﻿Dear Mr Maxim,

We, the undersigned, write to inform you of changes in our policy on the guardianship of female persons aged between twelve and eighteen years.

﻿ The committee has come to the unanimous conclusion that a young woman should not be raised by a single man unrelated to her, except in unusual circumstances. In the case of your ward, Sophia Maxim, it was felt certain elements of her upbringing have been absolutely unsuitable for a female child.

﻿ We must therefore inform you that your ward will be removed from your charge and enrolled in St Catherine’s Orphanage in north Leicestershire. Non-compliance will result in a court order and a maximum of fifteen years penal servitude. The committee’s decision is final and effective immediately.

﻿ The Childcare Officer of your borough, Miss Susan Eliot, will collect your ward on Wednesday the fifth of June.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Eliot