

St Paul Minnesota Territory Aug 1/56

My Dear Grandmother

It is with a feeling of the greatest pleasure that I undertake to keep my word with you by writing as soon as I was settled after I left Canada. I went direct to New York and there I had a slight mishap which caused no injury. I caught a pecuniary one after leaving New York. I went to Philadelphia Baltimore Charleston Savannah and Pittsburgh spending a good deal of both time and money and afterwards I came back to New York. I took a train to go and see St Paul so on the 11th of July I left and on the morning of the 18th I was coming into Toronto on board the steamer Europa. After I landed in Toronto the car was just going to Guelph and I could hardly refrain from going up but I thought if I went I should stay being a little homesick at the time so on I went and at Bronte the train stopped and Thos M Clougham got on. I was so tired and travel worn that he scarcely knew me at Woodstock. I saw Thomas Perry and his lodge waiting at the station for another lodge to come up and he was the last man I saw since I left Canada that I knew but three one of which is Mr Borries from Guelph he being on his way

to Saint Paul I overtook him in the City of Chicago
quite accidentally but he was good Companion
for me up the River we both being perfect-strangers
I like this Country very well and I think I shall
like it still better the longer I live here I am in
the Commission and Shipping Business my
Salary is twice as much as I could get in Canada
and work is easy all done in an office I have
from 6 o'clock Every Evening to walk around and
enjoy myself I intend to go and see you this
Winter or next fall and I hope to find you all in
good health the greatest of Gods Blessings I should
like to hear from you ~~very~~ often and let me know
what Cousin my mother is pursuing and what my
Brother is about also what Robert Barbar is doing
if he is still keep Alexander at his place at work
give my love to Uncle Alex^r and his family
and to Uncle John and Aunt Agnes and accept
a large portion for yourself in the meantime believe
me to be

Your Afft Grandson
James Hill

Prier

James Hill

Care J. W. Bap & Co

St Paul Minn Iowa

U.S.