

Personal.

St Paul, Minn., July 17th 1898.

Hon.D.S.Lamont,

#35 Wall Street,

New York City.

My dear Colonel:-

I have your favor of the 11th instant, and am always glad to hear from you. Since I returned I have been very busy, and suppose this will continue for a week or ten days longer. Mr.Mellen has returned, leaving Adams and his German companions to go through the Yellowstone Park. I understand they will be here tomorrow.

I hear from the West that Mr.Adams and Mr.Mellen have examined about all the railroads that are likely to be for sale, as well as several new enterprises to be built. Mellen expresses himself as greatly impressed with Mr.Adams, and thinks Morgan would have made a fatal mistake last year if he had not retained Adams on the Board. He told me that he was fully satisfied that Mr.Morgan was making a mistake now by not cultivating closer relations with Mr.Adams. This of itself cuts no figure, except to show that Mr.Mellen has no sound level headed judgment. Mr.Adams has made a mess of everything he has ever undertaken, and has forfeited the good will and confidence of every man he has ever been associated with so far as I have ever heard. Even Schiff, who is his neighbor at Seabright and who for two years never lost an opportunity to ask me to trust Adams and to work with him, now comes out and says that he has been badly deceived and takes no stock in anything he says.