UNITED STATES COINAGE & THE GREAT PYRAMID

We are indebted to Dr. Watson F. Quimby for the following letter, wherein he ingeniously points out a most curious analogy between the measurements and weights of the Great Pyramid and those of our several coins. Dr Quimby says:

"In the admirable work of Professor Piazzi Smyth entitled 'Our Inheritance in the Great Pyramid,' it is shown that the Great Pyramid of Egypt contains in its interior, standards of inch measure, while the exterior gives the same standards in the sacred cubit of twenty-five inches. One of the most important units of measure is the length of the so-called King's Chamber, which is 412·5 English inches, and its breadth 206·2 inches. Now our silver coinage corresponds to these numbers, as the 'dollar of the fathers' weighs 412·5 grs., the half dollar 206·2 grs., and the quarter dollar 103·1 grs., which last is a very important Pyramid number. On enquiring at that mint why the silver dollar was made of this weight, I was informed that it was the weight of a coin that would readily pass current in the Eastern Asiatic trade. It is therefore a traditional coin, by whatever name it may have been known, for thousands of years.

But not only does the silver coinage correspond to the inch standard of the Pyramid, but our gold coinage corresponds to the cubit measure. The height of the Pyramid in sacred cubits is 232·5, and our gold eagle, the unit of gold coinage, weighs 232·2 grs., and the half eagle 116·1 grs.

The relation of these numbers is such that 'the area of a square having 103·03 on the side, is equal to the area of a circle having 116·26 for its diameter.' (Philips.) Now as there are 360 degrees in the circumference of a circle, its diameter in terms of seconds is 412529, and its circumference is 1296000. Then the number 412·5 is the thousandth part of the diameter of a circle in terms of seconds, and 1296, the number of square inches in an English square yard, is the thousandth part of the circumference of a circle in terms of seconds. This at once connects English with Pyramid measure, and may indicate the origin of both.

From the standard square yard all the rest of our measures may be deduced. The old English gallon contains 231 cubic inches, which is a number immediately between the height of the Pyramid in cubits 232·5, and the height of the King's Chamber in inches, 230·89. The diameter of a circle is to the side of a square of equal area, as 9 to 8 very nearly.

9 : 8 : : 116·023 : 103·132.

It thus appears that in the weights of the quarter dollar and the half eagle we have had the squaring of the circle problem typified without knowing it."—*Scientific American.*

Circa: 1900