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Professor Bennett,

Thank you for responding to the first of my two letters to you... I wrote the second because you suggested you might like to know any further ideas I had about the alphabet, which were the ideas I sent in the early June letter, and also I gathered from the books you suggested I should read that you had never seen "Sign, Script, and Symbol" by Hans Jensen which is an encyclopedic reference book about the alphabet and all forms of writing. I hope the book is available through the Madison resources (copyright 1962 I believe, translated from the German).

I have continued to develop my ideas about the relation of letters and numbers, especially I am convinced of the ancientness of gematria or letter numbering, but I want to present the following idea entirely about letters:

- Etruscan letters were A C E F $\neq$ H $\oplus$ I Γ M N Π M⁽⁴⁾ P S T

and Y Φ X V ∞ ... I think they have a pattern:

A² C² F F $\neq$ H $\oplus$ I

Γ M N⁽¹⁾ Π M P S^{or} T Y plus Φ (ph) X($\underline{D}$ h) V(Kh) ∞ ^(w/h)

(1) there was no "O"; (2) also no B or D but perhaps "D" was part of 3-superstition.

- Letters may have paired up in the columns given.... Etruscan then must be the source of the "aspirates" idea, maybe even pairing them up as X and V plus Φ and ∞ , or Greek may have used such symbols itself at an earlier stage: "X" is in D position (a form of + or T) often in semi-Greek alphabets; S and +($\oplus$) are a "mark" or stigma; P and F may be r_h sounds; M and N may be multiple symbols... N = (plus V) = Y or I, and M = N(gamma) + Λ (lambda).

— IS IT A VALID IDEA? Kenneth Klarner

One more note:

I believe the following pattern affected the values of the letters, especially Latin:

A	B	C	D			
E	F	G	H			
I	(Y	K)	L	M	N	(X)
O	P	Q	R	S	T	(V)

- The columns are all separate sounds or types of sounds, with "D" sounds at the right ("silent" H), "Y" may be considered V but also a form of I (possibly "w"),
↪ wave → wa-ee
"wy"

- If this pattern of Latin letters, including most of these symbols, contributed to the development of the Semitic-type sequence of sounds, then perhaps the Latin forms are much more ancient than has been thought and may have been used in early stages of Semitic and passed on to later users until they reached the Romans. Guttural sounds especially fit well, although the H/Kh sound would be in "G" position. Certain forms merged however due to having letters face both directions equally: P and Q (Q?) - so alternate forms were used for P, B, R etc. - F was "Y".