

July 5th 1923.

My dear Bishop:

Thank you for your good letter of the 22nd ultimo. Am so glad you had a good trip home and that everything was so readily arranged for your move to Mountain Lakes.

Am answering in some haste today, as I only returned from Ponce, Quebrada Limon and Mayaguez on Tuesday night and was so "knocked out" by the long trip that I could do little work yesterday.

Have a letter from Dr Gray in which he tells me he has had an interview with you and that he is more than ever impressed with your interest and sincerity in our work. He also tells me that you have secured the money for the electric light plant, which is mighty good news.

I am terribly shorthanded now and Fr Haughwout has just written me that he expects to leave me and remain in the States with his family. I do not know what I shall be able to do I am sure. Have written Dr Gray today asking him to secure permission for me to ask you to do the work in Ponce until I can secure a Priest for that place. My idea is that I can use that salary designated for Ponce for you and you could give Quebrada Limon direct supervision as well, for the time being. In this way we could get matters straightened out in the mission and get the farm into running condition again. I find it almost impossible for me to give it anything more than cursory attention from this distance. I have to rely entirely upon Modesto, and I feel that it is not exactly right to place so much responsibility upon him and expect too much of him. I feel also that this arrangement would tend to impress upon the other people in and around Ponce that our union is complete. This is of course based upon your willingness to accept that work as a temporary arrangement. I expect to take the matter before the House of Bishops and ask for your appointment in some capacity with me in the work, possibly as a Suffragan Bishop, or in whatever capacity may seem more convenient to you, to me and to them. The next meeting of the House is in November. If you are willing to come to me in that capacity, i.e. as temporarily in charge of Ponce, ~~xxx~~ I think it would be well for you to be here as long as possible before I have to leave for the meeting. I would be very glad to have a frank letter from you on the subject. It would give me the greatest pleasure to have you employed in Porto Rico and definitely associated with me in the work. But I am sure you are aware of this already.

I note what you say about Modesto's sister and will bear it in mind. I did not know of the matter of the amount due the store. Will look into it carefully when I receive the report I sent on to you for your scrutiny. I am more than ever sure that the Clergy should all be placed on an independent basis, but this cannot be done for less than \$300. per month. Then we must have something for the development of the farm.

Mrs Colmore and I had a delightful trip to the mission and the reception went off famously. Unfortunately it rained furiously the very afternoon, but we were all so glad to see the rain, we didn't complain. Am going again this summer and will investigate the possibility of adding to the rest house at Buena Vista. The girls all go there this week. Give our regards to Mrs F. & Edith. Warmest regards & best wishes, always,
 Most sincerely,
 Chas. Colmore.

It would I think, be necessary for you to have a horse & buggy for your use in getting to from Q. Limon. Can you get some friends to provide it?