

SPAIN 1873 – 1875: FROM THE FIRST REPUBLIC TO ALFONSO XII

From February 11, 1873, when the 1st Republic was established, until the restoration of the Bourbon monarchy on December 29, 1874, there was a short period of 23 months, which, however, is considered one of the most convulsive and tragic of the History of Spain. The disorders and dissent that originated among the republican parties with the succession of four appointments of presidents, ended with the dissolution of the Republican Courts on June 30, 1874, which was followed by the Federal Republic, under the presidency of General Zavala, conserving the Presidency of the Executive Power General Serrano.

To the generalized disorder derived from the partisan struggles between the different factions, the military uprisings and civil wars in the peninsula and Cuba, and the separatist outbreaks in Cartagena, Cádiz, Malaga and Seville, are added in this period, which entail considerable economic costs for the Public finances. In order to obtain resources to alleviate the desperate situation, a War Tax was introduced that was collected through special stamps, which had to be applied to almost everything that until then had needed postage stamps or tax stamps. These stamps were used from January 1, 1874 to April 30, 1879.

The total of 26 stamps that comprise this philatelic period is represented in this collection with the following distribution:

Issue of July 1, 1873. - Mural crown and allegory of the Republic.

Frame I. - Seven sheets dedicated to 4/4 cts. green, including the sheet with the blue Error. Five sheets with the 2 cts.+ orange and three of the 5 cts. pink.

Frame II. - Follow the 5 cts. pink. Eight sheets dedicated to 10 cts. green, which include forged stamps. Six sheets with 20 cts. black.

Frame III. - Five sheets dedicated to 25 cts. brown. Seven with the 40 cts. violet chestnut. Four sheets dedicated to 50 cts. blue.

Frame IV. - Three sheets of 50 cts.. Four sheets with the value of Una Peseta purple, among which the certified letter to France stands out. The issue of 1873 ends with two sheets dedicated to each of the two highest values: **4 Pesetas chestnut** and **10 Pesetas chestnut violet, of which no cards are known.**

Issue of January 1, 1874.-Coat of arms of Spain.- War Tax.

Frame IV follows with three sheets dedicated to the black 5 Cent. and another three at 10 Cent. blue.

Emission of July 1, 1874.- Allegory of Justice.

Frame V. - Six sheets dedicated to 2 cts. yellow, four to 5 cts. violet and six to 10 cts. blue.

Frame VI. - Four sheets dedicated to 20 cts. green; six dedicated to 25 cts. brown and six dedicated to 40 cts. violet, of which the three letters to Italy stand out, **as well as the two registered letter to France.**

Frame VII. - Eight sheets dedicated to 50 Cts. yellow, highlighting especially **the certificates with this value to New York and Uruguay**, the four letters to Italy, and the three examples with tricolor postage to Buenos Aires. Seven sheets dedicated to the green 1 Peseta, of which we **especially highlight the letter to Veracruz with forged stamps, the certificate to Chile**, the letter to Guadalajara, as well as the one from Ceuta to Genova, and the letter without Spanish postage stamps from Ceuta to Sondrio (Italy).

Frame VIII. - It begins with two sheets dedicated to each of the two highest and rarest values of this issue: **4 Pesetas carmine** and **10 Pesetas black.**

Issue of October 1, 1874.- Shield of Spain.

Frame VIII follows with four sheets dedicated to the 10 Cent. brown.

Issue of January 1, 1875.- Shield of Spain. War Tax.

Frame VIII continues and ends with five pages dedicated to the 5 Cent. green and another three dedicated to 10 Cent. purple.