

Letter No. 35

Navy Yard - Mare Island, Cal.
Aug. 8th 1886

My dear Harris:

Yours of June 10th reached a short time ago, after being delayed about three weeks in the mail. I am awfully sorry about your case, but I can do nothing for you, as I am not up there. I wrote you three or four times this spring and kept working up your case, but you never answered any of my letters, so I gave up, supposing you' did not care to hear from me. So far as I can see the gang has got you dead. Your lawyer was an ass not to have the records there, as that was your case. McGregor and some of the others thought he sold you out, and called me a d_____ fool for taking any further interest in the matter when you wouldn't answer my letters. The result justifies them. Every point your lawyer tried was made too late in the game. The Supreme Court of Oregon has nothing to do with your case. It will have to go to the Supreme Court of the United States. If Mr. Maloney fools around about the Oregon Court he will only made you lose every thing.

I wrote you a point which would have been good against them. Coleman's name was not on the record, Fuller sold to two others, and had the point been made in time you could have got damages. I am here tied up, just when I wanted to come up.

If the Judge don't grant you a new trial on the Indian being on the Jury, your case is gone. Your lawyer's ignorance will have beaten you. No man should have attempted to have gone to trial without the records of the District to back him.

You had no creditors when you sold your property, so you could not have sold it to hinder or delay or defraud them. You were perfectly solvent and owed no man a cent. I sincerely hope you can beat them. I saw by the papers that a Mr. Alfred S. Frank a Portland lawyer was drowned a short time ago; was that their lawyer?

If Maloney does his duty I think he can save you on those sales. If you can do anything in prospecting I will go in with you. It is impossible for me to come up this year, so you had better look out for the Harris Mine.

Give my love to Jim Williams and old uncle Billy and Pat Corcoran. With kind regards for yourself. I am your sincere friend.

Your sincere friend

J.D.Coghlan

I am awfully busy just now.