



Missionary District of Porto Rico

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando

Bishop Suffragan.

Mountain Lakes, N. J.

July 21, 1924

Rt. Rev. Chas. B. Colmore,
Great River, N. Y.

My dear Bishops -

I was so pleased to receive your letter of the 14th, and to know that you are well again.

I preached yesterday at St. Paul's Church in Paterson, and am engaged for next Sunday at Trinity Church, Paterson. After that I shall probably not accept any engagement during August.

Dr. Gray has forwarded to me a check for \$25.00 given expressly for the pump at Quebrada Lijón - Please let me know what to do with that money. Whether to send it to you ^{or what} for the purpose of the light and water and the proper building - we shall need several hundred - If I am allowed to appeal for it I should like to know - So far, I have not made any appeal - and as far as I can remember.

When asked if the work had many needs, I said that of course there were many needs, and for one thing I should be glad if I had a jump; but I should like the Board to know that neither in public nor private, have I made appeal directly for anything.

I highly appreciate the sentiments expressed in your letter - and they only serve to confirm me in my high esteem for you - I do not see how there can be any misunderstanding between us, as I am well aware that in matters of jurisdiction I have only what is delegated, and I certainly will not make the mistake of going beyond my charge. In matters of ordure I shall endeavor to maintain my office, by my life and behavior, in its proper dignity.

Of course, we may expect that, from many sources, and in many ways, there may be pitfalls or difficulties presented to us - but that only puts it up to us - to overcome them - by mutual frankness and understanding.

In taking advantage of your kind invitation, to be perfectly open with you, I must tell you.

that my situation is somewhat embarrassing
and I wish we could find a way to clear it
up. ~~I am~~ ~~way~~. It seems to me, that
owing to my former position in Quebrada
Limón, ~~you are~~ ~~it might in some way con-~~
~~fect~~ ~~your~~ ~~act~~ ~~exercising~~ a full and free
action such as belongs to your office - This
even your "request" would imply, and, naturally,
I feel that the more faculties I have there,
the less I have in the Church in general, with
the result, ~~that somewhat I am restricted from~~
any interference in anything belonging to
the general interest of the Church, for fear of being
misunderstood as *extrametido* - Of course
this will be entirely overcome if I have the
conscience that whatever I do, I do with
your approval regardless of former standing
or position -

I have such confidence ⁱⁿ and regard for you,
my dear Bishop, that if I ~~could~~ ~~think~~ could think
that our fraternal relations would in any way
be impaired in the future, there is not any
place in the world, however hard it might be that
I would not accept before such a thing ~~should~~
happen -

I would suggest that the *modus procedendi* might be as follows:

I would raise his suspension, *ex notione culpa et penitentia acceptandi*, and send him to you to confirm his reinstatement, and then ~~and~~ give him the benefit of the special dispensation which was granted to the other priests, by reordaining him, and then, as you say put him under Mr. Drake's supervision, without jurisdiction - that is to say he will exercise his office as Missionary, but will not have parochial charge.

This as you will see would not in any way embarrass me, because it maintains perfectly the my authority - It would be entirely different if you should deal directly with him without reference to me - That would be against the character of the office - Of course, all this is a mere suggestion -

I do not know Ramon's present condition. His brother has quite ^{a large} ~~an~~ automobile business, and he was in his employ. I understand that while he was in Cuba this brother took charge of his family (wife and two children) whether ^{the} ~~he~~ ^{brother} would be willing to assume this responsibility for a time again, I do not know. The Porto Ricans are very peculiar in this respect -

and I am afraid that they would feel that the Church ought to take the whole responsibility of providing for them.

By the way, this brings me to face one of the greatest problems that is before us in Porto Rico. So far, we are providing for girls, and it is a good thing that we do so, regardless of the future benefit they may be to the Church; but we have not provided ~~any~~ for the education of the native Missionaries' families - ^{boys and girls.} This is going to be our greatest pit-fall, as it is in the case of all the other denominations working in Porto Rico - We will have no native Clergy that will be willing to work in the Country, unless facilities for the education of their children are provided. And if we begin to employ them in the Cities, we might as well dismiss the idea of ever having any work in the Country - where it is so badly needed. Quebrada Limón is the only place that has the isolation and the opportunities for training into the work of our ministry and I earnestly wish that all of us would unite in prayer that the possibilities of that place and work might be accomplished. We will try to write an account of the work for Mrs. Wade and send you a copy -

Everything would be easy for me, and the future difficulties of the Church would be removed could we succeed in having two teachers in Quebrada Lincón, capable of teaching as far as the 8th grade.

The public school there gives only the two first grades. and we have so many boys and girls running wild without any opportunity for education, and not old enough to work. Besides, our workers could take advantage of the opportunity to learn more - and we could send them up into our mountain stations where there are no schools to teach the first and second grade, as practice - and as they themselves progressed they would be able to teach higher grades when the children are ready for it. That is a practical work which commands the respect of everyone and was the secret of our success and popularity in the beginning. As formerly, they could go and come to Quebrada Lincón for their own instruction, Meanwhile we could take the children of the workers, at scarcely any

expense, because the property well administered
would take care of the household expenses.

If some such scheme is not carried out
I am afraid that Quebrada Limón will lose
all its former standing, as we are doing less
now, than ever before in its history.

However, nothing can be done without ^{at least} ~~two~~ or more
teachers, and we know already of one, who might
go, should we be able to raise their salary.

I am very glad that there is prospect of
getting a car for Miss Lovett, as it is very
necessary for her, ~~and~~ ~~and~~ also the oil stone -
Poor Miss Lovett needs a guiding hand -

We just heard that she has said or written that
she has been put in charge of agricultural work -
Of course such ~~remarks~~ ^{remarks}, besides being a little ^{exag-}
gerated might cause some discussion. ^{if people do not} She
is very impulsive and just says what she feels ^{at the moment}
at the moment. I see in her, however, very
good qualities and great possibilities if properly
directed. I have taken the position of not writing
to her and leaving the correspondence between her
and Mrs. Ferrando - and ~~so far~~ ^{so far} everything seems
to be going on very well, as far as we know.