

16 Ekaterinenskaia,
Kiev, Russia.

29th January 1904.

Dear Mr. Perez Galdos,

You will doubtless wonder who is writing to you in English from Russia. It is simply an English woman, who wishes to tell you how much pleasure those of your works she has read, have given her.

I began to study Spanish that I might be able to read Don Quixote

in the original. This I
have not yet done, as my
professor (an Austrian)
recommended and lent
me copies of your works.
So far Gloria and Electra
are my favourites, I have
also read Fortunata and
Jacinta, La Incógnita,
and Tristana

I hardly know which
to say - That misfortune
or Fortune has led me
to be a teacher of my
own language in
foreign lands, but in

any case, it has brought
an experience not wholly
unprofitable - But I
do object to your des-
cription of an English
Governess in "Tristana"
"una señora alta huesuda,
andariega, con feisima
cara de rosas y leche, y
un sombrero que parece
una jaula de pájaros
..... se contagie de su
fealdad seca y hombruna"
we are not all like that,
but if such is your
opinion of us in mass

it is certainly not flatter-
-ing. Now I am fired with
the wish not only to read
more Spanish, but to
speak that language,
and have every inten-
-tion later on to come
and teach English and
learn Spanish in the
land of Perez Galdos.
With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,
Florence Butt.