

962 Avenida de Mayo  
Buenos Aires  
27 August 1912

My Darling Father & Mother,

You will have received the sad news about poor old Harry

He passed away poor chap last Thursday the 22nd instant as a result of an accident whilst out shooting with his head Majordomo, a fellow called ELLIOTT at the Sol de Mayo. The two of them left the Estancia about 2 o'clock in the afternoon and made their way on horseback to a big pond only a short distance from the Estancia house. After tying their horses to a fence they walked a little way from the pond and got down on their hunkers to wait for some duck which are always hovering round the pond. They were quite close to one another Harry carrying a shot gun and Elliott a small Winchester rifle. After a few minutes two duck came into sight and came towards them in a sort of semi-circle. As soon as the duck came into shooting distance Elliott fired but at the crucial moment that he pulled the trigger Harry got up suddenly from the sitting position in which he was, to fire, and unfortunately received the rifle bullet in the head. He fell senseless and was conveyed to the House in a coach, where everything was done to save him. Doctors were telephoned for from ROJAS but they could do nothing for him poor chap and he died about two hours afterwards without regaining consciousness. ATKINSON who was in Buenos Aires at the time was advised at once and went out with all the speed possible having to drive through fearful roads for twenty leagues in order to be on the spot as quickly as possible. He took everything in hand himself and arranged to have Harry's body taken in to Buenos Aires on the 24th instant. He was buried with all due ceremony in the afternoon of that day in the English Cemetery at B. Aires. I was telegraphed for at once on Thursday evening to come with all haste to B. Aires but I could not get a train until Friday night and did not arrive in B. Aires until Saturday night at 9 o'clock so all was over before I reached here. - But Father and Mother much as I & all of you will regret there were none of his own kith and kin to see him peacefully laid to rest none of us could have done more for him in the last respects we would have paid him than the host of friends who surrounded him at the end. He was loved by all who knew him. He was called "TATA JORGE" by his peones which means "FATHER GEORGE" and meant more to them poor ignorant half-breeds than the name of GOD. He was loved and respected by his bosses Mr Atkinson and Justo del Carril, by all the Englishmen under him and by all the friends he has made in this country and he is being mourned by all alike. I wish specially to mention how kind Mr Atkinson has been. He has been more than a Father to Harry and to myself through it all and words cannot express how grateful I feel and you all will feel to him for all he has done. He has arranged everything in my absence and has borne up like a true man through it all notwithstanding he has felt for poor Harry and for us all most acutely and more deeply than anyone. He is a real friend. I also want to mention JUSTO DEL CARRIL'S name, DON BENIGNO'S Son. He considered Harry and treated Harry just as Atkinson has done as a Friend and a beloved Friend rather than an Employee. He insists in the name of his Father on bearing all the expenses of the funeral as he says he was so fond of Harry and he had been such a true Servant to him and Atkinson and his Father that he wishes to do this in order to show but a small recognition of Harry's services and of the respect in which he was held by them all. One more I wish to mention, Mr PERMAIN. It was through his influence that Harry obtained the billet in the Sol de Mayo and he is one of the best and truest friends Harry and I have got out here and during the last few days he has been more than kind. When you have the heart to do so, I should like you to send a few lines to these three expressing your gratitude and that of the Family for all they have done for us. I could mention others some of whom may be writing you but I shall probably be seeing them all myself. It is only on sad occasions like this that one realises what true friends mean. As I mentioned in my cable I had wreaths placed on the Grave One a lovely Cross made of White Flowers "In Loving Memory of their Dear Son Harry from Father and Mother" One a loving white wreath "In loving memory of dear old



Harry from his Brothers and Sisters". I have also arranged to have a simple Granite Cross placed on the Grave with a simple inscription put upon it. As soon as I knew what the cost of all these will be I shall advise you and you can arrange either to cable or post the amount out to Mr Atkinson. I cannot really say much more at present

but there is just one thing I want to add and I have purposely left it till last. It is with reference to poor Elliott. He & Harry were the greatest of chums and really loved each other. Elliott thought the world of him and Harry only the other day told Permain that he had never met anyone to whom he had taken such a liking as Elliott. That it was an accident goes without saying. One need only know the Man and the circumstances of the sad business to assure oneself of this. Poor Elliott is in a fearful state over the matter and again I ask you when you have the heart to do so, you Father would do it so splendidly, to write a few lines to him poor chap, telling him how sorry you are for him and how deeply you feel his position. It will be a relief to him poor fellow and a few lines only are necessary. A more unselfish white and more real man I have rarely met.

I am going out in a day or two to Sol de Mayo with Mr Atkinson to look through all Harry's papers &c and settle up his affairs. I shall be writing to you again and please tell Will I shall also be writing to him as soon as I can. I think you had better address any communications you wish to make with me to Mr Atkinson's address or better still to care "TALISKER" Buenos Aires. I refer of course solely to any cables you may wish to send me. Letters can be addressed to the "ESATANCIA LAS CAMAS" as usual where I shall return as soon as I have done all I have to do here & in the Sol de Mayo.

I am also enclosing a few cuttings from the various papers which I thought you would like to see.

Do please try to bear up poor Father & Mother. It is God's Will and although at times like these it is beyond our comprehensions to understand, it being God's Will it must be for the best. Dearest I Love to your two dear selves and to all the Family

Ever Your Loving Son

KEITH

I have just received your cable and am so glad to hear you are bearing up bravely. Harry is at rest now from all his labours and we know the Almighty has received him, a pure upright white man into his bosom and we can console ourselves that he passed thence without any suffering.

Mr Elliott's Address is "Sol de Mayo". His initials are L.E. Elliot.