

Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issues of British Guiana

This is a traditional two-frame exhibit of the post-production Jubilee stamps; TWO CENTS surcharge stamps and use. Included are the specimen stamps, town cancels, multiples, some surcharge errors, surcharge varieties and use.

On June 22, 1897 the QV Diamond Jubilee was made a public holiday in BG, the set of five stamps was not issued until July 18, 1898. The stamps were printed in sheets of 60 by De La Rue of London; the vertical design (2c and 10c Kaieteur Falls stamps) were in five horizontal rows of 12 and the horizontal design (1c, 5c and 15c Mount Roraima stamps) were printed in 10 horizontal rows of six. All the stamps were engraved, perforated 14 and are watermarked Large Crown CC (upright on the 2c and 10c and sideways on the 1c, 5c and 15c stamps).

De La Rue overprinted 'SPECIMEN' on 750 stamps, which were not received by the General Post Office London until December 29, 1898 for shipment to the UPU.

With the introduction of Imperial Penny Postage on 25 December 1898, the three higher values of the Jubilee stamps were surcharged 'TWO CENTS' during and after February 1899 because large numbers of these stamps were unsold. The Jubilee and surcharged stamps were used together to make certain rates until the end of 1899 when they were sold out in almost every post office in the colony.

Most Significant Items are Matted in Gray

Plan of Exhibit:

Jubilee Stamps

Specimens

1c Perf. Variety, Cancels & Use

2c Cancels & Use

5c Cancels & Use

10c & 15c Cancels/Use

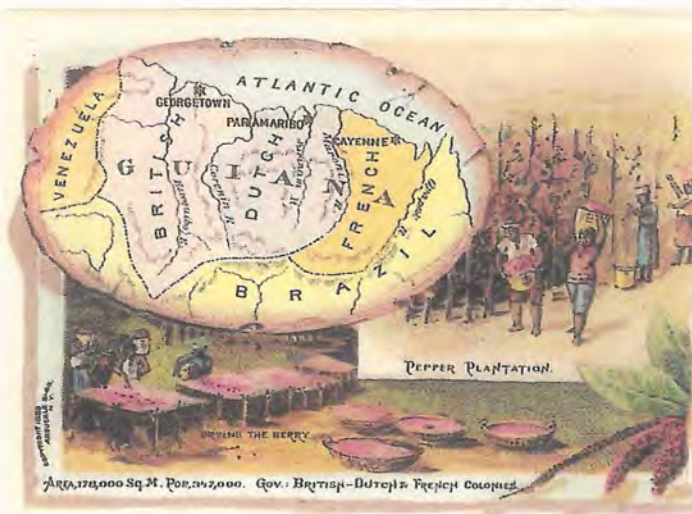
TWO CENTS Surcharge on Jubilee Stamps

Varieties on 5c Surcharge & Use

Varieties on 10c Surcharge & Use

Varieties on 15c Surcharge & Use

Map of the Guiana's (circa 1889)



Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Portrait



Shipments of Jubilee & Issuance of Surcharged Stamps

The first shipment of Jubilee stamps arrived in Georgetown on 14th July 1898 and each month after until the final shipment arrived on 17th January 1899. The stamps were put on sale on 18th July 1898 and were used to 1900. The TWO CENTS surcharged stamps (10 & 15 cents Jubilee stamps) were issued on 22 February 1899 and the 5 cents Jubilee stamp was issued on 15 June 1899. These stamps were mostly in use until the early 1900's.

Disposition Chart of Jubilee & Surcharged Stamps

<i>Numbers for each stamp printed:</i>					
	1¢	2¢	5¢	10¢	15¢
ORDERED	750,000	900,000	300,000	150,000	150,000
DELIVERED	787,560	884,040	306,900	153,600	153,680
DESTROYED	30,000				
OVERPRINTED "TWO CENTS"			207,900	126,600	130,680
USAGE OF EACH ORIGINAL STAMP	757,560	884,040	99,000	27,000	24,000

Jubilee Stamps

The 1898 Jubilee 1c, 5c and 15c stamps show Mount Roraima as the vignette. Early in the printing, the 1c plate cracked and was replaced by a second plate. The lines of shading in the second plate are strengthened in the mountains, along the ridge and the shading of the sky is not as pronounced.

Blue-Black and Carmine



Plate 1



Plate 2

Green and Sepia



Red Brown and Blue



Jubilee Stamps

The 1898 Jubilee 2c and 10c stamps show the Kaieteur Falls as their vignette. The 2c Jubilee was issued in two shades, indigo is more common than the blue.

Brown and Indigo



Brown and Blue



Blue Black & Orange Red



KAIETEUR FALLS

This dutone & halftone print of the falls is surely the original art for the stamp or is a original print.



KAIETEUR FALLS.

SPECIMEN Stamps

De La Rue, the printer had 750 stamps overprinted "SPECIMEN" and were received by the London General Post Office on December 29, 1898 for shipment to the UPU. It was not unusual for specimen stamps to be overprinted long after printing. All of the horizontal stamps below have the 'N' in SPECIMEN slanting. Since the overprinting was late in the year the 1c stamps are from the second plate.

SPECIMEN OVERPRINT VARIETIES

Normal Ovpt.



SPECIMEN Slanting



Normal Ovpt.



Weak Ovpt.



Normal Ovpt.



Normal Ovpt.



Weak Ovpt.



Under Inked 'S'



Normal Ovpt.



Under Inked 'S'



1c Jubilee Bottom Margin Block of 30 (Plate One)



Bend in lower right bottom margin causing perforation to go right then left next to screw mark. There are no imprint or plate numbers in margins.



Cancels on 1 cent

REGISTRATION GPO

PARCEL POST



Unlisted & Only Two Known



TOWN CANCELS



ARKAKA



ENMORE



GEORGETOWN



MAHAICA



NEW AMSTERDAM



NIGG



SKELDON



STABROEK-GEORGETOWN



TUMATUMARI



VREED-EN-HOOP

TRAVELING POST OFFICES



Railway EC



Demerara Railway



Mailboat Demerara River



Massaruni Steamer

Domestic Use of 1 cent

Local Letter Rate 1 cent per ½ oz if posted & for delivery in Georgetown
(The same rate applied to New Amsterdam)
Georgetown, DEC 12, 1898



Domestic Postage Due

Letter Rate 2 cents per ½ oz within the colony
Postage Due from New Amsterdam AU 24, 1898 to Georgetown
Under paid one cent, double deficiency 2 cents with manuscript marking.



UPU Printed Matter Rate 1 cent

(unsealed envelope flap)

Georgetown DEC 7 98 to Sackville,
New Brunswick, Canada



Per R. M. Gr



*Messrs M. Wood & Sons
Sackville*

UPU Postcard Rate 2 cents

Georgetown OCT 27 98 to
Edinburgh, Scotland



*From Thompson
a note of 2c*

POST CARD

BRITISH



GUIANA



THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

*Edward Howat, Esq,
Chemist & Druggist,
4 Marchmont St,
Edinburgh*



*Messrs Henniker & Hogg Ltd
32 Queens Terrace
Southampton*

UPU Letter Rate

5 cents per 1/2 oz.

Georgetown 18 OCT 98 to
Southampton, England

Imperial Penny Postage

On January 1, 1899 Imperial Penny Postage went into effect in British Guiana to most parts of the British Empire. Domestic postcard and letter per ½ oz. stayed at 2 cents. Letter rate (per ½ oz) to most of the British Empire went down from 5 cents per ½ oz to 2 cents per ½ oz, which equals one British penny. Postcard rate remained at 2 cents to all destinations.

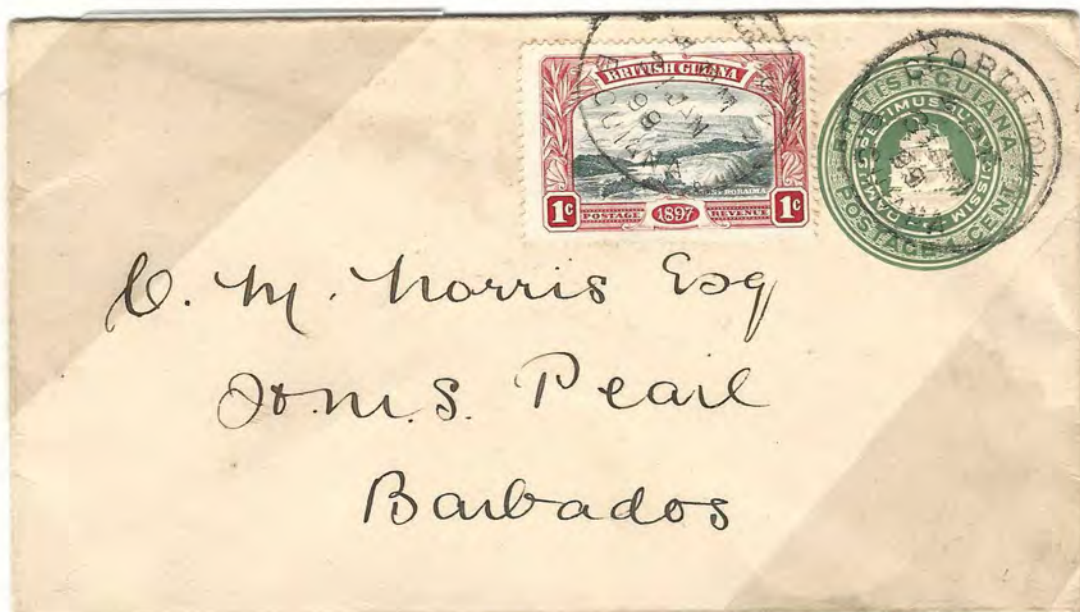
Domestic Postcard 2 cents

Georgetown FE 11, 1899. Local delivery went from 1 cent to 2 cents



Letter Rate 2 cents per ½ oz.

Georgetown 31 JAN, 99 to Barbados



Cancels on 2 cents

TRAVELING POST OFFICE

TOWN CANCELS



E R (ESSEQUIBO RIVER)



CLONBROOK



ENMORE



FORT WELLINGTON



GEORGETOWN



GOOD SUCCESS



MORAWHANNA



POTARO



PROVIDENCE



SPARTA



STABROEK-GEORGETOWN



RELIENCE-CANJE



TUSCHEN



VREED-EN-HOOP



WISMAR

UPU Printed Matter/Newspaper Rate 1 cent per 2 oz.

Weight over 4 oz., total postage 3 cents.

Georgetown 12 OCT 98 to London, England

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers, or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



W. H. Sherlock Esq.
Beechcroft, Nepton R.
Breatnam
London SW

UPU Postcard Rate 2c
Georgetown 1 MAR 00 to
Ruhrort, Germany

POST CARD.

BRITISH GUIANA (DEMERARA).
SOUTH AMERICA.

The address only to be written on this side.



Germany

from Richard Schult junior



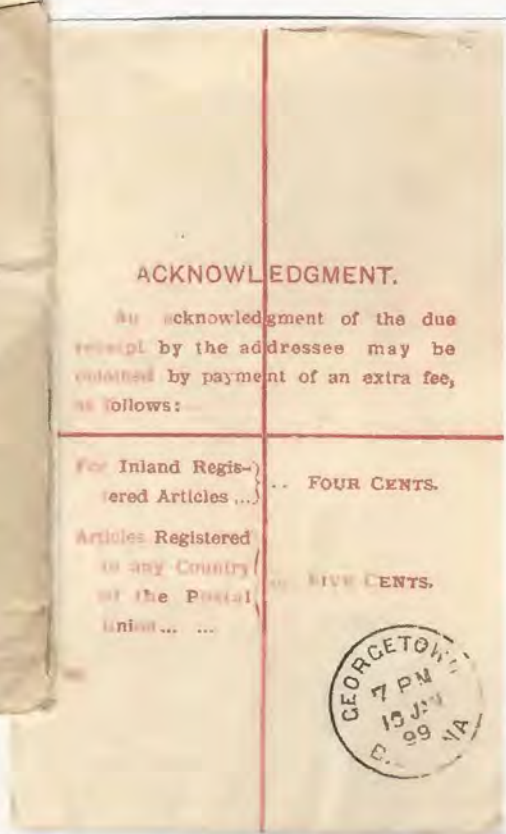
Ruhrort Rhein
P.O. No. 2.

16/3/1900.

Domestic Registered Letter

Registration Fee: 4 cents, Postage: 2 cents

Anna Regia JA 10, 1899 to Georgetown 10 JAN 99 Receiving CDS on back.



Imperial Penny Postage 2 cents per 1/2 oz. Georgetown MAR ...99 to Barbados, Rec. CDS MR 18 99 on back.



UPU Letter Rate 5 cents per 1/2 oz Mourning Letter from Georgetown 29 SEP 98 to Manchester, England

Cancels on 5 cents

REGISTRATION GPO



TOWN CANCELS



ANNA REGINA



BOURDA-GEORGETOWN



BELFIELD



GEORGETOWN



NEW AMSTERDAM



SKELDON



VREED-EN-HOOP

UPU Letter Rate 5 cents per ½ oz
Georgetown MAR 13 99 to New York



UPU Letter Rate 5 cents per ½ oz

Georgetown DE 8 98 to Barbados

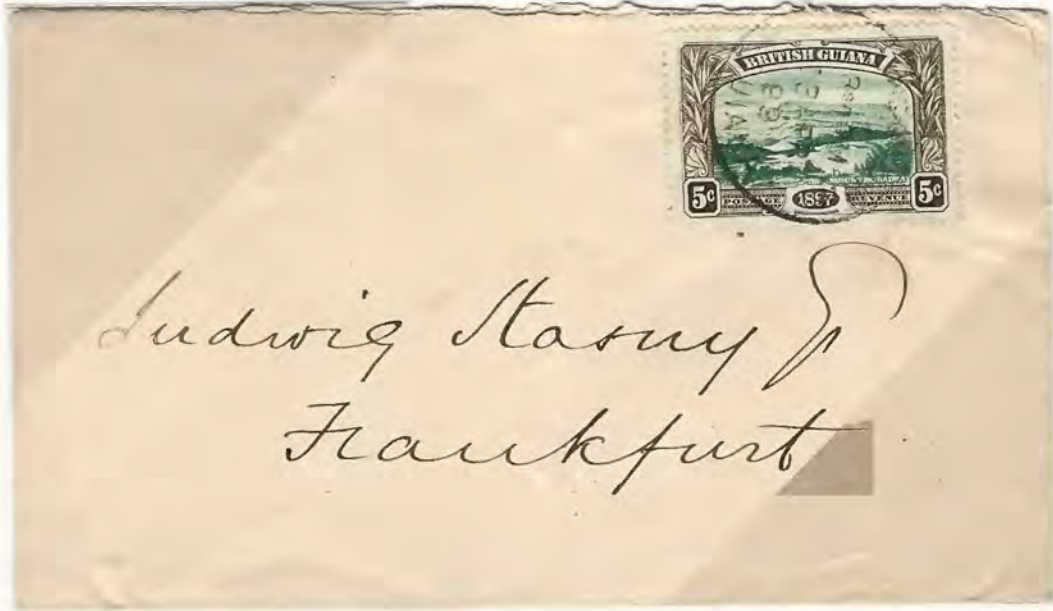


Georgetown AU 18 98 via Barbados to Kent, England



UPU Letter Rate 5 cents per ½ oz

Georgetown 13 APR 99 to Frankfurt, Germany. Backstamp: Frankfurt 27.4.99



German Consulate letter over ½ oz and under 1oz 10 cents rate.
Georgetown 2 FE 99 to Dresden, Germany.



Backstamps:

London FE 15 99
Dresden 17.2.99



Cancels on 10 & 15 cents



REGISTRATION GPO



GEORGETOWN



NEW AMSTERDAM



REGISTRATION GPO



EVERSHAM



HACKNEY

UPU Letter Rate 5 cents per ½ oz

Complete set of Jubilee stamps on German Consulate Official Envelope.
Georgetown 29 SEP 98 to Berlin, Germany



1899 TWO CENTS Surcharge

The three higher value (5c, 10c and 15c) Jubilee stamps were surcharged TWO CENTS at the Daily Chronicle newspaper in Georgetown during February (10c and 15c) and in June (5c) to provide enough two cent stamps for the new Imperial Penny Postage (one penny equals two cents) rate to most of the British Empire, also there were a large number of unsold higher values.



TWO CENTS on 5c Jubilee Stamp

Overprint Varieties

Row 4/1



No Stop after "CENTS"



"CINTS" for CENTS



CINTS Corrected to "CENTS"



Raised "C"



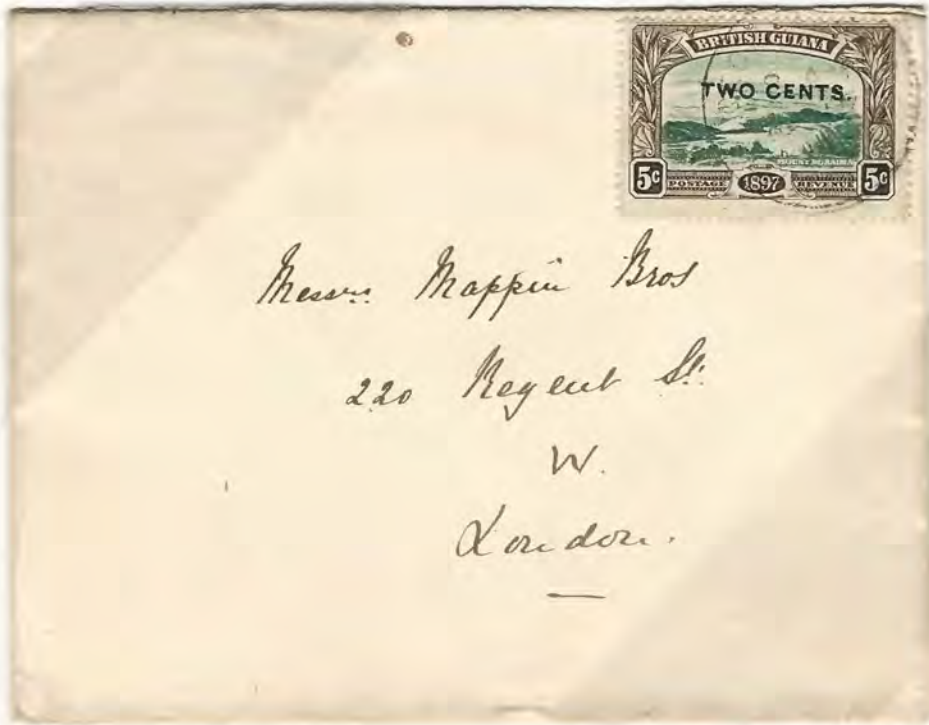
Raised "T" in CENTS



Comma for Stop in right bottom stamp after "S" in CENTS



Imperial Penny Postage Letter Rate 2c per 1/2 oz.
Georgetown Aug ?? 99 to London



Deformed "T" in TWO



UPU Postcard Rate 2c
Georgetown 1 Mar 00
to Ruhrort, Germany

UPU Letter Rate 5c per 1/2 oz.
Weldaad Aug 29 1899 via
Georgetown to Chicago, Ill., USA

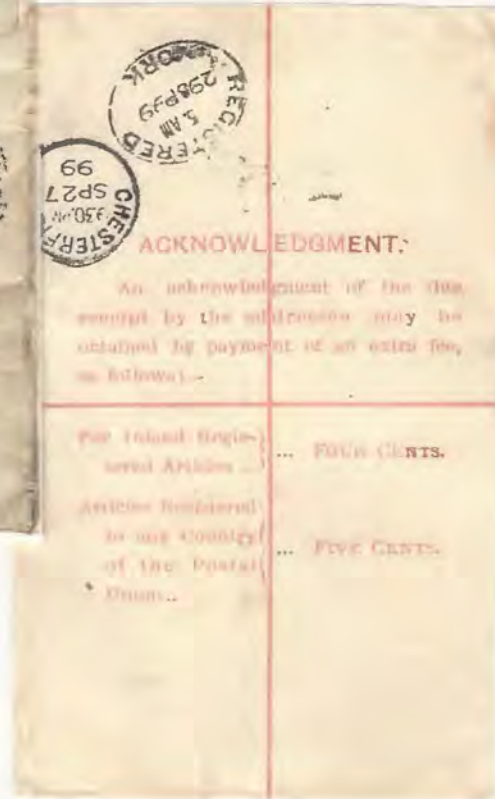


Registered Mail to England

Georgetown 3 Sept. 99 to Chesterfield, forward to York



Double wt. under 1 oz. 4c
 (2c per 1/2 oz.)
 Registration Fee 4c
 Total Postage 8c
 (photo copy of back 70%)



Georgetown 4 Oct. 1906 to Birmingham

Double wt. under 1 oz. 4c
 Registration Fee 4c
 Total Postage 8c
 (photo copy of cover back 70%)



TWO CENTS on 10c Jubilee Stamp

Sheets of 60 were surcharged one at a time, an unknown number of sheets were fed into the press up side down and received the surcharge inverted. Because of the relative scarcity of the invert on the 10c stamp, only a few sheets may have escaped burning by the postal officials who discovered the error after the printing was complete and stamps sold to the public.

INVERT



Surcharge Shifts



“S” Missing



“S” Shifted



“T” Missing

Letter Varieties



Raised “T”



Raised “C”



Thin “C”

TWO CENTS on 10c Jubilee Stamp

Left half of sheet of 60 with one major variety, "NO STOP" and Thin "C", Row 5/5.



Row 5/5

Thin "C" in CENTS

No Stop after "S"



TWO CENTS on 10c Jubilee Stamp
Right half of sheet of 60 with one major variety, "G" for "C" in CENTS, Row 5/7



Row 5/7

"G" for "C" in CENTS

Local Usage

Georgetown, Apr. 20, 1899
Surcharge Shifts on 10c Jubilee Stamp



TWO shifted to left causing most of ovpt. "T" to be on next stamp.



TWO shifted to left causing "T" to touch perforations.

New Amsterdam, Apr. 9, 1899
Quadruple Letter Rate of 8c (under 2 oz.)



Private Ship Letter to USA

Georgetown, B. Guiana, Feb. or Mar. 1899 to Huguenot, Ga.

Letter rate to US was 5c per ½ oz., which is paid. This letter was placed on a private ship (not a mail carrier) going to Fernandina, Florida (NE corner), which is close to Huguenot, Georgia (SE corner). There are no ship markings, the Fernandina, Florida postmaster considered this a ship letter and was charged US 4 cents due to be paid by the addressee.



Receiving cancel of Fernandina, Fla. Mar 14, 1899 and
Huguenot, Ga. Mar 16, 1899 on cover back.



Imperial Penny Postage Rates

Georgetown, Apr 17, 99 to Canada



Local Usage

British Guiana Philatelic Exhibition 21 Oct. 1911, Georgetown

A temporary Post Office was set up at this exhibition and a special postmark was used on a 'relatively small' (British Guiana Philatelic Journal 1911) number of covers. This is the only known cover with the 1899 TWO CENTS surcharge stamps used as postage. The cover is addressed to the President of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, Georgetown.



TWO CENTS on 15c Jubilee Stamp

Only 153,680 stamps were delivered and 130,680 were surcharged TWO CENTS. The first surcharge printed 124,680 stamps and these were issued on Feb. 22, 1899. The second surcharge printed 6,000 and the Governor sanctioned these on Mar. 4th. In the second surcharging the type was completely re-set. Only one sheet of 60 inverts was issued, below is an example.

INVERT



Raised Printer's Quad

Short "T" and High "C"



Inked



Under-inked



Rubbed out "T"

Lead Mark between T and S.



Vignette Shades



TWO CENTS on 15c Jubilee Stamp

Surcharge Varieties

Top Right Stamp Shaved "W" in TWO



Bottom Left Stamp Shaved "N" in CENTS
Bottom Right Stamp Shaved "T" & "W" in TWO

Corrected Setting With "No Stop" @ Position 50, Row 9 #2 Stamp



Position 50, Row 10 #3 Stamp Has No "Lead Mark"

'TWO CENTS' on 15c Jubilee Stamp

Overprint varieties during first overprint in Feb. 1899,
'Lead Mark' removed in later overprint job.
Sheet shifted during printing causing ovpt to shift up to right.



Row 9 No. 2 'No Stop' After 'S' in Cents

Row 10 No. 3 'Lead Mark' Between 'N' and 'T' in Cents



TWO CENTS on 15c Jubilee Stamp

Surcharge Varieties

Upper Right Corner Block of 4 (Sheet of 60) with printing plate screw mark.
Row 1 #6 Stamp w/Raised "S" in CENTS



Corrected Setting, Raised Printers Quad Removed from
Row 5 #2 stamp, Lead Mark Still in Place (see photo copy below from
early setting with both in Row 5, #1 & 2 stamp)



Imperial Penny Postage Rates

Georgetown, Apr. 1899 to Canada

Letter Rate of 2c per ½ oz.



Georgetown, Mar. 2, 1899 to England

Quadruple Letter Rate of 8c (under 2 oz.)



UPU Letter Rate

Mahaica 13 APR 1899 to Paris, France

Letter Rate 5c per ½ oz

No Stop Variety

**TWO CENTS without stop on 5c embossed stamp envelope,
1c Jubilee and TWO CENTS on 15c Jubilee to make 5c rate.**



Backstamps:
Mahaica 13 APR 1899
Georgetown APR 16, 99
Paris, France

POSTSCRIPT: By the end of 1899, most post offices had run out of jubilee and surcharge stamps, very few were used after 1899. No private or commercial use have been seen or reported that this exhibitor knows about.