter Rates, Postage Due, Special Delivery, Domestic Registration, Military Postmarks, Bisects & Territorial Cancels. There are several examples of "Mulready-inspired" Canadian Covers, Patriotic Covers leading to the final section with numerous outstanding illustrations of Empire rate covers, Rates to the

US including Alaska and Hawaii, and finally a remarkable sequence of Foreign Rate covers to many parts of the world. At the end, almost as an appendix, is a series of reproductions of Fred Fawn's original publications in *Maple Leaves*, *BNA Topics*, *The Canadian Philatelist* and *The Map Stamp Newsletter*.

This is a most important contribution to Canadian philatelic books, and is strongly recommended to anyone interested in the Map stamp itself, as well as to enthusiasts of postal history in general. The layout of the book is simple and clear with excellent color illustrations throughout. The text is succinct and to the point, and Fred is to be congratulated on providing this wonderful book. Mike Street and Richard Wagner also deserve our thanks for all the work they have put into the production of this work.

Prof. K.A. Kershaw, September 22, 2004

CANADA-IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE 1898. Fred Fawn 2004. Spiral bound, 154 pages, 8.5 x 11 BNAPS Exhibit Series #32. Published by the British North American Philatelic Society (BNAPS) and Auxano Philatelic Services, Calgary, AB Stock #99923.321

(Color version) \$C96.00; 99923.32 (Black & White Version) \$C34.95; Shipping is extra: add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is only applicable for Canadian orders.

BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. BNAPS books are available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5B6, Canada; phone 613.235.9119; email: kimmerly@cyberus.ca. Orders can be placed via www.iankimmerly.com/boutique/books.html.

WHICH CAME FIRST RED, BLACK OR BLUE

The discussion has gone on for almost a century, and there have been numerous theories expounded, many of which are supported by some very credible evidence, yet there has not been a definitive conclusive position yet established, with which this matter can be put to rest for once and for all.

The question simply put is, "Was the Blue of the oceans applied first or last? Was the black outline of the countries and the mercator grid lines applied first or last? When was the red of the Vaster Empire applied, before or after the blue? Whitney Bradley supports the theory which Fred Fawn expounds in his article in *Maple Leaves*¹

When studying some of the recent areas I am currently researching I have some observations which do not appear to

confirm this philosophy, and I feel there are some inconsistencies when one views the overlapping areas under a reasonably powerful microscope. While I am certainly no expert on types of printing and the reaction of different colours when applied over other colours, it seem to me that there are traces of overlapping which indicates that the red was applied over the blue, rather than vice versa.

I believe it is possible, that the red on black proof could have been generated to show how the Vaster Empire was to appear in the final version, and that actual production runs were to apply the blue before the red, and the red was the last printing run.

Obviously there would have to be further reasearch into this aspect of the printing process, however I find it an interesting theory to be pursued further, and I wonder whether any of our readers have something further to offer in this discussion.

We welcome our readers' views on this enigma.

¹ *Maple Laeves*, Whole No. 241
Vol. 23 No. 1, Jan 1993 pp 9

The following review appeared in the January-February 2005 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*, p.44, by Tony Shaman, Editor. The many fine observations in this review include the uniqueness of the Map as a single-issue stamp, having reached top level awards. The endorsement of the book to the wider philatelic public is also appreciated by the Map Stamp Study Group.

BOOK REVIEW / OUVRAGES PARUS

Canada - Imperial Penny Postage 1898

By Fred Fawn, Spiral bound, 154 pages, 8.5 x 11 inches. BNAPS Exhibit Series #32. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) and Auxano Philatelic Services, Calgary, AB. \$C96.00 for colour version; \$C34.95 for black & white. Add 10% for shipping in Canada; 15% to U.S. and 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount. Available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5B6, Canada; Phone: (613) 235-9119; email: kimmerly@iankimmerly.com Internet orders can be placed via www.iankimmerly.com/boutique/books.html

Fred Fawn's new book illustrating his Map Stamp exhibit is the 32nd volume in the BNAPS Exhibits Series. This particular exhibit is especially noteworthy because it has achieved what few other single-issue studies have accomplished: it has taken a Gold award as well as the Felicitations of the Jury at the international competitive level.

Individuals who were unable to attend either CAPEX 87 or CAPEX 96 in Toronto now have an opportunity to view an award-winning exhibit that was also shown at AUSTRALIA 84 & 99, DENMARK 87, SOUTH AFRICA 98, CHINA 99, LONDON 2000, PHILANIPPON 2001, AND BANGKOK 2003.

Included in the exhibit are the usual items that one expects to see in entries of this high calibre: essays, die and plate proofs, working proofs, a plethora of issued material, large multiples, covers, cards, and so on. But this study goes beyond that. It includes items, many of them unique, that round out the story of Canada's first multi-coloured stamp issue.

The exhibit includes several letters exchanged between top postal officials that led up to the issue's official release on December 7, 1898. Included is a letter exchanged between Sir William Mulock, Canada's Postmaster General at the time the Map stamp was issued and Sandford Fleming, designer of Canada's first postage stamp, the 3-pence Beaver. Also illustrated in the book are such rare items as a 25-stamp proof sheet of the unissued Plate 4, a study of stamps printed on thick papers whose gauges have not been reported, and a depiction of an Imperial Penny Postage gold medal struck in commemoration of the 1898 Toronto Industrial Fair & Exhibition.

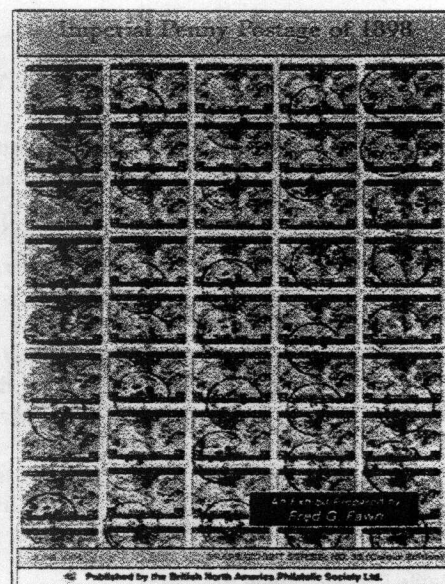
Examples of re-entries abound as do cancels such as fancy corks, rollers, squared circles,

Toronto 2-ring and London 3-ring, Ottawa crown cancels, duplexes, and flags among others.

Readers must be cautioned when referring to the author's Plan and Scope page, reproduced on the first page of the book, a portion of which was apparently prepared for a 6-frame exhibit. The page numbers as shown appear to refer to the pages of the exhibit and should not be confused with an index showing the page numbers in the book.

A review such as this can hardly do justice to the plethora of scarce and rare material illustrated in this work. To do the material justice, each page would need to be described individually. Suffice it to say that an investment in this book by anyone with even the slightest interest in the world's first Christmas stamp is money well spent. ♦

By Tony Shaman



January - February / Janvier - Février 2005

QUEEN VICTORIA'S VASTER EMPIRE

The "Vaster Empire", to which the inscription on the Map Stamp of 1898 refers, occupied about one quarter of the world's area and contained about 25% of the world's population. This empire had been assembled over a period of two centuries, and was achieved through the domination of the seas by a powerful naval presence; however the empire had only existed in its vastness for about fifteen years when the stamp was proposed. The empire itself was achieved by a somewhat desperate measure primarily as a result of England having to stem insurrections occasioned when the East India Trading Company, a rather sprawling enterprise, whose activities were rather autocratic, became threatened by unrest on its various fronts of operation. As well, the opium trade in and around Hong Kong and Singapore had led to the signing of a treaty between China and Great Britain for the occupation of the New Territories.

In 1884 an effort was made to bring about a reconciliation of the various colonies in a common purpose with the establishment of the Imperial Federation League, however one year prior to the issuance of the stamp, declaring the "Vaster Empire", this very statement was threatened when this organizational scheme was rejected by the colonial premiers at the Colonial Conference of 1897. It was the contention of the English gentry, that the Empire in 1898 was so vast, and widespread, that Queen Victoria could easily claim, as a result of Britain's global expanse, that the sun never set on the Empire. Thus it was that the Map Stamp was conceived, although in its design some stretches of the artistic imagination were utilized to achieve the overall effect.

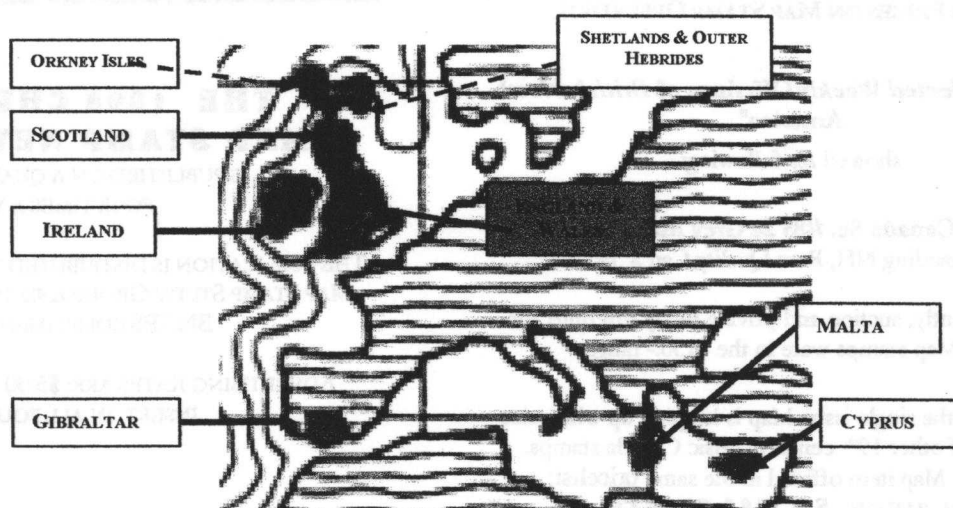
In the century that has elapsed since this stamp was issued, there has been a dramatic change in the British role in the

world. The wars in the intervening years, and the technological changes have had an enormous impact, however the influence of the British colonial policies cannot be diminished. During that same period there have been numerous studies undertaken to analyze the various re-entries and printing varieties that exist within this particular stamp. But the existence of this stamp, utilizing the Mercator projection of the globe, still poses the query "what was this empire in 1898?" and "what were the colonies which comprised that vast empire at that time?"

It is proposed over the next issues of the Bulletin, to examine this aspect of the Map Stamp, and identify those areas on the Stamp, which up to now have been identified primarily by numbers. To achieve this objective, we will be utilizing Bradley's copy of the "perfect" stamp and will be dividing the red features of the Empire! into somewhat the same ten segments that Whit proposed which are:

- (i) the Islands in the Pacific
- (ii) the Islands in the Indian Ocean and India
- (iii) the China Sea Group including Hong Kong;
- (iv) Ascension - St Helena
- (v) Australia and New Zealand
- (vi) Africa
- (vii) the Mediterranean
- (viii) U.S.A. which will incorporate (a) the West Indies and (b) Canada;
- (ix) South America including the Falklands and last but not least
- (x) The United Kingdom, where it all began

THE BRITISH ISLES AND THE MEDITERRANEAN



HOW SUCCESSFUL WAS MULOCK'S PROPOSAL?

In Appendix "A" to Winmill's book on the evolution of Imperial Penny Postage, he lists those colonies which were adherents to the "scheme" of a reduced postal rate as between the various areas who in one way shape or form were considered to be members of the British Empire

Quoting from the book:

"The following colonies were by January 1, 1901, adhering to the Imperial Penny Postage Scheme. Some, such as Canada were original adherents, while others, such as New Zealand, entered as late as January 1, 1901. By 1911, when Australia joined the scheme, all of the colonies and possessions except Pitcairn Island adhered to the penny rate."

In the initial stages there were 38 adherents to the proposal for a standardized postal rate as follows:

Aden, Ascension Island, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Central Africa, British East Africa, British Guiana, British Honduras, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, India, Johore, Lagos, Leeward Islands, Malayan States, Natal, Newfoundland, Niger Coast Protectorate, Niger Company Territories, Sarawak, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Straits Settlements, St. Helena, Tobago, Trinidad, Turks Island, United Kingdom, Uganda, Windward Islands,

- the following territories were not adherents by December 25, 1898, but they had subscribed to the standard rate by 1901:

*British North Borneo, *Cape Colony, *Jamaica, *Labuan, *Malta, *Mauritius, *New Zealand, *Orange River Colony, *Transvaal, *Zanzibar

NEWSWORTHY:

RIISING PRICES ON MAP STAMP OFFERINGS.

A recent "Selected Weekly Offerings of British North America"

showed the following:

Canada Sc. #85 2¢ Grey Map.
Outstanding NH, Rare Quality Can \$ 390."

Until recently, auction and private treaty offerings for VF mint Map stamps were in the \$150.- range.

It seems that the single-issue Map is keeping up with price increases of other 19th century classic Canada stamps.

Another Map item offered in the same pricelist:

ON PIECE, SC. #85 20 MAP
DEC 15, 1898\$195.-

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

ITEMS for SALE

Following is a Scan of a Map Stamp cover which had been contributed by Doug Lingard to a previous issue of the Map Stamp Study Groups' newsletter.



October - November - December 2004 Volume 5 Number 4

Dr. James Watt is seeking offers on similar Map Covers which he has available;

All are tied with Hamilton, Ont. Machine cancels and bear the following dates

- December 7, 1898
- December 25, 1898
- Any Date, with very fine Map Stamp showing P.P. 89, major re-entry
- Any Date, with very fine Map Stamp showing P.P. 91, major re-entry

Those wishing further information contact:

**Dr. James Watt, 700 Main St. East,
Hamilton ON, L8M 1K7**

THE 1898 CHRISTMAS MAP STAMP NEWSLETTER

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FOUR TIMES A YEAR

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