

Letter No. 38

U.S.Navy Yard, Mare Island, Cal.
January 6th. 1887.

My dear Harris:

Your letter of Nov. 30th. reached me in due time and I sat down right away and wrote to Hendry and the Hall Bros. about their claims against Fuller.

I also went to San Francisco to see them. Hendry told me that he only had a claim of about \$300.00 against Fuller and he did not care about pushing the matter just now, as Fuller had told him that he was now in a condition to soon pay him and other creditors their money. When he told me that I only laughed, but could do nothing further. It seems that Fuller used to run on one of their boats, and has the luck of being in their good graces in spite of his long career of non-paying. I also wrote to the Hall Bros. and made an engagement to call at their office to see them; they thought so little of the matter that they did not even leave any word with their man about it, and treated my letter with supreme contempt. The fact of the matter is I think Fuller has written these people that he is in with the Treadwell crowd and is making a good thing, which will, if let alone, soon enable him to pay up; and these people are geese enough to believe him. The lies about that mine are awful big and some asses actually believe the whole of Alaska is one vast goldfield. One thing I want to say to you: if you redeem that property and do not pay enough money to satisfy the judgment, they can resell the whole thing over again, and keep on doing the same thing until they satisfy the whole amount. So be very careful what you do; of course if it is worth the money, it will pay you to settle up the whole claim at once and be free to hold any other property you may, in the meantime, discover. Until that judgement is satisfied you cannot hold anything in your own name; and you know how very hard it is for you to hold any property in the name of anyone else. You have been too decent a man for the general run of Alaska miners, to be liked by them. Since you have let rum alone you are a constant eye-sore to those who spend their time and money in the grog-shops.

I admire you all the more for it Dick, and for the sake of the "square and plumb" I sincerely hope you will keep on in the good work. I was elected Master of our Lodge last month and was "installed" last Monday night. Give my kind regards to Jim Williams and any of our other friends who are around town, and believe me, as before, your friend,

J.B. Coghlan