This is a hand copy of a damaged Egyptian hypocephalus. It was usually placed under the head of a deceased person. Notice the areas where the scribble markings appear. The large missing section is on the right side and goes into the middle of the circle. There is a small area also missing at the left middle panel. What this indicates is that the drawing represents a hypocephalus that was damaged.

Willard Richards, who was an apostle and Church historian, recorded in the Book of the Lord that Joseph Smith was:
Exhibeting [Exhibiting] the Book of Abraham. in the original. To Bro[ther] Reuben Hadlock [Hedlock]. so that he might take the size of the several plates or cuts. & prepare the blocks for the Times & Seasons. & also gave instruction concerning the arrangement of the writing on the Large cut. illustrating the principles of Astronomy.¹

REASON

Following Joseph Smith’s instructions the **above reproduction** was printed as a whole and complete hypocephalus. This item was made to represent a circle with no parts missing. By comparison with the hand copy nothing looks missing. Joseph Smith wants you to believe that this illustration is a facsimile. The right side and middle is completely within the round circle. As you look at the printed illustration all the missing places are there.

**ANOTHER WAY TO VISUALIZE THE MISSING AREA**
**IS TO REMOVE THE ADDED ITEMS (SEE BELOW)**