Belgrano’s intentions seem to indicate the desire of having a flag of permanent character with an agenda of becoming the flag of a State. On the other hand, the statehood aspired by Belgrano and his flag did not spell out the required control of a populated territory and sovereignty. It seems that this flag of “national” character was supposed to be the flag for The United Provinces of the River Plate, which included present Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. The Government was appalled by the idea of a “national flag,” but at the same time tolerated the display of the color blue and white not as a national flag of permanent character but as a party/ideological flag of temporary character and function. Furthermore, the Government had neither political or military control over the whole of the territory and population it proclaimed to preside and represent.

The teaching of history in Argentina is vertical and monolithic perhaps as a result of being a young nation with a past of civil war and unrest. Argentine children are taught one official history, of one father of the country, and one creator of the flag. Therefore, for Argentines, the idea of many flags as part of their patrimony is new, somehow foreign, and resisted by some. Works of this kind are trying to achieve in the conscience of the people the idea of belonging to a greater culture whose understanding is of the utmost importance for the future of any nation. Knowledge of this heritage will produce cultural dialogue enabling the explanation of misunderstandings which kept people apart from each other.

Two types of sources have been used to complete this work; Direct Source- a) visiting museums and collections where the actual flags can be seen, as well as contemporary drawings or paintings. b) Using coins, medals, and uniforms. The second source of information are documents which we could sub-divide in official documents and publications, and work published by private individuals. The bibliography consulted is of public domain; however, the author has researched public and private archives from vexillologists of Argentina, Spain, France and the United States. Much of the information provided in this work are from previous essays by this author given in International Congresses of vexillology, or in vexillological publications. Some of these works are: “Provincial Arms of Argentina,” “Federal Flags,” “The Flag of the Argentine Confederation,” “The Flag of the Andes.” The corresponding bibliography is noted on each of these works.
For better understanding we have used Italics indicating actual quotes from official documents, names and titles of protagonists, and descriptions of flags.

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