

War Department,

Washington, November 15 1896

My dear Mr. Rice:

I have had some recent talk with Colonel Payne in connection with certain propositions suggested to me and it has seemed to us that I could be useful to you in some proper capacity with New York for headquarters-at present—

Are there not many ways in which I could relieve you

there and at the same time serve
you elsewhere.

I believe I could make myself
felt in your organization in
popularizing and promoting
the road business interests
here and abroad and at the
same time I am sure I could
be useful in other important
parts of your service -

Mr Stetson, with whom I
had a conversation the other day,
intimated that he still had hopes
that you would eventually man -

age the Northern Pacific property
and that it was essential that
good feeling should exist be-
tween the companies. Mr
Stillman also talks in the same
line. They evidently want
to get on with you.

Stillman, by the way, is a great
believer in the securities of the
N. P. Company

The recent completed organiza-
tion of that company is most
singular in view of its features
and there are some developments

here in the land matters of which I
will tell you when I see you —

Think this over and let me have a
word at your convenience. The plan
for me in which I could make
effective return is in the railroad
business.

I look for a little let back in the
money and stock situation when Congress
meets but it might not be serious
or prolonged unless Congress should
direct some decided action. The
Cuban matter is not in good shape
and cannot be absolutely ignored —
The telling of it I fear will give rise
to more or less disgusting talk —

Very sincerely yours,

Daniel A. Farnham