

Box 776, Ponce, P. R.

Feb. 18, 1924

Rev. C. B. Colmore, D. D.
San Juan, P. R.

My dear Bishop Colmore:

Yesterday was a somewhat eventful day! At noon Porrata Doria came to offer the lower story of his house, and after inspecting it, we had almost decided to take it, but something held us back, and we told him we would answer in a day or two. Early in the afternoon we received a letter from Herrera, owner of the Villa Britanica, which we found closed the other day. He said he was willing to rent it to us, and would come to Ponce if we wished, to close the deal at once. It evidently had not been sold as we were informed. He asked \$100.00 per month, but I believe he would accept more reasonable terms.

This seemed to be great news, as some of the people here were so anxious for us to get that place, even with a view to buying it in time, - and there is no doubt that it has possibilities.

We had almost decided to telegraph Herrera to come to see us about it to-day, when your telegram came saying Dr. Gray had cabled consent for using the appropriation for house rent towards necessary repairs in Quebrada Limón. How strange that all three opportunities should come in one day after such long uncertainty!

But there is no longer any uncertainty in our mind. We have decided to go to Quebrada Limón, attend to the works there and supervise the repairs personally, so that the house may be in liveable shape and ready for whatever use we are able to put it to next summer. I am waiting for Alejo to-day to go out there with me and see what we can do.

As Miss Lovett and Mariana are both away we shall stay at St. Elizabeth's House until their return, and will remain in Ponce until after the Convocation.

After that we can come to Ponce whenever necessary or desirable, as Madame of the French Hotel has promised us good accomodation at a reasonable rate for as long or as short a time as we please, and whenever we like.

I hope you have not allowed yourself to be disturbed in the least over anything in our last conversation. Some how, just as you did, I felt something in the air, but as there did not seem to be any cause for it, I paid no attention. Naturally, we have not mentioned the subject to anyone, much less made any inquiries, but in thinking it over, it seems to me I have found the key to the situation -

You have no idea what a strain Mrs. Ferrando and I have been under for many weeks - not wishing to leave the Rectory while repairs were going on for fear some one would break in, and the workmen needing constant supervision. Added to dust noise and paint - was our unsettled condition & the uncertainty of our plans - where it would be best for us to go, and how best to plan for Quebrada Limón.

Feb. 21. It has not been possible to finish this letter before on account of the out-going mail - many interruptions - and also waiting for the reports of the Parish and the survey of the Church Property here - which the man was not able to give me yesterday an account of the weather -

I received your telegram announcing the confirmation of my election as suffragan - Thank you very much - We are glad that the suspense is over.

It is needless to repeat that I am disposed for any service you may call upon me to perform - and pray that grace may be given me so to fulfil my responsibility as to justify the Church's decision -

I found it strange that Dr. Gray did not notify me of the receipt of the documents I sent him, but have just received a letter from Mr. Kortbeentel saying that Dr. Gray had informed him they were in the hands of the lawyers there.

Enclosed please find the report for the sake of sending something in - It is entirely incomplete with regard to membership and services - You know that during the year Prodesto has served only a few months, and no record is found of the administrations of the rest of the year - So under the circumstances, I think the enclosed is the best we can do - Trusting that the report

for next year will be more accurate - ~~Of~~ All of the
members from Quebrada Limón - who are living in
Ponce have to be included in this parish - but no
Census has been made yet.