

MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P. O. BOX 1115

SAN JUAN, P. R.

June 16, 1923.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,  
Mountain Lakes,  
New Jersey.

My dear Bishop:

Thank you ever so much for your letter of May 19th, which I received ~~##~~ upon my return from the Dominican Republic; also, for the check for \$500.00, which arrived this week from Dr. Gray. I have paid at once to Modesto for three cows and one calf, \$235.00; and to Hermenejildo for the same number of stock, \$171.00; leaving a balance of \$94.00, which I have instructed Modesto to apply to his account for general expenses.

Fr. Saylor went with me for a visit to Quebrada Limon on Tuesday of this week. I found that Primitivo has not yet been able to move, on account of the failure of the people to turn over the house to him in Magueyes. I understood from him that there is domestic infelicity between the man and wife who own the house, and that, whereas she has moved out, he has not yet done so, but Primitivo was assured that he would at an early date, and that he might sitll confidently count upon having the house.

It did not seem to us to be quite the time to begin the proposed plan of autonomy, and for June, at least, I have continued the old arrangement, and have paid out to each one the following: Hermenejildo, \$20.00; Primitivo, \$25.00; Modesto, \$25.00; Victor, \$35.00; and the deaconesses, \$20.00; making a total of \$125.00, and leaving \$75.00 towards the general expenses and provisions.

The deaconesses appear to be very anxious to go to Buena Vista and spend two months there. They tell me that they will work in that community while living there. I had an opportunity to purchase beds and mattresses at a sale in San Juan, and bought seven for Buena Vista and Quebrada Limon, at a total of \$31.50. My idea is to leave three at Quebrada Limon for extras, and send four of them up to Buena Vista. They go over to Ponce by express on Monday. Now, it seems to me that when the deaconesses are in Buena Vista and Modesto's family are on a visit to relatives in Rio Piedras and Primitivo has moved from the central building, there might be a good chance to inaugurate our plan of autonomy. I hope, however, to have a little more money at my disposal before making any such change. Maria and her children were still at Q. L. last Tuesday.

There came from all sides, as they expressed it, "una lluvia de listas". First the deaconesses presented a list of needs for Buena Vista, and then another list for their dining-room and kitchen. Then came a list from Primitivo, of things needed for his house when he moves; and finally, one from Modesto, of things needed upstairs.



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I have sent the deaconesses \$15.00 towards their needs, and \$25.00 to Primitivo, telling him, at the same time, to borrow what furniture he can from the owners of the house. I told them that I would report this matter of their needs to you and ask for your instructions. I suppose most of them are more or less necessary.

I have received from Modesto what I consider a very good report of his transactions during May, and have commended him for it. I am sending the same to you for you to see it, and will ask that you return same to me, in order that I may keep it for comparison with other months. I have scratched out certain things, trying to show Modesto how he might save a good deal of writing. Please also### return the lists to me with your comment.

You asked me the question at my house, if I want you to return. I want to repeat what I said to you then, that I consider it to be very necessary, if in any way possible, for you and Mrs. Ferrando to come down at least next fall, say in October, when Edith has been placed in college. I think that matters may be settled down and gotten on to a more permanent basis if you can find it possible to do that. I would feel very much relieved to know that this were a settled plan and that I might confidently count upon it for next fall. If, at that time, we have<sup>no</sup> rector at Ponce, I would like to ask you to take the services there at least occasionally. My present plan is to attend the meeting of the Synod of the Province in November. Someone should certainly be here to look after Quebrada Limon, and I would not feel able to go unless you are here or we have a rector at Ponce.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Gray and am writing him fully by this mail.

I hope you are having success with your friends, and that you have been able to make appeals for money to them, as well as to congregations of our Church. Please don't forget that one of the great necessities at Quebrada Limon is a separate rectory and the several mission chapels.

Please give my warmest regards to Mrs. Ferrando and Edith. Hoping to see you and Mrs. Ferrando in Porto Rico next fall, I remain,

Very sincerely and affectionately yours,

Chas B. Brewer,

CBC/MAW\*