

R. CHANONY.  
PLAYING-CARDS.

No. 182,166.

Patented Sept. 12, 1876.

Fig. 1.

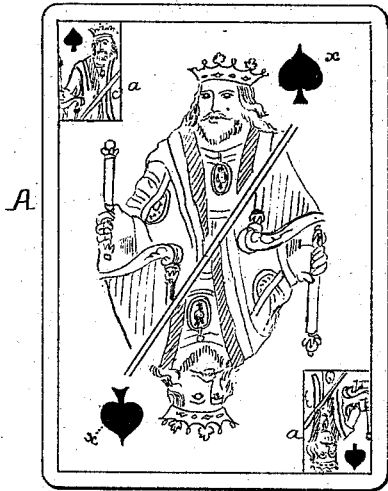


Fig. 2.

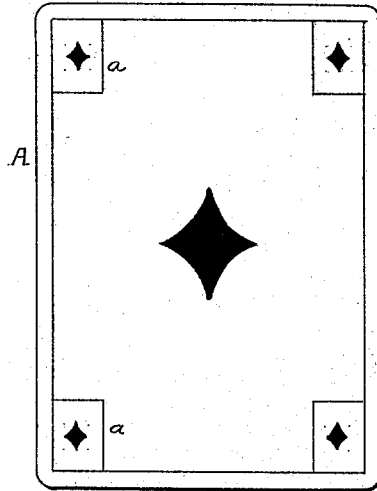
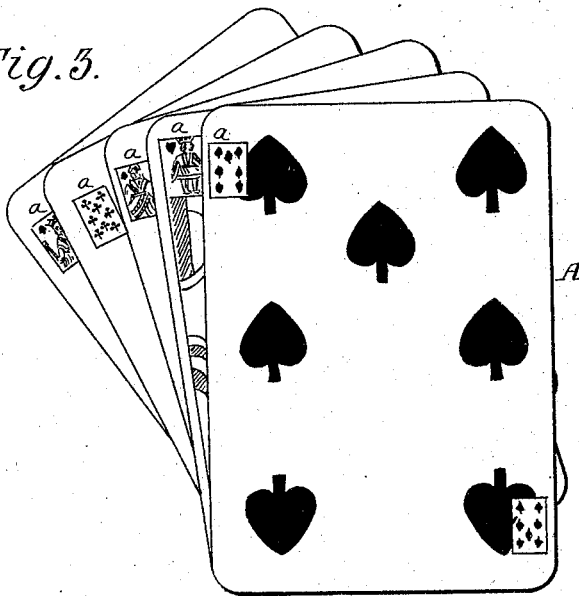


Fig. 3.



Attest:

George Thom  
Courtney A. Cooper

Robert Chanony  
By his atty.  
Charles Foster

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ROBERT CHANONY, OF MONTPELLIER, (HERAULT,) FRANCE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PLAYING-CARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **182,166**, dated September 12, 1876; application filed August 28, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, ROBERT CHANONY, gentleman, of Montpellier, (Herault,) in France, have invented Improvements in Playing-Cards, of which the following is a specification :

The object of my invention is to improve playing-cards by rendering it possible for players to distinguish the cards in their hands without exposing them, so as to be distinguished by their opponents, and yet without departing from the well-known conventional figures or emblems which give character to the cards; and this I accomplish by combining with each card one or more miniature representations thereof, as shown in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view, showing my improved card; Fig. 2, a modification; Fig. 3, a "hand" of the improved cards arranged for playing.

The faces of my improved cards A are of the usual conventional character, which it has been found impossible to depart from materially without detracting from their commercial value, and in one or more of the corners of each card is a miniature representation, *a*, of the face of same card, of such a size that it may be exposed without materially exposing any definite portion of the main figure. Thus the holder in arranging his hand places the cards, as shown in Fig. 3, to expose only the miniature figures, which are readily discovered by himself, although too small to be distinguished by his opponent. When the card is played the full-sized emblems or figures are readily discernible by all the players.

The main advantage of my improvement results from the retention, in both the large and in the smaller figures, of the well-known or conventional forms, whereby the cards are rendered available for use by card-players without the necessity of first ascertaining and

learning the value and meaning of any arbitrary or unusual symbol.

In order to prevent the distinguishing emblem *x* on "court" cards from being obscured by the miniature figures *a*, as well as to facilitate the use of cards by left-handed players, I may transfer the emblem from its usual position at the left of the main figure to a position at the right, as shown in Fig. 2.

The cards may be single or double—that is, with the main figure duplicated, so as to use either end uppermost, and in the latter case it will be advisable to facilitate such use of the safety device to have the miniature figures *a* in two corners diagonally opposite, as in Fig. 1; but miniature figures may, if desired, be placed in all the corners, as shown in Fig. 2.

I claim—

1. A playing-card the face of which consists of the usual figure or emblem, together with a miniature representation of itself arranged in one of the corners, as and for the purpose specified.

2. A triplicate playing-card the face of which consists of the usual figure or spots, and two miniature representations of said figure or spots, arranged at diagonally-opposite corners, as and for the purpose shown and described.

3. A pack of playing-cards in which the court-cards have at the left of each main figure a miniature representation of the card itself, and the usual distinguishing emblem at the right, as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT CHANONY.

Witnesses:

SEVERIN SCHÜTZ,  
BAYNAUD FRANZ.