*COPST   **LAMONT CRANSTON**

LAMONT CRANSTON offers some excellent advice on solving Patristocrat ciphers in his JA91 Cm article, *The Rookie's Guide to Solving Pats.* We have highlighted some of his principal points:

1) **Running the ciphertext letters together** helps in spotting repeated digraphs, trigraphs and pattern words.
2) **Make a frequency Count** to determine which high or low frequency ciphertext letters may represent high and low frequency letters in the crib.
3) **Check for repeated digraphs and trigraphs,** sometimes easier to spot in Patristocrats than Aristocrats because they are more likely to contain words like "the, that, and, etc."
4) **Don't Forget the Key Alphabet.** The crib may lead to some part of the keyword alphabet keyword or WXYZ ciphertext may lead you to plaintext "ghjk."
5) **Be aware of the title's** possibility into suggesting words that may be in the plaintext.
6) **Keep a Record of Your Misses** to avoid trying the same combinations more than once.

Free Code and Cipher Books –Place an order. The mailing is also free.   *Codes, Secret Writing* – Gardner
Code Breaker in the Far East - Stripp   *Cryptanalysis* – Helen Gaines   *Crypto & Spygrams* – Gleason
Cryptography – Dwight Smith   *Find Out about Secret Codes* – Beal   *Fun with Secret Writing* - Lamb
Invitation to Cryptograms –Williams   *Mad Scientists Club* - Brinley   *Secret Codes & Ciphers* – Kohn
Twelve Years of Age and Under
Alvin's Secret Code – Clifford Hicks   *Code Crackers* – Kieran Fanning   *Secret Agent Activity Book* - Elder
Secret Codes Kit – Robert Jackson   *Secret Codes* Kit – Slinky Inc.   Spy *in Old* Philadelphia – Anne Emery

Gimme a Break – MJ Aristocrats   (may be digraphs / trigraphs)   (1) unless otherwise stated
A-1,that (2), A-2, are (2), A-3, that, A-4, the, A-5, that, you (2), A-6, and (2), th (3), A-7, OVRONV, A-8, AVFAJEABQA, A-9, you (3), A-10, th (2), A-11, to, two, A-12, the, A-13, a (12), A-14, th(3), A-15, little, A-16, fo (2), A-17, the, A-18, a (2), is (2), A-19, of (2), A-20, the (2), A-21, an (3), A-22, e (9), A-23, to (2), A-24, the (2), A-25, i (8), o (5).

Gimme a Break - MJ Patristocrats (may be digraphs / trigraphs)   (1) unless otherwise stated
P-1, the (2), P-2, ing (2), the (2), P-3, th (2), the, P-4, the (2), P-5, that (2), the, P-6, the (2), P-7, cook, door (2), P-8, the (2), you (2), P-9, that, the (2), P-10, your (2), P-11, ing(2), the (2), P-12, the (2), P-Sp-1, the, ti (3), P-Sp-2, the (3).

MA-1. Ornamental. Nullsense.
Solve first as a Patristocrat. See QUINCE's Notes on the Null, ND94 for this Null solution process.   **LIONEL**
MA. A-22. Worker's comp. Title prompts plaintext of lawyers, claims or injury involvement. **PETROUSHKA**
MA. P-10. Anagram pairings. Might the title suggest the word "anagram" present in the plaintext?   **LIONEL**
MA. X-10. Catalan Amsco. Martin Luther King Jr. Quote. Period six, begins "Em a fin…."   **THE DOC**
MA. E-3. Ragbaby. The mechanics of love. Crib gives away proper noun - author's name.   **DANEEL**
MA. E-5. Keyphrase. Do not let title lead you astray. No "best laid plans" in this plaintext.   **ANCHISES**
Crib can only fit third word. Plaintext begins with familiar three letter word. Proper noun a familiar crypto term.

MA. E-8 Route Transposition. Vertical column in, reverse spiral out.   **BION**
MA. E-9. Porta. Period eight, contains proper noun "Qattara."   **AURION**
MA. E-11. Monome-dinome. Waddled into that one. 3 = e, 4 = a.   **SCRYER**
MA. E-14. Foursquare. Teamwork. (theonetosla-)   **DANEEL**
crib placed at ciphertext letters, S OX ZF BS ZE LZ. Block 2, reverse spiral beginning in lower left corner, block 4, reversal spiral beginning at row three, column three.
MA. E-16. Phillips. Martian news. Crib extension "scientiststhatthematerial"   **BION**
MA. E-18. Bazeries. Canine Cryptography? (quantum)   **TSIOLKOVSKY**
"T" is a good fit for plaintext "q" and "Y" for "u," suggesting a six or nine first key digit. Seek out "YT" in the ciphertext and seek out the ciphertext for the remainder of the "quantum" crib. "M, B, S" likely candidates.
MA. E-21. Trifid. Crib placed at position 111. Always try that familiar three letter word as a start.   **BION**
MA. E-23. Quagmire IV. Cryptologic apportionment. (event may be one of r mutually)   **NIVEK**
Period seven. Crib placement at position 107. Begins "The…….."
MA. C-13. Base 13 Division. (Two words, 1-0) 1st word, 4 letters, 2nd word begins with S, ends E. **LI'L GAMIN**
MA. C-14. Duodecimal multiplication. (Three words, 0-B) Words 3, 4, 5 letters, begin S, L, C.   **THE RAT**
MA. AC-1067. Transposition. Vulnerability. (50) Incomplete Columnar.   **GRIFFIN**
MA. AC-1068 and AC-1070 Cipher Types. Phillips and 6 x 6 Bifid.   **EL CONDOR & NIVEK**

MJ-2. Null. Volume matters. (tiny) Plaintext letters follow the formula letters for a rectangular solid. **LIONEL**

MJ. A-21. Scholarly perspectives. K2 (100)   **APEX DX**
If you have not found a pattern word list that will identify ZCGGIHDCBVOBWSR with but one plaintext identity, contact LIONEL for direction.

MJ. P-6. Swedish creative accounting. K2. (103/18) (MNUNY)   **OOBOO**
Google "PATR" and "WAI" plaintext for definitive identification.

MJ. P-Sp-1. Ooops. K3 (111/21) (ZLIG) Plaintext begins with cryptanalyst tool.   **ANAPEST**

MJ. X-11. Latin Inc. Columnar. Inseparable. Period 11 begins "Deni"   **BION**

MJ. E-3. Variant. Friedman on Quagmire III. Plaintext begins "The be……."   **NIVEK**

MJ. E-4. Railfence. Odd collection. Five rails, no offsets. Ciphertext written in zig zag.   **RIG R MORTIS**

MJ. E-5. Incomplete Columnar. Publish or the idea perishes. Period nine plaintext begins "have" **FAT CAT**

MJ. E-9. Quagmire I. Keeping balance. Period Seven. "Cannot" appears in the plaintext six times.   **NIVEK**

MJ. C-2. Sudoku. (Two words) Solution in column one.   **TWEETY**

MJ. C-14. Additions. (Two words, 1-0) Second word "out."   **OZ**

MJ. C-Sp-2. Base 13 Multiplication. (Two words, 1-0) 1st word 7 ltrs, begins with "O, ends with C" **THE DOC**

Sunny Ciphering,   LIONEL   cc: ACA Executive Board