

*Department of Spanish & Portuguese • Direct phone 322-6930*

June 12, 1988

Mrs. Jacqueline Fretwell
St. Augustine Historical Society
271 Charlotte Street
St. Augustine, Florida 32084

Dear Jackie:

I have completed the English translation and revision of my book Els menorquins de la Florida: història, llengua i cultura (English title: The Minorcans of Florida: Their History, Language and Culture) and am sending the manuscript to you under separate cover in two large, padded envelopes. The entire manuscript is just over 500 pages in length. Please let me know as soon as you receive it. I have it stored on my computer disks, so in case any problem should arise it wouldn't be too difficult to produce another copy.

I'm not sure what arrangements with a printer have been made until now, although I do know that X. Pellicer was looking into this sometime ago. In any case, I know that some printers now are able to use computer disks of manuscripts to help with their publishing. If it would help, I would also be glad to send copies of the disks (IBM-compatible, 5.25" disks used with WordPerfect 4.2 program). In any case, I would imagine that the most difficult part of the actual printing will be the phonetic transcriptions of the Minorcan words and phrases in Chapter Eight. These are extremely important and must be reproduced correctly. I've used a system of transcription that is a slight modification of the one used in the Catalan version of the book. It shouldn't be any more complicated than the American Heritage Dictionary system; in fact, it's easier, more accurate, and certainly more scientific.

Now that the translation and revision of the book are finished, there are several matters that should probably be addressed. In Page Edwards's letter to me of September 10, 1987, he mentioned a formal contractual arrangement with me for the publication of the book, outside readers, royalties to be paid to me as author, and various honoraria to be given to the editor and readers. All of this, I believe, was contingent upon the financial support provided by Dr. Fernando Rubió and X. Pellicer, which now has been arranged.

First, regarding the readers, I do understand that it is the policy of the Society's Editorial Board to have all manuscripts submitted for publication reviewed. My only concern, though, is that the scholarly integrity of the book be preserved. That is, I wouldn't want someone to suggest cuts or to rewrite what I have done in the case that he or she didn't agree with my findings or conclusions. However, I'm confident that you, as the general

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editor, will be sure that the volume and my work remain intact. The fact that the book, in its original Catalan version, has already been evaluated by numerous scholars (historians, linguists, etc.) both in the U.S. and in Europe and has won two prestigious research awards, should offer a reasonable guarantee of quality and scientific rigor.

Will the royalties to be paid to me, as well as the number of copies of the book (hardbound and softcover, if both are produced) that I am to receive, be stipulated in the contract? I recently mentioned this in a letter to X. Pellicer. Page indicated in his letter that the question of royalties, fees paid, promotional costs, etc., would be worked out between the sponsors (Dr. Rubió and X. Pellicer) and myself. I just received a note from Dr. Rubió, who was about to embark on his yearly summer cruise in the Mediterranean, but he didn't mention anything along these lines. Perhaps he and X. have already made these arrangements in advance.

I hope that all of this doesn't sound to picky, but I do think that it is necessary to clarify these issues at the outset. Please know that I am very pleased that the Historical Society, together with Dr. Rubió and X. Pellicer, wish to publish my book, and that I greatly appreciate all of your interest, efforts, and support in this regard. I am confident that the book will be a significant contribution to the understanding and interpretation of an important chapter in St. Augustine's and Florida's history and culture, and I'm sure that it will be well received by St. Augustinians and scholars in general.

Please let me know how all is going with the book once you receive the manuscript, and many thanks once again.

Best wishes,

Philip D. Rasico

PS: We will be away from Nashville from about June 22 to July 25 or so, visiting family in northern Ohio and up-state New York. Both Nancy and I wish that it had been possible to include in this itinerary several weeks in St. Augustine. We definitely will need a St. Augustine "fix" by next summer. Enough is enough! Nancy and the boys send their best.

cc: X.L. Pellicer
Dr. Fernando Rubió

