

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

21 September 1954

Mr. E. O. Lieghley  
234 - 80th Avenue, North  
St Petersburg 4, Florida

Dear Mr. Lieghley:

Your letter of 15 August 1954 to the Riverbank Laboratories, Geneva, Illinois, has been forwarded to me because I was employed at those Laboratories many years ago and probably would be able to answer the questions you ask.

I enclose a photostatic copy of the American Magazine article of January 1925 to which you refer.

As to your questions: You will find a full description of the alleged code in books such as:

Elizabeth W. Gallup, The bilateral cipher of Sir Francis Bacon, 1900.

James P. Dexter, The greatest of literary problems, 1915.

Almost any fairly extensive book which deals with the so-called "Bacon-Shakespeare Controversy" and which was published after 1900 will have something to say on Mrs. Gallup's work. Your local library should have some of these books, or can get them for you.

You need not send any such information to the Library of Congress, because that is where the entire Fabyan Collection is kept, as a result of my "engineering" the Fabyan bequest to that library. Cornell University is my Alma Mater (1914) and I think I sent them material on this subject many years ago, but am not sure.

I worked for Colonel Fabyan for five years (1915-1920) and know a great deal about the bilateral cipher. In fact, I am hoping to have a book published soon on the subject. Colonel Fabyan himself was not a code expert but employed people to work for him in that field.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN

Incl.  
a/s