

San Francisco Jan. 4 86

R.T.Harris Esq.

My dear friend'

A happy New Years to you & may you be happy & beat those infernal hounds. It has been a bad beginning for me. In jail is a nice place to be on New Years. Then Dick here I am yet & liable to be on across the Bay. I wrote you last steamer as did Mrs. Pilz to send you boys my heartfelt thanks & to express to you my eternal gratitude. But Jack Olds called here yesterday & told me you did not receive the letters. May be you got Hayes letter, so he may had told you how things stand. He helped me all he could, but could do no more than he done. My trial was set on the 12th of last month, but again when I was taken to court the Prosecution had it put off, claiming not to be ready. How long they are going to keep me I don't know. Through your help, we got Judge Louderback to take my case, and he will do all he can, but as much as he can learn, they will do their best to convict me, as there are 3 lawyers to assist the Prosecuting Attorney, of course, these are paid by the hounds. They will have to set my trial for this month again, & it probably will have to come off, as otherwise they will have to let me go on my own recognizance. You see I can't find out at all what they will try & prove against me, as I never had a hearing or police court trial, and they won't allow my lawyer to see the Grand Jury testimony. Through Hayes and Mrs. Pilz work I got out on bonds day before Christmas, she went & saw Judge Toohy before whom my case was first to be tried, but he would not answer the gang, so they somehow got my case before Judge Murphy & he is a Coleman man. Judge Toohy released me & the very next day Judge Murphy issued a bench warrant, and as I was coming down street to meet Hayes to go to see Capt. Coughlan I was rearrested & put back, with bail doubled again. Now I have lost all hopes, as a new venire of Jurymen are drawn for this month's & I understand they got their own venire up, so I won't have a ghost of a show. You see I am helpless to secure any prove, as all I know about my charge is what the complaint reads in 10 words, for forgery of a check of 322 on Humbold bank. Now you know that that black levered S.of B. Radovich, stole from me when I thought him my friend, the letters wherein this check was send to me with others & for what purpose. Yet the Bank acknowledged being advise of its & say I can only have indorsed it as they dont know the man's signature, but that the check is genuine. I hear Murray & Treadwell are going to testify against me for the prosecution. Well if I am convicted Dick, for Gods sake don't believe me guilty, before my maker I am as innocent of this as the baby unborn and do doubt they will give me as much as possible, the limits being 14 years. Well if such be my fate, I shall never live to let my enemi's glory over it but shall find a way of ending this & foiling the hounds. As it is I am ruined man with everything gone, no property, no name and dishonored, I could not outlive what I have suffered words & paper can't express.

I hope you may save the Pilz 2nd and some of them other claims for Mrs. Pilz and Willie, they both have to suffer terrible through this. Willie is working in a store for 3.00 a week, but Mrs. Pilz has not been able to go to work, as she has been eternally running around in my behave, but she was to close watched, so that when she got party interested in my behave the hounds would always seem to now it. Jack Olds will come & see me after the steamer is gone, as he will have

more time then & give me all the news. Write me again care Dr. Whitell 906 Market St. I believe he is going to interest himself with Hayes.

Be sure & write me & accept again my hardy thanks. Hayes don't know what you want me to do in your case & Capt. Coughlan has not been to see me, but I told Hayes to bring him, as my deposition must be taken before I get convicted or else they will throw it out. Regard to all friends I remain eternally grateful.

Geo. E. Pilz