

A pack of engraved French playing cards by René Janet feature maps of the continents and countries of the world. The four suits of hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades relate to the four continents, with the suit marks including various national characteristics, products, etc. The court cards feature national figures but the other forty all have maps:

*Europe; Pays-Bas; Prusse; Turquie; Italie; Espagne; Autriche; Angleterre; Russie in Européenne; France.* (Hearts, 1/10).

*Asie; Japon; Thibet; Tartarie Indépendante; Arabie; Turquie Asiatique; Sibérie; Indoustan; Perse; Chine.* (Diamonds, 1/10).

*Afrique; Iles Canaries; Soudan ou Nigritie; Sahara ou Grand Désert; Guinée; Congo; Abyssinie; Empire de Maroc; Barbarie; Egypte.* (Clubs, 1/10).

*Amérique; Colombie; Buenos-Ayres; Chili; Brésil; Pérou; Guyane; Mexique ou Nouvelle Espagne; Canada; Etats Unis.* (Spades, 1/10).



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These cards, 75 x 105 mm., were soon copied in England by Charles Hodges, (see 1827). However, he reversed the position of France and the British Isles, because Janet's sequence of countries reflected their perceived importance. Janet also issued the cards in fours as part of a lottery game, but without the suit marks and with numbers at top left.

*Boston de l'univers ou Jeu des quatre parties du monde.* Paris, René Janet, 1825.