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Mr. Paterson then made an important announcement. "I had hoped," he said "that Mr. Mulock, the Postmaster General, would have been here to night, because it would have been more proper that he should make the announcement that I have to make. He has given me permission to make it.

A POSTAL REFORM.

The permission came over the telephone. He said: "We have and expect to have closer and more intimate commercial relations with Britain under our tariff than ever before. You know, he says, that the Government have recognized the fact that while now you can at a cost of three cents send a letter of communication weighing an ounce to any part of Canada or the United States, it costs ten cents to send that weight of letter to Great Britain. Economies have been effected while efficiency has been maintained and increased in our Post Office Department. Revenues have come in under the Postmaster General that have enabled him to give effect to the wishes of the Canadian Government, who want to do everything they fairly can to facilitate trade between Canada and Great Britain, and he tells me the word has gone forth and has been flashed across the Atlantic that after January next an ounce letter may be sent to every part of the British Empire, where ever the British flag floats and three cents shall carry it.

This announcement was received with loud and prolonged cheers.
(Extract from Toronto Dispatch as appearing in Montreal Daily Star, Nov. 27th. 1897.)