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8th September 1977.

Dear Dr. Yates,

Apologies for not replying to your letter earlier but I have been away from home for a few days. The response to the letter in The Times has been overwhelming, and there has been a great deal of advice in which your name has cropped up time and time again. It seems that the manuscript may be of interest to others besides horologists.

I have already arranged with Dr. Tina Barrass to examine the manuscript but I would be more than pleased if you could also look at Dr. Beeson's work. At the moment the manuscript is in the form of prints taken from a microfilm of the original manuscript and these are in the hands of the indexer. The microfilm is in the Museum of the History of Science, Oxford, when I called recently the curator was on holiday in Spain. I will have further copies of the translation made and forward one to you when ready, hopefully by then I can have the microfilm or prints for you to examine. The original manuscript is in the Archivo de la Corona de Aragon and I enclose a copy of the permission of the Director to publish the translation.

It is surprising that Dr. Beeson did not know of the Anglo-Catalan Society. He did have a young girl to help him with the Catalan translation, I did not know her name, she evidently was ^{preparing} or had prepared a thesis on medieval Catalan. Your details of the Society were of great interest to me although my linguistic abilities are virtually nil.

Thank you for your letter and offer of help. I will get in touch with you when the material is to hand. The horological terms are few and can be deduced from the text, and as you say in your letter, this has been dealt with by Dr. Beeson.

Yours sincerely,

Charles Aked

Translation of Sr. Martorell's letter:

1975.

My Dear Sir,

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd of this month of which I had already some knowledge through the letter which was written to me by Senor Maddison last June.

Of course the Archivo has much pleasure in authorising you to publish the translation of the Manuscript Real Patrimonio no. 2435 relating to the Castillo de Perpignan installed in 1396.

I hope that when you have completed the translation and it is published, you will have the kindness to send a printed copy to this Archivo for inclusion in its library.

In the hope that your work will achieve success

I remain yours

Signed Federico Udina Martorell.

Reply:

Muy señor mio,

Me complazco en acusar recibo de su carta de 31 agosto. Muchos gracias por lo permiso para publicar y traducir el Manuscrito del Real Patrimonio no. 2435 relativo al Castillo de Perpiñan instalado en 1396.

Desde luego, con mucho gusto yo enviaré a Usted un ejemplar impreso cuando he realizada la traducion de este Manuscrito.

Espero que podré escribir a Usted pronto, quedo de Vd atento y seguro servidor

Signed Charles K. Aked.

Translation:

My Dear Sir,

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 31st August. Many thanks for the permission to publish the translation of the Manuscript Real Patrimonio no. 2435.

Of course, it is with much pleasure that I will send to you a printed copy when I have the translation of the manuscript.

I hope to be able to write to you soon

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Maddison of the Museum of the History of Science, Oxford had already written to the Director of the Archivo in order to prepare the way (in June). Dr. Beeson wrote to me on 11th September to say that he is satisfied with the progress he is making on the manuscript and also requesting me to convey his thanks to the Council for the sum of money advanced to him.

~~Horology in Provincial and Rural Museums has gone to the printers. A Complimentary slip for inclusion in the copies going to the Museums has been ordered also.~~

~~Sam Clutton has expressed his satisfaction with the progress of his book.~~

August

Times
31/8/77

In medieval Catalan

From Mr C. K. Aked

Sir, For the last two years I have been endeavouring to complete an English translation of a medieval Catalan manuscript describing the making of a clock and bell at Perpignan in 1356, the last work undertaken by my friend, the late Dr C. F. C. Beeson, a noted horologist. Up to now it has not proved possible to find someone competent and willing to check the translation, and I wonder if among the readers of *The Times* there is someone with a working knowledge of medieval Catalan who is willing to assist in completing the work ready for publishing. The amount of work necessary cannot be very great for there are only 73 folios of relatively short length.

Dr Beeson's widow and myself would be very grateful if anyone can assist in this matter so that the work can be published as a tribute to Dr Beeson's contributions in the field of antiquarian horology. The book will be published by a non-profit-making organization.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES K. AKED, Chairman,
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Clock Restoration Group,
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Society,
54 Swan Road,
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August 25.