

310 Second Street, S.E.
Washington 3, D. C.

21 October 1954

Rene Presseq de Chauny
35, Rue de la Bienfaisance
Paris (VIII^e), France

My dear M. de Chauny:

Your letter of 5 October 1954 is so charming in its manner of expression that I am a bit at a loss to know what to say or, indeed, how to say what needs to be said in the face of such a generous and courteous gesture.

At the moment, perhaps, I will tender, and hope you will accept, my sincere thanks and assurance that I will be more than happy to reciprocate should you urgently desire a book in America.

By the way, the author of the book you sent me is given as F. BONAC-MELVRAU. This is, of course, a pseudonym easy to untangle: "F. BACON--VERULAM." Francis Bacon was, as you probably know quite well, also Baron Verulam. But, now, who is F. Bonac--Melvrau? He seems to be attached to the University of Paris. His theory is so absurd that it is not to be wondered that he hides behind a pseudonym. I would, indeed, like to know his real name and his field of endeavor. Some day maybe I shall find out.

Again, my best thanks to you and to your able staff, who acted so promptly on my request.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN