

Nov. 24, 1931.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,
Mountain Lakes, N. J.

Dear Bishop:

I want first of all to apologise for not getting out to see you when I was in New York. After the Convention I went to Tennessee and from there went on a journey of missionary speaking which took me all round the country, even as near to you as Madison, N. J., but I was so occupied that there was no time for me to make any visits until just the last week of my stay in the States and by that time I had caught a miserable cold which affected my sinus tracts so that I was too miserable to go anywhere or do anything more than was absolutely necessary. My family and I sailed from Baltimore on the S. S. Barbara on Nov. 10th and arrived home on the 15th. I am glad to be able to say that since reaching home my cold has almost entirely cleared up and I do not think I will have any further bad effect from it.

When I was in New York Mr. Wood told me of your very generous offer to turn over to the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society the title you and the Church of Jesus possess to the land at Quebrada Limon by documento privado. I am advising Mr. Wood that your offer should be accepted with grateful thanks and that this method of obtaining dominion title to the whole tract is by far the best method of arranging it. I hope that he will soon, perhaps at the next meeting of the National Council, take whatever steps may be necessary toward accepting your offer and putting the matter into effect.

I hope very much that you have improved in health and that you will have no further difficulty with your pneumonia. I hope also that Edith and Mrs. Ferrando keep well. Please let me hear from you from time to time so that I may know how you are progressing. My daughter writes me that the weather recently has been rather raw and cold but I hope it has not affected you in any disagreeable way.

I am glad to be able to report that Mrs. Colmore seems to have practically recovered her health and is very much better than she has been for the past two years. I hope that this winter will see her entirely well again.

Porto Rico looks very green and nice after the heavy, even excessive rains. The sugar people are most anxious

to begin cutting the largest crop in the history of the island but the rains still keep up on the north coast at least and the cane is not ripening as it should. I was in Ponce and Quebrada Limon last Saturday and Sunday and it was quite dry there so that they were much happier over the prospects of the sugar crop on the south coast than they are on the north. At Quebrada Limon the soil is in beautiful condition being full of moisture and all trees and crops look very nicely. During this season they have planted a good deal of new coffee where the shade has been sufficiently grown and because of the frequent rains all the young plants are doing well. It had become rather discouraging during the last two years of drought. Now conditions are very much more hopeful.

I am delighted to be able to report that notwithstanding the times of depression Father Villafañe has been able to encourage the people in their offerings and all missionary quotas and other assessments have been paid in full already and that entirely from the free will offerings of the people. They have not had to use any money from the sale of the clothes for this purpose.

Please give our warmest regards to all the members of the family and again assuring you of my personal feeling and regret at not having been able to get out to see you, and repeating my best wishes and prayers for your continued improvement in health, believe me ever,

Very sincerely and affectionately yours,

CBC/I