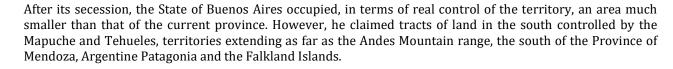
# THE PAPER MONEY OF ARGENTINA 1856 - 1858

# EL ESTADO DE BUENOS AYRES (BANCO Y CASA DE MONEDA)



Once Rosas was overthrown by Justo José de Urquiza, the Governor of Entre Ríos commander of the Grand Army, the provincial forces moved to Buenos Aires. As has already been said, Urquiza endowed the country with a Federal Constitution making Buenos Aires the capital, but at the cost of its main source of income, which was not to the liking of the *Porteños*, accustomed to a standard of living much higher than that of the rest of the country thanks to the revenues of customs and the port. Also, several groups of politicians pushed Buenos Aires to leave the new Confederation.

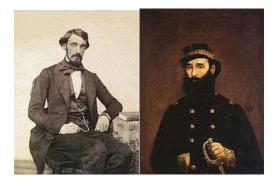
They seized power by the revolution of September 11, 1852, excluding the supporters and representatives of General Urquiza who refused to repress it, considering that he still enjoyed popular support. It was only once it was too late that Urquiza understood that the State of Buenos Aires would not recognize any national authority apart from its own.

On October 23, 1859, Urquiza triumphed in the Battle of Cepeda and demanded Buenos Aires' return to the Confederacy, but Buenos Aires was slow to meet this demand, again for the same reasons. Also, on September 17, 1861, a new battle opposed Confederates and PorteñosatPavón, but this time it was Buenos Aires that triumphed, under the orders of Colonel Bartolomé Mitre, supported by European mercenaries and the majority of the fractions of the indigenous *Ranqueles* from the mountains. Buenos Aires then returned to the Confederation, but onits terms: it would granta percentage of their customs revenues to the provinces for five years. Thus Mitre, who became Governor of the capital, dissolved the State of Buenos Aires and reintegrated it as a province in the Argentine Republic.

Bartolomé Mitre (26.6.1821 – 19.1.1906) was a statesman, soldier, writer, historian and journalist, governor of the Province of Buenos Aires from 1860 to 1862 and first president of the modern Argentine Republic from October 12, 1862, to October 12, 1868, under the motto *Nation, Constitution and Freedom*. He was successively affiliated with the Colorado (in Uruguay), Unitary (1851 - 62), Liberal (1862 - 1874), National (1874) parties, then the Civic Union (1890 - 91) and the National Civic Union (1891 - 1906). He was the founder of the newspaper La *Nación*.



#### **COINAGE FROM 1853 TO 1861**



Bartolomé Mitre at the time of the State of Buenos Aires ... and at the Battle of Pavón

While the Confederation had minted a few coins in the decimal system, the state of Buenos Aires remained faithful to the old system of the peso worth 8 reals. However, due to inflation, the coin of 2 reales, or a quarter of a peso, and that of a real worth one eighth of a peso were no longer minted in silver, but in copper. These strikes took place in 1853 for the real and in 1853 - 1856, then in 1860 and 1861, with a reduced weight and diameter, for the coins of two reales.

The coinages of 1853 - 1856 indicate as issuing authority PROVINCIA DE BUENOS AYRES in highlight, then the value figure between two oak branches whose stems intersect above a flower. The other side has the date between two laurel branches tied at the bottom by a ribbon and, in highlight, CASA DE MONEDA / UN REAL or DOS REALES. Judging by the oak branches, opened at the top for 1853, closed for 1854, new dies have been engraved. The coins of 2 reales are often a little bulging.



The coins of 2 reales of 1860 and 1861 have the value 2 Rs in an oak wreath with, in highlight, BANCO Y CASA DE MONEDA / BUENOS AYRES. On the other side, the value in all letters between two branches of oak tied by a ribbon. Obviously, new dies have been engraved for 1861, quite different from those of 1860.



These coins are most often in poor condition, due in part to weak striking, but above all to prolonged circulation as subsidiary coins with a value (around 1869) of 5 and 2 ½ gold cents respectively, the bulk of monetary circulation being paper money with a *peso corriente* worth 4 gold centavos.

#### **ISSUE OF MAY 1, 1856**

In January 1856, the authorities of the *Banco y Casa de Moneda in Buenos Ayres* decided to completely renew the paper money in circulation, consisting mainly of notes from the time of Rosas with political legends erased or obliterated. The plates of this issue were engraved by Pickett in London, whose name appears only on the \$5000 m/c denomination, but the printing was executed by the *Banco y Casa de Moneda in Buenos Ayres*. However, the quality of the engraving did not match that of Perkins, Bacon & C<sup>o</sup>. The date **1º MAYO 1856(Mayo** for 5, 100 and 500 \$ m /c) is engraved on all plates, except on that of the denomination of \$ 1000 m/c.

These notes circulated from Sept. 9, 1856 until December 1858, except for the \$1 and \$200 m/c denominations, the circulation of which had to be extended until mid-1859, because only one plate was available at then for the \$1 m/c denomination of 1858 and none for the \$200 m/c denomination. The denominations of \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000 m/c were no longer put into circulation after beginning of 1857 because of the appearance of counterfeits.

The print is black on white paper for all cuts, and the back has no print. The paper is either without watermark, or with the number of the value (5, 10 or 20), or with awirespecific to each value:

1 \$ m/c: UN

5 et 10 \$ m/c: Buenos Ayres / Cinco (or Diez)

20 \$ m/c: El Estado de Buenos Ayres / Veinte

50, 100, 200 et 500 \$ m/c: Coat-of-arms of the State, value in words

1000 \$ m/c: 1000 / Buenos Ayres / MIL PESOS / Casa de Moneda

5000 \$ m/c: El Estado de Buenos Ayres / Cinco Mil

It should be noted that on some denominations, the control number is written at the beginning in the cartridge provided for this purpose, while subsequently, it was written to ensure better readability under the upper part of the frame. This detail does not justify a specific entry in the catalog. It is illustrated below with the denominations of 10 and 100 pesos. For the denomination of 5000 pesos, only the second practice is illustrated.

Denominations of 1 to 20 pesos m/c were signed by one or two of the next 17 employees:									
José Almeira Rafael Brito Nicolás Calvo	Bernardo Castañón Mariano Díaz Casimiro Duarte	Jacinto Guzmán Nemesio Hidalgo Ernesto Lezica	Adolfo Lista Rafael Mármol Francisco Muñiz	Javier Núñez Mariano Reynal Eugenio M. Rivera	Casimiro Robles Francisco Salas				
<ul> <li>The denomination of a peso was authorized only by one of them.</li> <li>The 5 and 10 peso notes were signed at first by two of them, then only by one.</li> <li>The 20 pesos denomination kept two signatures throughout the issue.</li> </ul>									

PS-415 NC-170 BA-68A

uniface frame  $\approx 69 \times 72 \text{ mm}$  print run : 1.928'000 watermark : UN







signature: Nicolás Calvo/ photo www.banknote.ws

signature : Adolfo Lista / photo Spink

extremely worn plate

PS-415 NC-170 BA-68A

Issued note

PS-415 NC-170a BA-68A

Proof printing on thin white cardboard.

No photo available to date.

**PS-416** 

NC-171

**BA-69** 

uniface

frame  $\approx 150 \times 67 \text{ mm}$ 

print run: 720'000

watermark: BUENOS AYRES / Cinco

PS-416b

NC-171a

BA-69

 $N^{\underline{o}}$  1 to 454000 : two signatures No photo available to date.



signature : Adolfo Lista

photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"

PS-416a

NC-171b

BA-69

 $N^{\circ}$  454001 to 720000 : only one signature

PS-416b

NC-171c

BA-69

Proof printing on thin white cardboard.

No photo available to date.



signature : Mariano Díaz

photo www.banknote.ws

extremely worn plate

PS-417

NC-172

**BA-70** 

uniface

frame  $\approx 175 \times 78 \text{ mm}$ 

print run: 582'500

watermark: Buenos Ayres / Diez



Signatories : Adolfo Lista / José Almeira

photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"

PS-417b

NC-172a

BA-70

 $N^{\underline{o}}$  1 to 407000 in the reserved place With two signatures



Signatory : Adolfo Lista

photos CNBA

PS-417a

NC-172b

BA-70

 $N^{\underline{o}}$  407001 to 582500 at left of the digit "10" with one signature only

PS-417s

NC-172c

BA-70

Proof printing on thin white cardboard.

No photo available to date.

**PS-418** 

NC-173

**BA-71** 

uniface

frame  $\approx 165 \times 80 \text{ mm}$ 

print run: 583'800

watermark: El Estado de Buenos Ayres / Veinte



Signatories : José Almeira / Nicolás Calvo photo Lyn Knight

PS-418

NC-173

BA-71

From  $n^{\circ}$  407001 up to 582500 : with two signatures



signatories : M(ariano) Reynal / C(asimiro) Robles extremely worn plate

PS-418 NC-173a BA-71

Proof printing on thin white cardboard.

No photo available to date.

Grid for the manufacture of the watermark of the 20 pesos note.



# The watermark seen from the back side:



PS-419 NC-174

uniface frame ≈ 160 x 83 mm print run : 269000 watermark : écusson de l'État, Cincuenta

**BA-72** 



Signatories : Nicolás Calvo / León Vega

photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"

PS-419

NC-174

BA-72

Two signatories from the following officials (others may exist):

José Almeira Rafael Brito Nicolás Calvo Nemesio Hidalgo Adolfo Lista Javier Núñez Casimiro Robles Mariano Reynal Francisco Salas León Vega



PS-419 NC-174a BA-72 Form without number nor signature

PS-420 NC-175 BA-73

uniface frame  $\approx 160 \times 96 \text{ mm}$  print run: 214'224 watermark: arms of the State



It will be noted how much the watermark has weakened the paper!

At first, the numbers were inscribed on the hatched space provided for this purpose, which made their legibility all the more difficult as the signature on the left sometimes partially covered it, as in the illustration below.



signatories Adolfo Lista / Javier Núñez photos CNBA

	PS-420	NC-175	BA-73			
Two signatories from the following list (others may exist):						
José Almeira Rafael Brito	Nicolás Calvo Jacinto Guzmán	Nemesio Hidalgo Adolfo Lista	Francisco Muñiz Javier Núñez	Mariano Reynal		

During the issue, in order to ensure better readability, the place of the number was changed.:



photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"

PS-420

NC-175

BA-73

The number is written on top of the note.

PS-420

NC-175a

BA-73

Proof printing on thin white cardboard.

No photo available to date.

**PS-421** 

NC-176

**BA-74** 

uniface

frame ≈ 182 x 102 mm

print run: 146'000

watermark: State arms, Doscientos



Signatories : José Almeira / Javier Núñez

Photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr Arturo Jauretche"

PS-421

José Almeira

NC-176

BA-74

Two signatories from the following list: Jacinto Guzmán

Nemesio Hidalgo

Javier Núñez

PS-421 NC-176a BA-74 Proof printing on thin white cardboard. No photo available to date.

PS-422 NC-177 BA-75

uniface frame  $\approx 175 \times 125 \text{ mm}$  print run : 60'000 watermark : State arms, Quinientos

Two signatures on the obverse from the following officials:

José Almeira Ignacio de las Carreras Javier Núñez Manuel Terry

On the reverse, on the cut of the stub, the notes are signed by Rafael Brito, Nicolás Calvo or J. M. Robles.

PS-422 NC-177a BA-75 Proof printing on thin white cardboard. No photo available to date.



PS-422 NC-177 BA-75

Signatories : José Almeira / Javier Núñez

photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"

PS-423

NC-178

**BA-76** 

uniface

frame ≈ 173 x 82 mm

print run: 13'000

watermark: 1000 / Buenos Ayres / MIL PESOS / Casa de Moneda

This is the only denomination of this issue on which no date appears.

The notes are signed by Manuel Terry and Jaime Lavallol or Manuel Ocampo and, on the back, on the cut of the stub, by J. M. Robles.



PS-423a

NC-178

BA-76

Signatories : Manuel Terry / Manuel Ocampo

Photo Museo Histórico y Numismático Héctor Carlos Janson (BCRA)

PS-423 NC-178 BA-76s
Proof printing on thin white cardboard.
No photo available to date.



PS-423r NC-178 BA-76rp
Reprint done around 1900 by CSABB, recognizable by a very thin paper and stains on the plate.

PS-424 et 425

NC-179

**BA-77** 

uniface

frame ≈ 168 x 88 mm

print run : 10'800

watermark : El Estado de Buenos Ayres / Cinco Mil

Notes signed by Manuel Terry and Jaime Lavallol or Manuel Ocampo. On the back, on the cut of the stub, the signature of J. M. Robles.



PS-424

NC-179a

BA-77a

Signatories: Manuel Terry / Manuel Ocampo

Photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr Arturo Jauretche"

**PS-425** 

NC-179b

**BA-77b** 

frame  $\approx 168 \times 88 \text{ mm}$ 

**print run** : ≈ 5500\*

watermark : El Estado de Buenos Ayres / Cinco Mil

 $^{*}$  comprised in the total print run of 10'800 of the preceding note.



PS-425 NC-179c BA-77 Proof printing on thin white cardboard. No photo available to date.

PS-425 NC-179d BA-77
specimen on thin paper
with various watermarks
No photos available to date.



↑ PS-425 NC-179b BA-77b ↑ Issued note with printed back.

After the discovery of counterfeits, a blue ornamental background was added to the reverse with the text BANCO Y CASA/ DE/MONEDA/del ESTADO de/Buenos Aires. The change had to be made between the 5th and the beginning of the 6th thousand notes. According to the documentation at the Historical Museum of the Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr. Arturo Jauretche", this print could have been made by the Litografía of Rodolfo Kratzenstein, then at Calle San Martín 48 in Buenos Aires.

This is actually the first Argentine banknote with an impression on the reverse.

#### ISSUE OF AUGUST 1, 1857

In 1857, because of the counterfeits of the large denominations of the 1856 issue, the plates were returned for engraving to Perkins, Bacon & Co, in London. As with the 1856 issue, the printing was made in the workshops of the Banco y Casa de Moneda. The banknotes are printed in black on watermarked white paper, with a colour print on the back, taking up the image of the obverse. All banknotes are with the printed date 1º Agosto 1857. The issue began in 1857 and continued until 1869.



The only notable difference between the engravings of the obverses and that of the reverses is the font used for the legend POR EL DIRECTORIO DEL BANCO Y CASA DE MONEDA, in Latin capital italic letters on the reverse and in Gothic lettering on the reverse, and for the titles of the signatories, they are small on the obverse to make room for signatures, but in capital letters filling all the space on the reverse where they are reversed - PRESIDENTE on the left, CONTADOR on the right - to match the signature of the obverse.

PS-426 NC-180

**BA-78** 

frame ≈ 165 x 115 mm

print run: 203'000

watermark: large radiant sun, or no wmk.



Two signers among the following officials:

José Almeira Rafael Brito Nicolás Calvo Javier Núñez J. M. Robles Emilio Rodríguez

PS-426 NC-180 BA-78a

Nusdeo / Conno indicate a print run of 203,000 copies, but the note shown opposite, signed Nicolas Calvo and Javier Núñez, seems to bear a number much higher, unless the bank official has had a manner of his own to write the number 1.



PS-426 NC-180 BA-78 signatories : José M. Robles / Javier Núñez

photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"





PS-426 NC-180a BA-78s1
Face proof on thin cardboard with overprint SPECIMEN



PS-426 NC-180b BA-78s2
Back proof on thin cardboard with overprint SPECIMEN

Bauman mentions this specimen as type 2 not issued, which is obviously not correct: it is indeed only a proof of the reverse of the regular issue printed in black and stamped SPECIMEN.

PS-427

NC-181

BA-79

frame  $\approx 190 \times 90 \text{ mm}$ 

print run : 210'000

watermark: zig-zag, MIL PESOS.

Two signers from the following officials:

Rafael Brito Miguel A. Cuyar Manuel Dorr Francisco B. Madero Nicolás Calvo Leopoldo del Campo Juan Esnaola



signatories : M. Terry / M. Saavedra - photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr Arturo Jauretche"

PS-427a

NC-181a

BA-79a

Hand numbered up to  $n^{o}$  40000.





signatures Emilio Rodríguez / Rafael Brito

photo Nusdeo / Conno

PS-427b

NC-181b

BA-79b

Mechanical numbering from 40000 up to 170000.

Issued from 1866

printed with an additional blue shot with the number 1000 on the reverse.





PS-427 NC-181c BA-79s
Face proof on thin cardboard with overprint SPECIMEN

PS-427 NC-181d BA-79(s2)
Back proof on thin cardboard with overprint SPECIMEN no image available to date.

**PS-428** 

NC-182

**BA-80** 

frame  $\approx 200 \times 100 \text{mm}$ 

print run : 57'000

watermark: zig-zag, BANCO Y CASA DE MONEDA CINCO MIL

Two signers from the following officials:

Miguel A. Cuyar

Jaime Lavallol

Manuel Ocampo

**Manuel Terry** 

José M. Estrada

Francisco B. Madero

Mariano Saavedra



PS-428a NC-182a BA-80a
Hand numbered
till nº 49000.
signatories: Manuel Terry
and Manuel Ocampo

photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"



photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr Arturo Jauretche"

PS-428b NC-182b BA-80b
Mechanical numbering from 49000 up to 57000.

Issued from 1865
No image available to date.



PS-428 NC-182c BA-80s1
Face proof on thin cardboard with or without overprint SPECIMEN



PS-428

NC-182d

BA-80s2

Back proof on thin cardboard

As for the 500 m/c denomination, Bauman mentions this specimen as type 2 not issued, which is a mistake: it is a proof printing in black of the reverse of the regular issue.

#### **ISSUE OF MAY 25, 1858**

In January 1858, new plates had to be ordered from Perkins, Bacon & C<sup>o</sup>, because of the wear of the plates and notes of the 1856 issue. As in 1856 and 1857, the printing was made at the Banco y Casa de Moneda. A black print on white paper with various watermarks was used:

- 1. Banco y Casa de Moneda and value in letters;
- 2. Value in numbers;
- 3. Parallel zig-zag lines;
- 4. State crest against a backdrop of parallel zig-zag lines;
- 5. without watermark.

The date *Mayo 25 de 1858* is engraved on each plate, in capital letters on that of the \$200 denomination. The numbering, handwritten, was done in series of a million denominations, distinguished by letters in the registers, but not on the notes themselves.

The issue began in December 1858 and continued until June 1865.

Lucio Albarracín	Bernardo Castañón	Casimiro Mármol	Ruperto Quesada
José Almeira	Mariano Díaz	Epifanio Marzano	Mariano Reynal
Avelino Barbot	Manuel Dorr	Francisco Muñiz	Casimiro Robles
Pedro Braga	Casimiro Duarte	Javier Núñez	Emilio Rodríguez
Rafael Brito	Jacinto Guzmán	Enrique Núñez	Gregorio Seoane
Antonino Cabrera	Nemesio Hidalgo	Federico Oromí	<b>Manuel Terry</b>
Nicolás Calvo	Adolfo Lista	Esteban Pelerán	León Vega
			Francisco Zambrano

PS-429 NC-183 BA-81

uniface frame  $\approx 132 \times 70 \text{mm}$  print run : 7.269'000

The notes have the handwritten signature of one of the officials mentioned at the beginning of the chapter.



Signatory: Mariano Díaz photo

photo www.banknote.ws

PS-429a

NC-183

BA-81



PS-429s NC-183a BA-81s
Proof printing on thin cardboard
With overprint **SPECIMEN** 

PS-430 NC-184 BA-82

uniface frame  $\approx 150 \times 65 \text{ mm}$  print run: 2.784'000 watermark: UN

The notes have the handwritten signature of one of the officials mentioned at the beginning of the chapter.



Signatory : Casimiro Mármol

photo www.cefynag.com.ar

PS-430a

NC-184

BA-82



signatory Mariano Reynal

PS-430a

NC-184

BA-82

Printing plate extremely worn.



PS-430s NC-184a BA-82s
Proof printing on thin cardboard
With overprint **SPECIMEN** 

PS-431 NC-185 BA-83

uniface frame  $\approx 165 \times 75 \text{ mm}$  print run : 2.231'000

The notes have the handwritten signature of one of the officials mentioned at the beginning of the chapter.



signatory : José Almeira photo CNBA

PS-431 NC-185 BA-83



Signatory : Mariano Reynal

PS-431 NC-185 BA-83

It should be noted that the printing plates have served so much that at the end, the printing was only a pale reflection of what it had been at the beginning, especially for values up to 10 pesos.

PS-431 NC-185a BA-83s

Proof printing on thin cardboard with overprint **SPECIMEN**No illustration available to date.

PS-432 NC-186 BA-84

uniface frame  $\approx 167 \times 80 \text{ mm}$  print run: 1.791'000

The notes have the handwritten signature of two of the officials mentioned at the beginning of the chapter.



photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "D<sup>r</sup> Arturo Jauretche"

PS-432 NC-186 BA-84

signatories : Rafael Brito / Adolfo Lista



PS-432 NC-186 BA-84

signatories : Adolfo Lista / Nicolás Calvo

PS-432 NC-186a BA-84s

Proof printing on thin cardboard with overprint **SPECIMEN**No illustration available to date.

PS-433

NC-187

**BA-85** 

uniface

frame  $\approx$  187 x 92 mm

print run: 1.057'000

The notes have the handwritten signature of two of the officials mentioned at the beginning of the chapter.



photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr Arturo Jauretche"

PS-433a

NC-187

BA-85

signatories : Nicolás Calvo / Casimiro Riobles



Vintage counterfeit with annotation Fabricado in Montevideo - monogram (possibly RT or RE).



PS-433a NC-187 BA-85

signatories : Casimiro Robles / Mariano Reynal

with rubber stamp DEPARTAMENTO GENERAL DE POLICIA BUENOS AYRES



PS-433s NC-187a BA-85s

Proof printing on thin cardboard with overprint **SPECIMEN** 

PS-434 NC-188 BA-86

uniface frame  $\approx 180 \times 105 \text{ mm}$  print run: 871'000

The notes have the handwritten signature of two of the officials mentioned at the beginning of the chapter.



photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr Arturo Jauretche"

PS-434 NC-188 BA-86

Signatories: Nemesio Hidalgo and Javier Núñez



PS-434 NC-188a BA-86s

Proof printing on thin cardboard with overprint **SPECIMEN** 

PS-435

NC-189

**BA-87** 

uniface

frame ≈ 180 x 110 mm

print run: 383'000

The notes have the handwritten signature of two of the officials mentioned at the beginning of the chapter.



photos CNBA

PS-435

NC-189

BA-87

Signatories: Nicolás Calvo / Javier Núñez



PS-435

NC-189a

BA-87s

Proof printing with overprint **SPECIMEN** 



signature Mariano Díaz

photo www.banknote.ws



signature Rafael Brito

photo www.billetesargentinos.com.ar



signature Adolfo Lista



signature Casimiro Robles



signature Nemesio Hidalgo



signature Adolfo Lista



signatures Adolfo Lista / Mariano Reynal

photos CNBA



sig. José Almeira / Adolfo Lista photo Museo y Archivo Histórico del Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires "Dr Arturo Jauretche"