**Casement to Gertrude Bannister**

**NLI 13074/6/ii**

Mar del Plata

Argentina

21 March 1910

My dearest Gee,

I have your two letters of recent dates to answer the last of 10 Febry telling me all about your hard work as Headmistress of Caversham - what a lot you must indeed have to do my dear wee girl and it is good of you to attempt writing at all under such a strain.

I am down here on leave from Rio, staying with Irish friend and I expect about end of month, at least I hope so, to be able to turn my face homewards - I am thinking of running across to Cape Town to see Tom up in the Orange Free State on the way. I send you a photo card of his mountain range. His farm is at the foot of the Drakensberg near Harrismith - this is called the "Brighton" of the Argentine - & is a very fashionable place indeed - I am being slop pailed out of the hall where I am writing, early in the morning by the inevitable Irish housemaid. There are a great many Irish people here and most of them very rich indeed. They are perhaps, the most successful of all the immigrants into this wonderful country. I go back up to Buenos Ayres tomorrow probably - it is nearly 300 miles from this - and go round it a little and then try to find out about a steamer for Cape Town. If I get no steamer for the Cape I'll go home straight from this.

Meantime all good luck to you my dear wee girl and to Lizzie and Eddie - & send the card on to Ninakins in Earls Court.

Ever thing

Roddie

P.S. Miss Colles is quite right = Ireland could "keep going" without England much better than England could keep going without Ireland! That is the real crux for the Anglo-Saxons & they know it quite well - if they lost Ireland they would lose their best market - if we lost them we should save our souls alive - also our purse.

R