"The Playing Cards Embody a Scientific Record of the Great Pyramid."

Dr. J. B. Schmalz

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The following pages are devoted to a careful analysis of the playing cards, showing that they present in their construction a numerical arrangement, in reduced ratio as one to one hundred, corresponding exactly to the most important dimensions in inches, of the Pyramid of "Cheops"; it is further shown that the picture cards suggest the 12 original designers of the great pyramid — a sworn, secret order, having the knowledge of the plan of Cosmos as interpreted geometrically by the quadrature of a circle, and divinely inspired to incorporate this plan in a monument that would stand as a symbol and record of this great truth, for all posterity and all time. The writer is not competent to add one word or thought to the marvellous information that the greatest scientific minds have given the world regarding this grand monument in the Libyan desert, the central storehouse of Religion and Science; his aim is merely to apply the most important average dimensions of the Great Pyramid, as given by several of the ablest authorities on this subject, to the playing cards, thereby showing an exact ratio correspondence.

The inch or earth commensurated unit of linear measurement, as well as the larger standard of 25 inches — the accepted standard Pyramid Cubit is used in the card values as well as in the dimensions of the Great Pyramid. It is a singular fact that there is positively no authentic information regarding the origin and intention of the playing cards, although many theories have been advanced concerning their age and nationality; and the honor of their invention has been claimed, at one period or another, by almost every race of civilized people. A great number of students and investigators believe that the cards are of Indian origin, outdating all historic periods ; while many others claim that they were invented in Europe about the middle of the 14th century. The English, Spanish, Germans, French and Arabians have been most persistant in their claims, and from these countries many amusing and childish stories have emanated regarding the origin and intention of the cards : however, amid all these conflicting claims, only one thing is absolutely certain ; namely, that the cards date back to the remotest antiquity, their true historic origin being lost in the night of time. It is generally supposed that the earliest cards were made of wood, parchment or the skins of animals; although, from all accounts, it is safe to say that the general rect-

angular shape, and their dimensions, as well as the numerical arrangement on the face of the cards, together with the figures and designs on the picture cards and their total number 53, has not been materially or permanently altered from time immemorial to the present day. Many changes were indeed made from time to time, but they were only temporarily in vogue, and soon gave way to the original designs which are, with a few exceptions, in general use to-day the world over. The cards were known to the Spanish as " Naipes ", which is derived from an arabic word " Nabaa " signifying divination, foretelling future events etc. We know that for many centuries the cards have been closely associated with the gypsies, who have been largely instrumental in popularizing them throughout Europe. " Gypsy " means "Egyptian," hence this nomadic people from the desert evidently brought the cards from the Orient. The word " Chartæ " in Latin means paper and was used in the Orient originally associated with the idea of four (4) as meaning square, and in Germany the word " Briefe " is used instead of cards, and means message or letter; it will be seen, that nothing could point more pertinently to the mission of the cards as being a message from a square *i. e.* something having four sides; and this we take to mean the Great Pyramid,

which has a square base, four upright sides, four corner stones, etc. This has further significance when we consider that the figure four (4) runs through the whole pack of the cards, there being four aces, four deuces, four three's etc. through the entire arrangement.

As the cards have come to us from such antiquity and through many races of people, it is quite remarkable to note that their original markings, shape and dimensions have been most marvelously preserved to us; and this fact makes it look possible, if not quite probable, that the same mystic brotherhood that designed the Great Pyramid, have written the story of their " Sun Temple " in the universal language of number in the cards.

Of the 53 cards in the pack, 52 are called playing cards; and the 53rd, the joker, is the *rejected card*, but is assigned greater value than any other when used at all in playing a game with the cards.

The picture cards present an oriental type of coloring and design, and the figures look as though they were carved from stone; while the countenances are serious, expressing earnestness of thought. The attitude and expression of the figures on the picture cards, together

with the symbols accompanying them, forceably suggest a mystic order sworn to secrecy, and possessing information of a very momentous nature. This information the writer claims, and will presently endeavor to prove, through the number correspondences of the card values to the Great Pyramid dimensions, to be the scientific, astronomical, astrological and religious knowledge embodied in this monument. In other words, to state the point more plainly: — the writer claims that the number values embodied in the cards are identical with the number values or measurements of the Great Pyramid and, further, that both are based on the quadrature of a circle ; hence it is reasonable to conclude that the picture cards also show a relation to the Great Pyramid ; viz., that they symbolize the designers of this remarkable edifice.

The king of diamonds, with his right hand raised, seems to be taking or administering the oath of the order ; and back of him an axe is suspended, suggesting the method of punishment in case the oath is violated.

The king of hearts, the king of clubs, and the king of spades each carry a two-edge sword in a threatening attitude, as though they, also, were guarding with the sword some great secret knowledge or profession of faith.

The four queens each hold a flower, the symbol of birth, unfoldment, development, symmetry, sweetness and beauty; it suggests regeneration and immortality; in other words, it is a creative symbol embodying all that the word implies. From time immemorial it has been woman's duty and pleasure to adorn and beautify her place of worship with flowers, and, in a sense, this gracious office auguments, in large measure, her interpretation of religious ceremonial. As a symbol of creation it typifies everything of the highest human, vital interest to the race, and hence forms a most sacred and appropriate offering of worship.

That woman should fulfill this beautiful mission is most fitting, for in her sacred office of motherhood does she not have large part in giving form and beauy to the *temple*, the human body?

The jack of hearts holds a feather — the symbol of minute, accurate weight *i. e.* note the significance of the term "a feathers weight". We may here call attention to the well known fact that the Great Pyramid embodies, in its construction, the origin of weights and measures.*

*See—"Our Inheritance in the Great Pyramid" by Piazzi Smyth.

The jack of spades holds an hour glass — indicating accurate time. This symbol calls attention to the division of the 24 hour day, or the Earth's rotation on its axis from west to east.
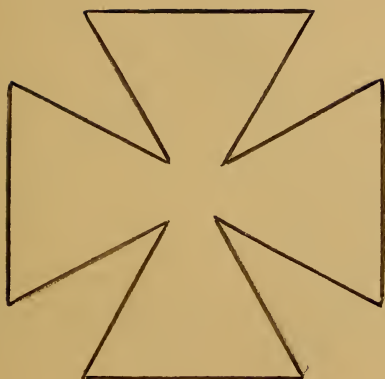
The jack of clubs and the jack of diamonds are each evidently holding a standard of measurement ; and as these differ, the measure held by one may indicate the inch standard, and the other the larger standard of 25 inches or the pyramid cubit, both of which are accepted linear standards of pyramid measurement.
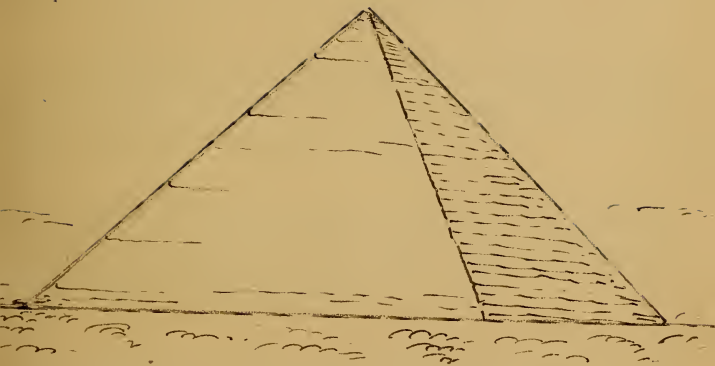
We may here call attention to the fact long since established by Pyramid authorities, that the inch or linear unit is an even one five hundred millionth part of the Earth's polar axis, this being the only invariable straight line for every part of the Earth's surface ; and that this fact was known to the architects of the Great Pyramid, and, together with the 25 inch or cubit, was used by them as a standard of all Pyramid dimensions.

Stars have always been largely used in ornamenting the reverse side of the cards; this may point merely to the general relation of the cards to astronomy, as will shortly be pointed out, or it may allude to the particular star " A Draconis ", one of the Pleiades, which, according to Prof.

Piazzi Smyth and other authorities was on a line with the entrance passage on the north side of the Great Pyramid about 4,000 years ago, being the polar star at that time.

The *Maltese Cross* is generally incorporated in the design of the picture cards. It is the Pyramid symbol, and its origin, like that of the cards, is shrouded in obscurity. Why it is known as the Maltese Cross the writer has been unable to definitely ascertain, although it probably came into prominence, in modern times, through some mystic society on the Island of Malta, who adopted it as the emblem of their order; hence the name (Maltese Cross). This Cross is in general use throughout the world, and wherever found it is a standard for the highest moral, ethical, religious and scientific principles. It is undoubtedly one of the most ancient of symbols, as it is found on nearly all of the ancient oriental temples, as well as on the pyramid temples of Central America and Mexico; it also appears on the rude stone monuments and rock carvings found on nearly every part of the Globe, the origin of which we have no authentic record. At this time, secret societies and religious orders of various kinds use the Maltese Cross as an emblem, and yet, it is doubtful if any really understand its true significance as the symbol of the Great Pyramid. As seen in the accompan-

ing illustration, the Maltese Cross is composed of the four triangular sides of a pyramid, the apex of which forms the common centre. It can be clearly demonstrated that the Maltese Cross is the pyramid; viz, if the cross is cut out of paper and the centre raised until the adjacent sides of the triangles meet, a perfect pyramid is formed. These facts add one more link to the chain of evidence connecting the cards with the Great Pyramid.

The astronomical record depicted in the cards relates to the Solar year and its divisions into days, weeks, months, seasons and lunar circuits, as follows : —

The added value of the spot cards in each suit, from ace 1 to the 10 spot inclusive, equals 55. The value of the 4 suits equals 4 times 55 or 220.

The jack follows the 10 spot in each suit, hence it is the eleventh card, and in number value equals 11. The queen is the twelfth card in each suit, and in number value equals 12.

The king is the thirteenth card in each suit, and in number value equals 13.

The total number value of the three picture cards (jack, king, queen) in each suit, equals 36; hence the total number value of the picture cards in the four suits, equals 4 times 36 or 144.

220 (total value of spot cards) plus

144 ("   "   " picture "   ) equals

364. This number (364) plus the joker value 1.24, equals 365.24 or the days in a Solar year.

It is evident, from all the facts deducible that the designers of the cards knew as well as did the designers of the Great Pyramid, that it takes 365.24 days to complete one revolution of the Earth around the Sun; hence we give the joker the unit value, plus 24/100.

The 52 playing cards symbolize the weeks in a year

"   12 picture   "   "   " months   "

"   4 suits or denominations symbolize the seasons or solstices in a year.

The 13 cards in each suit symbolize the 13 lunar circuits in a year.

It will be seen, by this interpretation, that the cycle or circle of the *year* is the one emphasized in the cards. It is apparent that the year cycle of 365.24 days is the most important and notable one relating to man, when we consider the fact that his entire divisions of time are based

upon it; and the fact that this cycle is emphasized in the card values has still further significance, when we take into account that the *perimeter of base* of the pyramid of "Cheops" is an even 100 times this cycle number in inches *i. e.* 100 times 365.24 equals 36524, this being the total number of inches contained in the perimeter of base of the Great Pyramid. It may be here noted that the coptic word "pi-re-mit", from which pyramid is derived, means "the measure of ten"; and this has direct relation to the decimal system, which is of arabic or Egyptian origin, and is found in each of the four suits of the cards; viz, ace or 1 to the 10 spot or 10.

The four suits also represent the Orientation of the Great Pyramid; viz, its relation to the four cardinal points of the compass, (north, east, south and west) which is more nearly exact in its orientation than any other edifice in the world.

The king, queen and jack in each suit symbolize the simplest geometrical figure — the triangle or the trinity — Father, Mother, Son. We have four of these triangles, or groups of three pictures cards, in the four suits, typifying the 4 triangular sides of the Great Pyramid. The four

denominations of the cards; viz, hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades, symbolize the 4 corner stones of the Great Pyramid; these stones are the basic, hence most important, stones used in the process of construction, as they determine the angles and lines of base on which the edifice is built.

These denominations also typify the 4 basic elements in nature; viz, fire, water, air and earth; in other words the heart typifies the animal, and the element fire; the diamond typifies the mineral, and the element water; the club or clover leaf typifies the vegetable, and the element air; the spade typifies the metal, and the element earth.

All pyramid authorities claim, and rightly so, that the Pyramid of Cheops is the only pyramid known, whose dimensions are based on the quadrature of a circle. More than this — there is no known structure or edifice on earth that incorporates, in its construction, the geometric proportion of the quadrature. Hence, if we can show that the accepted average dimensions of the Great Pyramid are found in the card values, the fact is clearly established that the playing cards embody, in their arrangement, a scientific record of the Great Pyramid.

The priciple average dimensions of "Cheops", as accepted by the best pyramid authorities, will now be separately given, together with the corresponding card values.

1st. Each of the four base lines of Cheops is 9131 inches long. In the cards, each of the 4 suits represents one of four triangular sides of the pyramid; and the total number value of each suit equals 91.31; *i. e.*, ace or 1 to 10 spot inclusive equals 55
jack (11) queen (12) king (13) equals . . . 36
<div align="center">together   91.</div>

The joker symbolizes the capstone of the pyramid — (the stone the builders rejected); it is also the card that the *players reject.*

The number value of the joker is 1.24, and this belongs equally to the 4 suits, hence $\frac{1}{4}$ of it or .31 belongs to each suit: 91 plus .31 equals 91.31.

Now the card values are to pyramid dimensions in the ratio of 1 to 100, as heretofore stated; hence we must multiply the card value 91.31 by 100, which gives 9131, the exact number of pyramid inches in each base line of "Cheops".

2nd. The perimeter of base of the Great Pyramid (or 4 times 9131 inches) is 36524 inches; hence it will be seen that in this number (36524) the number of days in a Solar year occurs 100 times; *i. e.*, 100 times 365.24 equals 36524. The total *number values* of the cards, as previously given is 365.24 or, in the ratio of 1 to 100 gives the exact number found in the perimeter of base of " Cheops ".

3rd. The vertical height of the Great Pyramid is 5813 pyramid inches; now in the cards, 3 distinct features are noticeable in each of the four suits; viz, the decimal system, as expressed by the ace or 1 to the 10 spot; the trinity or triangle, as expressed by the king, queen and jack; and, lastly, the whole number 13, as expressed by the thirteen cards in each suit.

The decimal system equals   55
The trinity, as unit values, equals   3
<div align="center">together</div>   58
This number multiplied by 100 gives us 5800.

It will be seen that the number 13 is really incorporated in the value 58, since the 13 cards in the suit were used to obtain it; but it must also be expressed as a distinctive

feature, hence 13 added to 5800 gives us 5813, the exact number of pyramid inches in the vertical height of " Cheops ".

Again, taking the card ratio of pyramid height; viz, 58.13 (which incorporates the 3 cardinal features in each suit, as expressed above) four times for the value of the 4 suits, we have 232.52, or the exact length in *metres* of each base line of the Great Pyramid. Taking 232.52 as cubits of 25 inches each we again have 5813 inches or the vertical height of Cheops.

The height of the Great Pyramid, or 5813 inches, is the radius of a circle whose diameter is equal to twice this number, or 11626 inches; and whose area is equal to the area of the base of the pyramid, or 36524 inches. *perimeter*

Hence, we have, 11626 is to 36524 as 1 is to 3.14159+ or in card values 58.13 is to 91.31 x 2, as 1 is to 3.14159+ : both of which it will be seen, are based on the quadrature of a circle.

Taking the average card dimensions; viz, 2.504 inches x 3.504 inches we have the area number 8.774 for each card; hence the area number for the 53 cards is 53x8.774 or 465.022.

The 13 cards in each suit plus $\frac{1}{4}$ of the joker card (which symbolizes the cap-stone and belongs equally to each of the four suits) gives us $13\frac{1}{4}$ cards. Hence the area of $13\frac{1}{4}$ cards (each suit) equals $13\frac{1}{4}$ times 8.774 or 116.26.

This number 116.26 represents the diameter of the year cycle 365.24, which is also the total *number value of the cards.*

Taking the area value of the 53 cards, or the number 465.022, as cubits, we have 25 x 465.022 or 11626 inches, which is the exact number of inches in the diameter of the circle equal in area to the base of the Great Pyramid.

One half of the total area value of the cards: viz, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 465.022, equals 232.511. This number, taken as cubits, gives 25 times 232.511 or 5813 inches, the exact vertical height of " Cheops ".

Pyramid authorities claim that the inch, in pyramid dimensions, is intended to typify the year cycle of 365.24 days; and since this number is incorporated 100 times in the perimeter of base of the Great Pyramid, the perimeter is evidently intenden to typify the large circle of 36524 years. Further, the human gestation period is 17/24 of 365.24

days or 258.71 days; * and since 365.24 is the total number value of the cards, the card relation here is evident; viz, the human gestation period of 258.71 days is 17/24 of the total number value of the cards, which, in the ratio of 1 to 100, is the sum of the two diagonals of base of the Great Pyramid; viz, 25871 inches.

Again, taking 17/24 of 36524 years, we have 25871 years — the Precessional Cycle or the great siderial year; *i. e.*, the time required for the pole of the heavens to circle round the pole of the ecliptic. The human gestation period of 258.71 days, or in round numbers 259 days, is again incorporated in the cards in the following manner; viz, the decimal system in each suit or

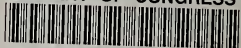|	
4 times 55 equals	220
Jack (11) queen (12) king (13) equals . .	36
The triangle or trinity number . . , .	3
total equals	259

Only one more important relation of the cards to the pyramid will be noted; viz, the 52 playing cards symbolize the angle of rise of the faces of the Great Pyramid to the Horizon, which is about 52 degrees.

* See my "Zodiac of the Human Face" Page 15.

The writer has considered, in this brief analysis, only the cardinal and well authenticated features of the Great Pyramid in their relation to the cards; but enough evidence has been adduced to fully substantiate his claim that the cards are the original book of record of the pyramid of Cheops, the most wonderful edifice in all the world; and that the book of cards, written in the universal language of number and symbolism, is undoubtedly the oldest, and, in time, may be found to be, the most remarkable book in man's possession.