

Beaufort, N.C.,

Oct. 16. 1909

My dear Sir,

I see by To-day's paper, that you promise to send an expedition to collect Meffinley to recover the records left there by yourself, & that it "will start as soon as the weather permits, next year."

I take the liberty of suggesting that if Barrill's charges are untrue, which I imagine them to be, & if it should prove that he was suborned to commit perjury, any evidence that Commander Peary was a party to the transaction would destroy him forever. Under these circumstances, whoever devised & executed this plot will be quite capable of making the ascent in order to destroy these records in advance of the arrival of your friends. It strikes me as perilous to your reputation to postpone their start one moment beyond that in which it becomes possible. Your enemies will make a winter

ascent. if necessary, to destroy you -

Take this hint for whatever it may
be worth. My letter requires no answer,
not even an acknowledgment.

Very respectfully,

Federick Howard Wines

D^r. Fred^r. A. Cook,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Transcription of 9-12-2_1 and 9-12-2_2

Beaufort, NC
Oct. 16. 1909

My dear Sir,

I see by today's paper, that you promise to send an expedition to Mt. McKinley to recover the records left there by yourself, & that it "will start as soon as the weather permits, next year."

I take the liberty of suggesting that if Barrill's charges are untrue, which I imagine them to be, & if it should prove that he was informed to commit perjury, and evidence that Commander Peary was a party to the transaction would destroy him forever. Under these circumstances, whoever devised & executed his plot will be quite capable of making the ascent in order to destroy these records in advance of the arrival of your friends. It strikes me as perilous to your reputation to postpone their start one moment beyond that in which it becomes possible. Your enemies will make a winter ascent if necessary to destroy you.

Take this hint for whatever it may be worth. My letter requires no answer, not even an acknowledgement.

Very Respectfully,
Frederick Howard Mines

Dr. Fredk A. Cook,
Brooklyn, NY