

Letter No. 23

San Francisco County Jail
September 30 85

Friend Harris

I wrote you last steamer but got no answer, and don't know if the mail got down yet, or not. I expected to get away this boat to come up, but I am at the same place where I was last month. I have not had a hearing yet and God only knows when my trial comes-off. I was out on bail for 2 weeks, but my bail being raised last week I was locked in again, or more I gave myself up, and have not been able to get any bondsman yet. Radovich has turned out to be the worst enemy I had, he is trying to get my confidence under pretended friendship only was acting for others and was all the time ready to sell me, which he did, and is doing now everything in his power to work against me; he has sold me completely and so I am entirely lost. They can't find any charge against me and if I had a couple hundred dollars to pay a good lawyer I would be out before in 3 days; but so I have not got a cent, and expect they will do with me what they will. I have been too foolish trying to fight such strong monopoly. I am locked up now in a little cell 6 x 8 with 2 others one a burglar and one a murderer, we only get one meal a day and it is so bad that I would not have offered it to a Sywash in Alaska. The jailers want us to buy from them, but a man got to have the cash to buy and the vermin cut one up; the cells are dark and one is compelled to buy his own candles, and if I had a knife (they take everything away from a person) I would have cut my throat long ago. I got nothing to live for, I am disgraced, ruined and am innocently prosecuted because I have tried to hold on to what belongs to me. If you could sell my assay kit, desk tools (if there are any left) or the cabins on the hill for anything at all do so that it may help me a little - The parties who charged me have several times been to see me sell me for money, who and what induced them and are anxious to get out of it knowing my innocence. I met your Capt. Cochrane and told him what I had written you he said your case was set for February. Well I told you how and where to get testimony; the Capt. is no friend of mine, he wrote an article in the Post and abused me shamefully; well of course he had to do it as he is one of Coleman's men and hangs out there all the time. I think you made a very poor selection; are you not aware that Coleman backs Fuller? Don't you know that he owns 1/3 of the Fuller 1st. The best you can do employ a new lawyer. Cochran might be willing to be square by you, but you bet they won't let him. But you know your business best, and I only give you this hind. Dennis De Porte is also kept here by Coleman to help fight me and you. What can you do about representing my claims as I wrote you. Have I got to lose everything. I don't care for myself, but I would like to save something for my family. Cochran and De Porte say that I have no friend left up there and that if I came up again the boys would hang me. So that all the thanks I get in return? The few dollars that I owe any of them surly would not hang me and have I ever wronged a single one knowingly? What had become of Schmeig, I have not heard from him at all. I wished you tell him that I found the other day in my trunk his picture which I thought he had got a year ago, and I intended to mail it to him this boat but that I got locked in again and I got no one to dare to trust to get my trunk, as there are a good many papers in it. Mrs. P. and Willie have left and gone to her folks to work. If any of the boys come down here this fall, tell to come in see me, I probably will be in the County Jail for months yet before my trial comes up. Be sure to write and see if you can get anything for my things, address me simply to general Post office, that will be the

surest way of my getting a letter. Don't write to Radovich I know now the S___ O___ B___ would open and keep them. Give my best regards to all and don't forget your true

but unfortunate Friend

Geo. E. Pilz