

MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO

P. O. BOX 1115

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

SAN JUAN, P. R.

Aug. 31, 1932.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,
63 Briarcliff Road,
Mountain Lakes, N. J.

My dear Bishop:

Thank you very much for your letter of Aug. 24th as also for the document which you mailed at Morristown. I have received both documents and sent them immediately to Mr. Horton in Mayaguez. I have not yet received the certificate of the resolution from Mr. Kortenbeutel but expect that will arrive on the mid-week mail tomorrow.

There may still be two small matters to be attended to before the registration of the Veitia property in the name of the Church of Jesus can be completed. First it has been found that some ten acres of the property were at one time bought by one of the former owners from the people of Porto Rico for taxes and I will have to get a certificate from the Treasury Department to confirm this purchase. Second they will need a power of attorney from the Board of Trustees of the Church of Jesus to you giving you power to buy the property in their name.

Do you have a general power of attorney from the Trustees of the Church of Jesus? If so such general power sent to me would cover the whole question. I take it that the said general power would have had to be in effect at the time you bought the property, otherwise we will have to have from the Board of Trustees a ratification of your act of purchase in their name. As soon as I can I will obtain the form for such a ratification and will send it to you. Meanwhile if you have had a general power of attorney from the Board of Trustees kindly send that to me and that will cover the whole matter.

It is very satisfactory to me that you have named Father Villafañe as the power of attorney for the Board of Trustees in transferring the property to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. I believe it was not necessary to have a power of attorney for you and Mrs. Ferrando in that you executed the document yourselves before the notary, that is for the property held by "documento privado."

I will do what I can to see about the possibility of retaining your Postoffice box No. 776 at least for the present. The box was used by Mr. Valentine during the years he has been there and because the situation was not altogether pleasant

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Father Villafañe decided to get another box which he did. Now naturally he has continued to use Box 1018. I will advise Mr. Valentine that you consider Box 776 to be yours and that you wish to continue the use of it and will ask him to send me the key. I suppose that if he declines to do this there is not very much I can do about it but you may be sure I will do everything possible to accomplish your desire.

I went to Quebrada Limon last week to arrange a number of details in regard to the work, the agregados, planting and so forth, when we had a meeting of our advisory committee and afterwards a meeting of all the agregados and explained to them the change in the method of administration. Everybody agreed to the conditions, when we set a price for the different kinds of work and for the method of renting land. We find as nearly as we can estimate that when Mr. Valentine paid for having the land ploughed he probably spent more money on the ploughing than he later obtained from the half share of corn, so at the advice of our committee we have declined to spend any cash on the planting by the agregados at all. When we spend any money in cash it is for work "ajustado" and for our own crop entirely.

There is a very good crop of coffee this year and I hope we are going to be able to harvest it all without a hurricane and that the money received from the coffee will help considerably in the expense of the farm. The mayordomo, Cruz Torres has very good ideas as to economies and as to making the most of opportunities on the farm and I have great hopes of success with him but we are practically beginning over again where we started with Mr. Valentine. We are going to plant a good many orange and aguacate trees but these will of course require time to come into production.

I hope to go to the farm again this week and want to arrange if possible about building a proper cow stable and getting an adequate water supply for the houses and stable.

I will keep you advised as to progress that is made on the farm as well as in regard to the transaction of transferring the title to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. It is a complicated case and necessarily takes time but time is all that is necessary now to complete the whole matter.

Hoping that all of you are well and with warm regards and all best wishes to all of you, believe me ever,

Very sincerely and affectionately yours,

+ Chas B. Colver .