



BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON, W.C.1

MAP ROOM.

27th July, 1945.

Tel.: Museum 8621

Doktor Josef Haglund,
Riksbiblioteket,
Stockholm,
Sweden.

Käre Doktor Haglund,

KOF. Many thanks for your letters about Dr. Bagrow, which I have read with great interest. You have accomplished a magnificent work in saving him from death in Berlin. Many peoples, especially the Norwegians, owe the Swedes a debt of gratitude for their kindness, generosity and labours in the cause of civilization during this war; and Dr. Bagrow has reason to be very grateful to you.

I fear that we, unfortunately, cannot equal you in that respect. England is still very much at war, and the problems of food, fuel and housing are now even more difficult than they were in 1944. We have a large foreign population which has come here since 1937, and our Immigration authorities would certainly not allow Dr. Bagrow to land here, especially as he is penniless and deaf.

I have seen Mr. Tree, the publisher of Imago Mundi, and he tells me that he cannot consider continuing that publication for at least another two years. There is a shortage both of labour and of paper in his business, and he does not expect to have enough paper for proofs before 1947-48. As you know, Dr. Bagrow took the proofs of the contributions to no. 4 to Berlin in August 1939. I hope that they still exist, though I doubt it. I am trying to discover what has happened to Dr. Bagrow's house, 136 Kurfürstendamm, Berlin - Halensee, but it takes a long time to get news from our "occupation" headquarters, and I do not yet know if Halensee is in the British zone of occupation.

I can well understand that Dr. och Fru Bagrow cannot live on 330 Kr. a month, even though I admire your kindness in securing him that. Your suggestion of a collection ("insamling") for him over here appealed to me personally, but when I began to inquire I was discouraged. Firstly, Dr. Bagrow had only one real friend here, his fellow-countryman Mr. Lowensohn. His inability to speak any English and his deafness prevented him from making English friends. (He and I did all the work for Imago Mundi in German, and I had to shout all the time!) I found that I would not be able to collect more than £20 sterling, and probably less, perhaps only £10. That would not last very long, and it could not be

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repeated. Secondly, there is now much difficulty in sending sterling out of England.

But we have two other ways of raising money for Dr. Bagrow.

- 1) Ever since 1939 Mr. Lowensohn has had in his hands over £30 sterling belonging to Dr. Bagrow. He will be very glad to send that across to Sweden at once, if we can find a way of sending it. I am making inquiries.
- 2) When I told Mr. Tree that Dr. Bagrow had brought 3 or 4 of his most valuable maps to Sweden, he asked for a list of them if Dr. Bagrow would agree to sell them to him. As a bookseller, Mr. Tree can arrange the export of sterling and the importation of the maps here. But probably Dr. Bagrow will refuse to sell the maps.

Your latest suggestion, combined with the generosity of your Crown Prince, is much the best. I know personally everybody who is interested in the history of Cartography, - Mr. Beans of America, Prince Youssouf Kamal of Cairo, as well as Professor Taylor, Dr. Cortesão and others. I shall now draw up a testimonial or memorandum about Dr. Bagrow and ask all the best people to sign it, after which I shall send it to you. All this will, unfortunately, take some time, especially as I must send the testimonial to Cairo and to U.S.A.; but it is the best course.

You are very kind and courteous in calling me "Doktorn". But that is unnecessary. Please address me as "Ni". I read Swedish as easily as I do English, so you need not explain anything. But from want of practice it takes me too long to compose a letter in Swedish. I think you understand my English quite well.

Dr. Bagrow has written to me. His letter is very friendly and cheerful, but he evidently does not understand the position over here. My reply will, I fear, disappoint him.

Now for your questions. 1) I know the map-collections in this country well, but I have never heard of a copy of the Carta Marina of 1539. It is a map in which I am very much interested, for I have read Olaus' Historia and Ahlenius's Olaus Magnus och hans framställning af nordens Geografi, but I do not believe there is a copy in the British Isles. 2) I have seen Mr. Hind about the roundel map of the world, c.1480, and from examination of the reproduction in his book he thinks that it was engraved in copper. We do not know where the original is since Dr. Wieder died, but you can write to his son, O. Wieder, at Noordwijk, and to the Director of the Rijks Prenten-Kabinet, Amsterdam, to make inquiries. 3) Our copies of the Bologna edition of Ptolenny's Cosmographia are still away in vaults in the country. We shall not have them here for some time, as this building was bombed and there is much reconstruction to do. All we have is my book, with photostats of the proof copies of the maps in Mr. Beans' possession. In this Map 4, State 1 shows no "stora skeppet" anywhere. I think you must be looking at State 3, on which Crivelli or some other man added ships, billows and scrolls, etc. Our state 3 is not

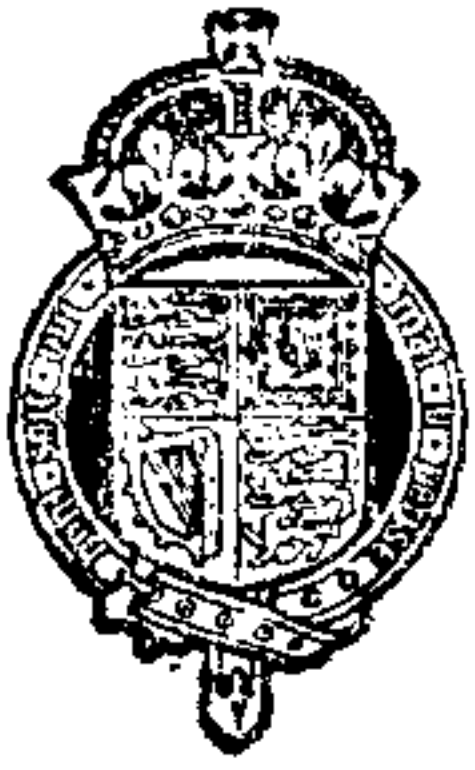
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here. 4) Marinelli may well be right in saying that the Bologna maps were engraved in tin or pewter. The lines are uneven and blotchy, as one would expect from pewter. But we have no original here on which to base a judgment.

I find that sterling can be exported to Sweden though with difficulty. I am therefore writing to Mr. Lowensohn about Dr. Bagrow's money.

Med utmärkt hogaktning

Edward Lynam.



Tel.: Museum 8621

M A P R O O M
BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON, W.C.1

9th September, 1947.

Dr. Josef Haglund,
Kungl. Biblioteket,
Stockholm.

Dear Dr. Haglund,

I have ordered for you negative photostats of our little book Descriptio Alcahirae Urvis, 1549 (Pressmark 568.b.23). The size of the pages I have given in my last letter. The open page shewing two pages opposite one another would measure 140 mm. wide by 130 mm. high, and that size can easily be included in one of our ordinary photostats.

Thank you very much for ordering a negative photostat of Norden's view of London for us, in two sheets. If you have not ordered positives I should prefer to have merely the negatives as we can turn these into positives over here ourselves. I hope that I am not too late in this.

As regards Dr. Bagrow, I have written to various people to secure their help for him. He needs help for Imago Mundi, but unfortunately, as we know just as well as you do, he was born to command, not to co-operate, which makes work difficult. If he tells you that Lynam has nothing to do but skate he must indeed have been living in Fairyland for the last eight years. Nothing would please me more than to spend hours and days skating and playing tennis as I once used to; but there is no time for that now, and I am forced to take my exercise in cutting down my trees and sawing them up for the winter.

I have not found the world map by Pagano which Bagrow mentions as No. 7 in the list which he published for Mr. Beans.

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We have a map very similar to that reproduced by him, but with a slightly different title and without Pagano's name. I may, however, be able to find the map mentioned by him. Much more important than Pagano is Gastaldi, the author of the map.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Edward Lynam.

MAP ROOM,

BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.1.

31st October, 1947

Dear Dr. Haglund,

Many thanks for your letters. I am delighted to hear that our friend Bagrow is now, through the generosity of your countrymen, in receipt of an adequate income. As he will tell you, I have been able to give him some help here, chiefly in finding him an editor.

I am now quite sure that any attempt on the part of the English Government to help Dr. Buczek would only make things worse for him. The more we tried to save Petkov, the more determined the Communists were to shoot him.

Very many thanks for your kind offer to present us with a copy of Olaf Tresk's "Kartor over Kemi & Torneå lappe-marker". This Department already possesses a copy, which I have often pored over in studying Swedish maps. I have now catalogued the reproduction of Norden's "View of London" which you kindly supplied. From the state of the original plate, which was obviously worked over considerably before that impression of the View was taken, and from the ~~old~~ style of the engraving in the plans of London and Westminster I feel that your copy of this work probably dates from as late as 1630. What do you think?

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

Edward Lynam.

P.T.O.

Dr. J. Haglund.

MAP ROOM,

BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.1.

16th December, 1947

My dear Haglund,

Regarding volume 3 of our Catalogue of Manuscript Maps, it contains 3 preliminary leaves plus pp.611 plus 4 leaves of index. The size of the page (text) is 8" x 4".

I am sorry that you have quarrelled with Bagrow, but I have been wondering how long your good nature would stand the strain. I have known him for a long time, and knew that nobody can really work with him. I am, however, very anxious lest he should ruin Imago Mundi. That is much too good a paper to be spoilt by a foolish editor.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Lyman.

The catalogue is interleaved, so that it is not possible to photograph 2 pages together.

Dr. Josef Haglund,
Kungl. Biblioteket,
Stockholm.