



~~From the~~ Curator C. H. JOSTEN

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OLD ASHMOLEAN BUILDING, BROAD STREET OXFORD

Telephone OXFORD 3997

29th August, 1958

Dear Monsieur Michel,

Dr. Josten is still away, so I am replying to your most interesting letter of the 26th August. I have looked up Bedos de Celles and again at our sundial by Gaspart, and I think you have solved all the problems. I think that the equinoctial ring on our dial is meant to be circular, and is, in fact, only very slightly oval, if at all; it is fixed at an angle of approximately 50° , and the dial is therefore intended for use in latitude c. 40° , which would be right for Portugal. The main difference, as you say, between our dial and that by Meurand is that the latter's dial was universal. I think your explanation of the scale 40-0-40 on the base-plate is certainly correct; it seems from the illustration that Meurand's dial could also be turned in this way, though no similar scale appears in the engraving. The full text of the signature on our dial is

"Joze Gaspart Fait à Lisbonne" ;
its number is M. 32.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Francis Maddison

Assistant Curator