

From Mr. Cecil Roth . 31 Charlbury Road . Oxford  
Telephone 58726

4th November 1955.

My dear Friend:-

The Passover Plate at Palma is very nice, but in my opinion it should not enter into your Book, as (i) it is not Spanish but a recent importation and (ii) there are large numbers of precisely similar objects, one in my own collection. You will recall that we found that this is signed ~~by~~ on the reverse as being made at Ancona in 1616. I have records of several more made by successive generations of the Cohen family (Isaac, Jacob and again Isaac) and Azulai family (Jacob, in two generations) in Ancona and Pesaro between 1613 and 1730: besides this there are a few specimens of a slightly different type, somewhat earlier. Incidentally, the Palma plate, then in the collection of the Conde de Peralada, was described already in the *Revista de Ciencias Historicas* in 1888.

I am greatly looking forward to seeing your volume. Incidentally, what have you decided about the Palma Cathedral *Rimonim*? I am pretty certain that they are not Spanish but Sicilian: if I recall aright, the donor had served in Sicily, and we know (from a document in Lagumina) and cf. my *Jews of Italy*, p. 259, how the Synagogue of Cammarata was (presumably) pillaged in 1492.

AM 4/242

Of course I had your *Cosmografia*, and if my recollection serves wrote to thank you for it before I left for Israel some months ago. But I still feel that my conjecture as to authorship may not be wholly unjustified.....

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

**P.S.** My study on the Passover Plates of this type, though written a long time since, is as yet unpublished.