



Bell Ville, February 25 de 1907

F. C. C. A.

My dearest Mayorie

As we are all mortal and have sooner or later to retire for a time from this life, it is only right that one should try to make it easier for the dear ones who remain, so that nothing is interrupted in any way and everything continues as usual.

I would like you to follow your own desires and do as you think best about everything, knowing that you have always the interests of our children at heart, and will always love this Estancia, our second home in this Country and our very own, and which we have both worked so hard to build up and where some of the happiest days of my life have been spent, with you my dear wife and my children.

The following are only suggestions which you can follow or not as you think best. I know that I have made many mistakes and if I had only my life to live over again I would try and model it on different lines, and would make you a happier woman and would have left my affairs in a more prosperous condition.

As it will be necessary for you to at once to get a person of ability and confidence to help you to carry on the Estancia, I would suggest for you to at once send for your brother Robert, for whom I have always entertained a great respect and affection, ask him to give up his present position and pay him a better salary say five hundred pounds sterling a year, or a smaller sum and an interest in the profits of the Estancia, and wish

that you would ask Alfred and Mr Marty to help you and make a fair arrangement for all parties, also ask their help in any other cases.

Robert and his family could occupy the Administración and have their meals brought from either of the kitchens, or build him another building, exactly like the Administración, only that it would have a kitchen, on the north side of the Gate & Garden path or avenue and in the same position so as not to spoil the symmetry of the plan of buildings.

As my contract with La Minerva & El Victoriano expires with my death, advice must at once have to be given, and at the same time, and at once make an application for the continuation of the contract, which with Roberts help can easily be carried out and with pecuniary benefit. By my contract I am entitled to the profits of the present months, taking last years profits as a basis.

Should the above contracts not be carried out, then Robert could dedicate himself entirely to the Estancia, and could reduce after a time part of the staff.

Should loans be needed, then give Shares as security, but do not sell any of the land. keep the land all together, within a few years the land will be worth three times the present value, and with the advanced cultivation and prices of produce and stock you need have no fear for the future. Have the children educated for a few years

in England, & the boys taught some profession should
they incline that way, and if any of the children
desire to enter an Agricultural College, let them do
so. as why should the girls be fitted to be Estancieros.
to my idea it will be an ideal life for a woman,
as in time the conditions of life will change, and
the conditions of work also. and a person who works
more deserving of respect and admiration.