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Colon. Office, Boston. Sept. 7. 1868

Dr. James Hall

Dear Sir. I am glad you are so far recovered from your fracture. I know by experience, that a broken thigh bone is no trifle, even without a smashed knee, and with better health than you had sustain it and recover. And I am much obliged for your letter of Sept. 2. It gives me some facts that I did not know before, and a better view of some that I did know.

I first heard of the Philadelphia affair by way of Coppinger, and at once suggested that some matter of discipline might have provoked the witnesses against Lovett. The stories looked to me like the effect of some such cause. I knew nothing about the steward, but I knew that Lovett and a distinguished passenger were troublesome to each other. Lovett never had the reputation of drinking at Beverly. Whatever fault of that kind there is about him, I think, must be a new thing, and probably, arises from the belief that on an African voyage, he must drink. That might easily lead to an appetite for drink when not on that coast. I think you will be able to talk him out of it, so that he can make another voyage. I have been careful to keep the matter still at

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

16. January 1868--November 1871
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