

November 12, 1914.

Hon. Robert H. Todd ,
San Juan

Dear Roberto :

From the "Progress",arriving this morning a day late, I get the first news of your re-election, and I rejoice in your success because you wanted it. Otherwise the only ones to be congratulated are the people of San Juan for their security in four years more of good government, as I am sure you would be better off personally should you devote your time to your profession or private business. But at any rate you have chosen, and you shall have my prayers and good wishes. Too bad the republicans couldn't have won one more district - but I hope this time they will have sense enough to follow the advice you gave them before and serve .

I have been in due receipt of yours of the 13th ult. but thought I would wait until election was over before answering. I am very glad the return of your family has released you from one worry. As to Robertito's ~~career~~ I think the safest way,after you have given him the foundation to enable him to choose, is to let him "follow his bent",as we used to say in New England,provided he evidences a strong inclination. That is especially true regarding a career in the foreign service. There is doubtless opportunity for both usefulness and advancement in the consular service, but it is one that offers peculiar dangers unless the incumbent is interested in his duties and looking for something better. So,if he has so chosen, I say,good; but if it is your selection, don't urge it on him. Let him at least try his adaptibility to the law .

A few weeks ago I sent Judge Charlton all the necessary papers for appeal in our old Goenaga-Gallardo case, which Hamilton

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decided against us last spring. These included the ordinary \$250 appeal bond which I told Charlton you would attend to getting sureties for as you so often have for me, and I presume he has already referred it to you - though he may have waited until after your campaign was over. If he has not I wish you would ask him about it. If you think of no others I am sure both Joe Spear and Bob Holmes will sign on request; also Robert Graham or John Wilson .

And in this connection there is another thing. Twice I think I have asked Charlton to see Travieso and ask him for a copy of the brief he filed before Hamilton on the final hearing in that case. I filed mine the very day I left and sent a copy of it to Travieso and I presumed he would send me a copy of his or leave it with Charlton. He did not do the former; if he did the latter Charlton has lost it and forgotten about it. There are some things our friend the Judge simply will not attend to - and this is one of them. Will you see Travieso for me and try to get a copy? I would really like to know what decisions he cited which convinced Hamilton that he was right. My idea is that the old Spanish laws and decisions involved got Hamilton so confused that he had no idea what he ought to do, so concluded that he had no favors to expect from the absent and better stick to those near by. He certainly has given me h - l in the cases I left undecided .

I was grieved to read in the "Progress" of the manner of death of my old friend Juan Jiménez. I always thought him "a good Indian" - and he certainly was pursued by misfortune. And so Leser has decided to quit. I suspicion that he was doubtful if good service would be a sufficient democratic recommendation - but I didn't think he would have the courage .

With regards to all inquiring friends, yours,

Pettingill