

### FRACTIONAL NOTES OF THE ISSUE OF JANUARY 1, 1869 – FIRST SERIES

These notes, although they bear the same date of issue as those denominated in *pesos fuertes*, were not printed until 1874 for the "normal" denominations of 10, 20 and 40 *centésimos fuertes* and in 1875 for the unusual values of 8 and 16 *centesimos fuertes*.

Recall the correlation between peso fuerte and peso moneda corriente, of 1: 25. Thus, the 8 *centesimos fuertes* note was the equivalent of 2 *pesos moneda corriente*. The denominations of this issue were therefore worth 2, 2.50, 4, 5, and 10 *pesos moneda corriente* respectively.

The cutting of these notes generally leaves something to be desired, and copies with four clear equal margins are therefore rare :  
most of the time, the margin and / or the frame is damaged on one or more sides because of an approximate cutting,  
perhaps due to a slight offset of one sheet from the previous or next.

01.01.1869 :	0.08 \$F	0.10 \$F	0.16 \$F	0.20 \$F	0.40 \$F
	A - L	A - L	A - J	A - J	A - H
10/1874	-	000001 - 333334	-	000001 - 200000	000001 - 125000
04/1875	000001 - 416667	-	000001 - 250000	-	-

### 10 centésimos fuertes

PS-501 / 513

NC-234

BA-140 / 153

Frame ≈ 102 x 55 mm

print run : 4'000'000 \*

position letters A à L, 000001 - 333334

\* The issuance of this denomination ceased on April 30, 1878, already, leaving a balance of 2,860,000 unissued notes.  
The quantity actually put into circulation would be according to NC 1,140'000 ( n° 000001 - 095000)

The Head of Mercury is the work of C. K. Burt.

The unusual portrait of an indigenous woman was taken from the one peso note of the Banco Nacional del Perú of September 10, 1877.



Signatories : Nicolás Robles and Juan Martín

PS-501a

NC-234a

BA-140a

Two autographed signatures

**without overprint**

Printing of October 1874

**000001 - 002000**

in circulation from November 1, 1875 till April 30, 1878

Up to serial number 2000, the banknotes were signed jointly by Juan Martín and Nicolás Robles.

From number 002001, the notes are signed by one of the following employees :

Arturo Arias

José M. Irigoyen

Juan Martín

Nicolás Robles

Federico Tejerina



Signatory : Nicolás Robles

PS-513a      NC-234c      BA-153a  
Two autographed signatures      **with 1876 overprint**  
**The existence of this variant is unlikely.**



Signatory : José M. Irigoyen ?



PS-513a      NC-234d      BA-153  
Only one autographed signature      **with 1876 overprint**  
 Printing of October 1874      **006001 - 022000**  
 in circulation from November 16, 1876 till April 30, 1878



A dialer change was made at a time yet to be determined:



a - 14 mm



b - 16 mm



PS-513b

NC-234e

BA-153b

Typographed signature of José C. Gastelumendi **with 1876 overprint**

Printing of October 1874 **022001 - 095000**

in circulation from July 1, 1877 till April 30, 1878

PS-501b

NC-234f

BA-140p

Obverse proof

**no illustration available to date**



PS-501b

NC-234g

BA-140p

Reverse proof



PS-501b

NC-234g

BA-140p

Obverse proof with grayish underprint  
on thin paper glued on cardboard



PS-501b

NC-234g

BA-140p

Reverse proof in dark brown



## 20 centesimos fuertes

PS-503 / 515

NC-236

BA-142 / 155

Frame  $\approx 110 \times 60$  mm

print run : 2'000'000 \*

position letters A to J.

\* The issuance of this denomination ceased on February 23, 1878, leaving a balance of 1,500,000 unissued notes (No. 050001 to 200,000).  
The quantity actually put into circulation would be according to CN 500'000 (n° 000001 - 050000)

The portrait of the girl, *Nathalie*, is the work of engraver James Bannister. The reverse vignette, *On the Watch*, engraved by Henry S. Beckwith in 1862 after a drawing by Edwin Henry Landseer, was also used for banknotes from Chile, Colombia, Haiti, México and Uruguay.

The notes are signed by one of the following officials :

Amadeo Arnaud

Arturo Arias

Honorio Ginesta

Juan Martín

Federico Vivanco



PS-503

NC-236a

BA-142a

One autographed signature (Honorio Ginesta)

**without 1876 overprint**

Printing of October, 1874

**000001 - 004000**

in circulation from March 1, 1876 till February 23, 1878

The number of the illustrated note does not correspond to the Nusdeo / Conno indications, unless the notes were not issued in numerical order (010646 also verified)

We can note a change in the dialer approximatively at n°011000:



5 x 17 mm



4 x 17 mm



signatory : Honorio Ginesta

photo [www.banknote.ws](http://www.banknote.ws)

PS-515a      NC-236b      BA-155a  
Autographed signature      **with 1876 overprint**  
Printing of October, 1874      004001 - 020000  
in circulation from June 9, 1877 till February 23, 1878



PS-515b      NC-236c      BA-155b  
Typographed signature of José C. Gastelumendi      **with 1876 overprint**  
printing of October, 1874      020001 - 050000\*  
in circulation from March 8, 1878 till February 23, 1878

\* if the notes were not issued in numerical order.



PS-503	NC-236d	BA-142p
Obverse proof		
no illustration available to date		



PS-503      NC-236d      BA-142p  
Obverse proof with rays as underprint instead of a geometrical pattern  
**Without position letter** right of CENTESIMOS



PS-503      NC-236e      BA-142p  
Reverse proof in coffee brown



### 40 centésimos fuertes

PS-504 / 516

NC-237

BA-143 / 156

Frame ≈ 132 x 69 mm

print run : 1'000'000 \*

position letters A to H

\* The issuance of this denomination ceased on June 25, 1880, leaving a balance of 266,000 unissued notes (nº 091750 to 125000?).

The *Fannie* vignette was engraved by James Bannister. It will be found in 1895 on a \$50 silver certificate from the Republic of Hawaii.

Up to number 020000, the notes are signed by two of the following officials :

Samuel Canaveris

José M. Corvalán  
Diego de la Vega

Marcos Duval  
Nemesio Hidalgo

Mariano Reynal

From 020001 to 028000, the notes are signed by one of the following officials :

Juan Buteler

José M. Corvalán  
Diego de la Vega

Marcos Duval  
Nemesio Hidalgo

Mariano Reynal

Samuel Canaveris

Horacio Varela

According to Nusdeo / Conno, 128,000 hand-signed notes would have been issued without surcharge and another 96,000 with the overprint of 1876. However, we have seen No. 013582 with handwritten signature and overprint, and No. 090199 with facsimile signature without overprint. It is therefore possible that the issue of the authorized banknotes did not follow the numerical order, or that the overprint was applied at least partially on banknotes still at the cash register.

Regarding the 090199, it could also be an error during the overprinting, as two sheets could have been stuck together during the printing process.



Signatories : J. Corvalán and D. De la Vega



PS-504a      NC-237a      BA-143b  
Two autographed signatures      **without overprint**

Printing of October, 1874      000001 - 020000  
in circulation from November 1, 1875 till June 25, 1880

PS-504b	NC-237b	BA-143
Only one autographed signature		<b>without overprint</b>
Printing of October, 1874		020001 - 028000
<b>this variant remains to be confirmed</b>		





PS-504b NC-237e BA-143a  
 Typographed signature of Gastelumendi **without overprint**  
 printing of October, 1874 **020001 - 091750**  
 in circulation from March 6, 1878 till June 25, 1880

PS-516 NC-237c BA-156a →  
 Two autographed signatures **with 1876 overprint**  
 Printing of October, 1874 **000001 - 020000**  
 in circulation from June 9, 1877 till June 25, 1880

PS-516a NC-237d BA-156b  
 Only one autographed signature **with 1876 overprint**  
 Printing of October, 1874 **020001 - 028000**  
**this variant remains to be confirmed**



Signatories : J. Corvalán and Diego de la Vega



← PS-516b NC-237f BA-156b  
Typographed signature of Gastelumendi **with 1876 overprint**  
printing of October, 1874 **028001 - 091750**  
in circulation from March 6, 1878 till June 25, 1880

PS-504	NC-237	BA-143s
specimen		
no illustration available to date		





← PS-504 NC-237g BA-143s  
Obverse proof with serial number 00000  
six cancellation holes



← PS-504 NC-237h BA-143s  
Reverse proof  
Without perforations



PS-504      NC-237g      BA-143s →  
 Obverse proof with serial number **0 00001**  
**With position letters**  
 Four cancellation holes



← PS-504      NC-237g      BA-143s  
 obverse proof without serial number  
**without position letters**  
 six cancellation holes



### FRACTIONAL NOTES OF THE ISSUE OF JANUARY 1, 1869 – SECOND SERIES

In April 1875 the range was completed by two unusual denominations, namely 8 and 16 *centésimos fuertes*. One is entitled to wonder what these notes rhymed with, since the value was close to those of 10 and 20 centésimos. It is necessary to see possibly a correspondence with respect to the peso moneda corriente, the denomination of 8 centésimos corresponding to 2 \$m.c., that of 16 cts to 4 \$ m.c., and those of 10, 20 and 40 cts. respectively 2,50 \$m/c., 5 \$m/c. and 10 \$m/c. It is also possible that it was used to exchange the Bolivian coins of 20 centavos that circulated with a disagio in some Provinces, but constituted the bulk of the species in the Provinces of the North and the West.

### 8 centésimos fuertes

PS-500 / 512

NC-233

BA-139 / 152

Frame  $\approx 99 \times 57$  mm

print run : 5'000'000 \*

position letters A to L

\* The issuance of this denomination ceased on March 31, 1881, leaving a balance of 3,860,000 notes not issued (Nº 095001 to 416667).

The vignette of the obverse, *Minerva No. 2*, was engraved by James Bannister. ABNCº will resume it in 1876 in Peru (Banco de Trujillo, 20 centavos), from 1899 in Paraguay (50 centavos 1899 - 1916), then in 1905 in Greece (5 Dr. P.54, reverse)!

This small note has two peculiarities:

1. There is an error in the value in numbers: 0.8, while the correct form would be 0.08.
2. On both sides is at the top the name of a personality whose portrait is not reproduced:



The Colonel of the Navy, **Tomás Espora** (Buenos Aires, September 19, 1800 - July 25, 1835) was passionate about navigation from an early age and embarked at the age of 15 as a foam on a corvette. He was the first Argentinean to circumnavigate the world and became, at the age of 19, the youngest commander of a warship. He participated in the War of Independence in the Pacific under Admiral Guillermo Brown at Callao and Guayaquil, then attacked the Spanish on the road to the Philippines and distinguished himself in the war against Brazil. He replaced the ailed Admiral Brown who appointed Espora general commander of the navy when he became governor of the Province of Buenos Aires. Accused of having participated in the revolutionary movement of December 1, 1828, he resigned and died soon after, depressed and ill because of this slander.



Up to serial number 005000, the notes were signed by two of the following officials :

Arturo Arias, Marcos Duval, Honorio Ginesta, Daniel Latham et Federico Tejerina.

From n° 005001 till 025000, they were signed by one of the following :

Arturo Arias  
Juan Buteler

Domingo Capella  
Marcos Duval

Honorio Ginesta  
Daniel Latham

Nicolás Robles  
Hilario Romero

Federico Tejerina

From n° 025001 up to n° 125000, the notes have the typographed signature of the director of the *Oficina de Habilitación de Billetes* of the Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, José C. Gastelumendi.

The cutting of this issue is often very approximate and copies with full margins are rare.



signatories : Arturo Arias / Marcos Duval



signatories : Daniel Latham / Federico Tejerina

PS-500a

NC-233a

BA-143

**Two handwritten signatures without overprint**

Printing of April 1875

**000001 - 005000**

in circulation from November 1, 1875, till March 31, 1881



signatory : Juan Buteler

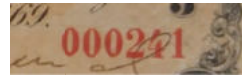


signatory : Nicolás Robles

PS-500b	NC-233b	BA-143
Only one handwritten signature		without overprint
Printing of April 1875		005001 - 025000 ?
in circulation from November 1, 1875 till March 31, 1881		



At first, a 16 mm long dialer was used, to quickly switch to a 14 mm one before returning to a new 16 mm, but with tighter numbers and a little higher than the first, perhaps to make it easier to read the number :



a - 16 mm



b - 14 mm



c - 16 mm

It remains to be determined when the change took place.

PS-512

NC-233c

BA-152a

Two handwritten signatures

**with 1876 overprint**

Printing of April 1875

005001 - 005000 ?

in circulation from March 9, 1878 till March 31, 1881

**The existence of this variety is unlikely.**

PS-512a

NC-233d

BA-152

Only one handwritten signature

**with 1876 overprint**

Printing of April 1875 005001 - 025000 ?

in circulation from March 9, 1878 till March 31, 1881

**The existence of this variety is unlikely.**



without countermark



with countermark number



PS-512b



NC-233e



BA-152b

Typographed signature of Gastelumendi (with or w/o countermark number)

with 1876 overprint

Printing of April 1875

025001 - 095000 \*

in circulation from March 9, 1878 till March 31, 1881

\* This figure can go up to 416667, if the notes were not issued in the numerical order: one can imagine that the various branches received lots with consecutive numbers, but did not put them all into circulation and returned the balance for destruction. This is only a hypothesis, but it is worth considering.





PS-500	NC-237f specimen	BA-139s
no illustration available to date		

← PS-500      NC-237g      BA-139p  
Reverse proof in orange



PS-500      NC-237f      BA-143s  
Proof on thin paper,  
Without serial number **nor position letter.**



PS-500      NC-237g      BA-139p  
Reverse proof on thin paper

### 16 centésimos fuertes

PS-502 / 514

NC-235

BA-141 / 154

Frame  $\approx 107 \times 56$  mm

print run : 2'500'000 \*

position letters A to J.

\* The issuance of this denomination ceased on 30 April 1878, leaving a balance of 2.040'000 tickets not issued (n° 046001 to 250000).



Colonel **Luis Argerich** (Buenos Aires 23 August 1791 - 28 October 1839) began his military career in 1810 as a cadet in Ferdinand VII's grenadier regiment. He rose through the ranks of the military hierarchy and participated in the sieges of Montevideo, then enlisted in the army of Upper Peru before entering the arsenal. He continued his career in the artillery and received the cordon and the golden shield for his bravery at the Battle of Ituzaingó against the Brazilians on February 20, 1827. He ran the artillery park until his accidental death following a fall on the stairs of the town hall.



Up to n° 005000, the notes were signed by two of the following officials :

Arturo Arias, Hilario Romero et Federico Vivanco.

From n° 005001 and up to n° 035000, they were signed by one of the following :

Arturo Arias

Marcos Duval

Hilario Romero

Manuel Basavilbaso

Enrique Moldes

Domingo Sasso

Samuel Canaveris

Pantaleón Molina

Federico Vivanco

José M. Corvalán

Mariano Reynal

From n° 03500 on, they have the fac-simile signature in typography of José C. Gastelumendi, director of the *Oficina de Habilitación de Billetes* of the Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires.



Several types of dialers were used (see the police of "4") :



a - 14 mm



b - 17 mm



c - 19 mm



d - 16 mm



signatories : Hilario Romero and Arturo Arias.

PS-502a	NC-235a	BA-141
<b>Two handwritten signatures</b>		<b>without overprint</b>
Printing of April 1875	000001 - 005000	
in circulation from November 1, 1875 till April 30, 1878		

PS-502b	NC-235b	BA-141
<b>Only one handwritten signature</b>		<b>without overprint</b>
Printing of April 1875	005001 - 035000	
in circulation from November 1, 1875 till March 31, 1878		
<b>this variety requires confirmation !</b>		

The overprinting of these notes had to be done without considering the number, perhaps for the same reasons of circulation by the branches. Similarly, there are inconsistencies in handwritten signatures (see 034304!)



Signatories : Federico Vivanco and Marcos Duval, dialer type c

← PS-512a NC-235c BA-154  
Two handwritten signatures with 1876 overprint  
Printing of April 1875 000001 - 035000  
in circulation from June 9, 1877 till April 30, 1878

PS-512a NC-235d BA-154  
Only one handwritten signature with 1876 overprint  
Printing of April 1875 005001 - 035000  
↙ ↓ in circulation from June 9, 1877 till April 30, 1878



Signatory : Pantaleón Molina, dialer type b



Signatory : Sasso, dialer type d





PS-512b NC-235e BA-154b  
Typographed signature of José C. Gastelumendi (with countermark number)

**with 1876 overprint**

Printing of April 1875 035001 - 046000  
en circulation from June 9, 1877 till April 30, 1878



PS-502 NC-235g BA-143s  
Obverse proof on thin paper, without serial number  
Four cancellation holes



PS-502 NC-235h BA-143s  
Reverse on thin paper, without perforations