CAPITAL $500,000. SURPLUS & PROFITS $200,000.

Montana National Bank

United States Depository.

JOHN T. MURPHY, President.
R. L. McCULLOH, Vice President.
A. L. SMITH, Cashier.
E. B. WEIRICK, Ass't Cashier.

C. A. BROADWATER, President.
L. G. PHELPS, Vice Pres't.
R. L. McCULLOH, Cashier.
A. L. SMITH, Ass't Cashier.

Helena, Mont. 2/15 1893

James J. Hill Esq
Saint Paul,

Dear Mr Hill:

Mr Cannon writes me in acknowledgment of a comm^n. containing some information about how, thus far, the indebtedness of the estate has been decreased, remarking

"I have read with interest your mem^o. respecting the Broadwater estate & may call on you, later on, to reduce its indebtedness somewhat, I hope you will be able to dispose of more property from time to time & gradually reduce its indebtedness to us in New York."

The NY indebtedness is as follows:–

Chase N. B.	100,000.00	matures	April 1/93
do	100,000.00	"	July 1/93
Central Trust Co	150,000.00	"	do
Manhattan Trust Co	50,000.00	"	do
J. Kennedy Tod & Co	50,000.00	"	do
	$450,000.00	secured by	

2600 Sh. Mon N. B. Stock, appraised at low valuation of $125. = 325.000.
3800 Sh G. F. W. P & S. P. Co Stock, at par would be worth 380.000
$705.00

Whilst the N.Y. People have such good security, & I continue

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Paying interest when due, it seems to me they should carry me along until money can be realized, my desire is to pay off indebtedness & it certainly gives me more anxiety, & worriment, whilst it exists, than anyone else,

Enclose you press copy of letter sent Mr Damon which wish you would kindly read, it shows you how I am situated, if our friends want money can only raise it, by time the notes mature, April 1st & July 21st, by disposing of G.G.N.P.&G.Co stock, & without your valuable assistance that will be impracticable, recently talking with Mr Broadwater about the value of the stock he told me he considered it intrinsically worth now par, $100. per share, my desire has been, & is, to hold on to the stock in accordance with your advice, but if I must reduce my indebtedness when it next matures my only show to do so will be with your valuable assistance to dispose of the stock, if you with your usual kindness will interest yourself in requesting the holders to renew the paper, as it matures, until such time as it can be reduced, & eventually paid, undoubtedly they will do so, but otherwise each of them may call on me for money & in that event, unless stock is sold, I cannot meet their demands.

Transmit you herewith a statement showing

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reduction made in indebtedness to 1st mtg:- considering how dull everything has been believe the showing to be an unexpectedly good one to the friends of the estate.

Am sorry to trouble you when you have so much business of your own to occupy your valuable time, but you have ever shown such an interest in the estate, friendly spirit in kindly proffering your valued assistance that I feel dependant upon you to aid me in matters of this nature, which I endeavor, as much as lies in my power, to avoid troubling you, appreciating the value of your time, cannot do otherwise now than ask you to aid me in this matter by having our New York friends renew for me, or else dispose of the G.F.M.P.T.S.Co stock with proceeds reduce indebtedness there, whichever of these propositions your judgment approves of can only be carried out by me, I feel, through you.

You will oblige me by reading the copy of my communication to Mr Cannon carefully, hoping that at as early date as suits your convenience you will favor me with a reply,

I remain

Very truly yours

Robt L McCulloh

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[2-15-93]

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May 24th 1894. Bills Payable @ 6%		218.896.25
do 7"		4.000.
do 8"		70.767.50
do 10"		401.363.21
Accrued Interest		9.859.50
Accounts		2.341.74
		707.228.20
Less Cash on hand		6.844.37
Net Indebtedness May 24. 94.		$700.383.83
Feby 1st 93. Bills Payable 6%	514.869.05	
do 7%	25.000	
do 8%	20.667.50	
do 10%	69.347.95	
Accrued Interest	10.917.11	
	640.801.61	
Less Cash	16.279.91	624.521.70
Reduction		$75.862.13

Reduction in yearly interest $17.981[15]

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Personal

A. W. Cannon Esq
Pres't Chase National Bank
New York

Dear Mr Cannon:

Answering your favor 8th inst

Regarding reduction of indebtedness, which you allude to, my dependence is upon your carrying me along until such time as money can be realized without sacrifice, my desire is to reduce M.M. indebtedness at the earliest Possible date, to accomplish this have already made every Possible effort to dispose of what is in my hands as Executor, have made two attempts, in a confidential way, to sell the bank stock, but neither of these materialized, one proposition was undertaken by Phelps but, without ever making the effort which he contemplated, he abandoned the option, the other proposition was made to A. L. Seligman, but when he submitted it, to his N.Y. relatives, they declined to advance the money required & he returned me all documents, promising me faithfully that he, & his relatives, would treat the matter in the strictest confidence, this assurance was also given me by Phelps, he seemed very ambitious to be at the head of this bank & when the option was given him appeared sanguine that he could make the deal, but disappointed me by not even making

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the effort, he intended to specially, to raise the money East, in each case I agreed to taking 100 Shares for the Estate & with Seligman furthermore assented, at his request, to be Vice Prest if he made the deal & became Prest. The bank stock was appraised by the Court Appraisers, Phelps, Marlow & Tuttle, at $195 per share & my option to Phelps & Seligman was at this price, lower than its value, but my anxiety is so great to reduce indebtedness that am willing to do anything, within reason, to accomplish it. In Seligman's case my understanding was, if he consummated the deal, your bank was to be our N.Y. correspondent. In Phelps' case made no stipulation of this character for the obvious reason your feeling towards him is not of such a nature as to justify it.

Real Estate cannot be disposed of here now, whenever an opportunity offers endeavor to sell at any price, do not let it prevent a sale, but have not disposed of any yet, have completed some sales made some years ago, by collecting final Payments & issuing deeds, but the money received has not amounted to much, property owners condemn prices at which have offered real estate, merely mention this to indicate the obstacle in making real estate sales does not exist with the Executor, after the Fair is commenced am hopeful that some activity may develop in ground

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but this feeling, for the present year, is not shared by real estate dealers generally, they do not look for much demand for at least another year. that a good demand will eventually exist no one doubts but for the present all I can do is to pay taxes & take advantage of every opportunity offering to make a sale.

A ranch on Sun River, very near Great Falls, appraised at $10000. have offered twice to Prospective Purchasers at this price but it has been refused, Mr Paris Gibson, one of the appraisers, thinks the property this year is worth more but the difficulty is to get a Purchaser.

The Broadwater Group, Neihart, was appraised at $140.000. for Mr Hill & Estates interest, have given Mr M. J. Clark an option on it, with Mr Hill's assent & signature affixed for $115000. the option expiring April 15/96, on which date if Mr Clark takes the Property he is to pay 1/3 cash & give good negotiable Promissory notes, to be approved by Mr Hill, for the remainder payable 1/3 in 4 mos, the remaining 1/3 in 8 mos, with 6% int. Mr Clark is to expend on them not less than $3900.00 on the claims, in the event he does not take them they will there be in shape to offer another purchaser, when one offers, which they were not when he took hold of them in December.

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Should this sale go through the Estate will realize $50,000.00

The Mining Shares of Estate in Elkhorn 1500 Shares, & D Lamar 1333½ Shares, have been disposed of, the money for the latter sale, however, has not yet been rec'd.

The Cattle Herd will net much more by shipping & selling than could possibly be obtained by selling the interest entire, such a procedure I would certainly be opposed to as would consider it a sacrifice of an interest which is the most profitable dividend payer now in my possession; think can reasonably calculate on $[illegible] net receipts from this source during the year but do not anticipate any of the money will be available before September.

The Hotel Broadwater came out ahead on operating expenses last season, it would be suicidal to the interests of the estate to close it this year, & my design is to run it under the same management as last season, but the expenses will be reduced to a minimum & my expectation is the hotel will do better than it ever has before, if permanently closed the effect would be to injure the lands & publish the hotel far & wide as an unprofitable investment, there is no doubt about its paying its operating expenses, & my hope is it will

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do better, Having failed in disposing of the bank stock all I have now that might find a market is the Great Falls Water Power & Town Site Co Stock, Mr Hill advised me to hold on to it, & such is my desire, but will write him this mail about selling some, if not all, & see what he says about it, Mr Paris Gibson told me recently that he considered the intrinsic value of the stock was 100 per share, if such a price could be realized the proceeds $380.000, would put the estates indebtedness in such shape that it would not worry me, now it oppresses me incessantly notwithstanding the N.Y. indebtedness of

Chase N.B.	200.000	is it amply secured by collateral of
Central Trust Co	150.000	3000 Shares Bank Stock appraised at a
Manhattan Trust Co	50.000	low valuation of $105. — 315.000
J. Kennedy Tod & Co	50.000	3800 G.F.W.P.&T.S.Co Stock at par
	$450.000	would be worth — 380.000
		$705.00

leaving margin for large depreciation in value of G.F.W.P.&T.S.Co stock still ample collateral for the indebtedness remaining —

Unless Mr Hill can assist me in disposing of G.F.W.P.&T.S.Co stock am fearful to say I cannot see anyway of materially reducing N.Y. indebtedness for the present, it would be poor Policy in me to attempt to borrow money here @10% to reduce 6% money in N.Y.

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& you would not bring me to less, probably could not raise more than $5000 & possibly not that much, now am not owing money to any banks in this State, on the contrary have a credit balance constantly in the Montana N.B. The expense of handling the estate is as low as will accomplish the purpose, Mrs Broadwater receives an allowance of $300.00 per mo each of the children $150 - making $600.00 per month, the property is all in good shape & which I continue to meet the interest payments & furnish ample collateral for loans, sincerely hope that you will carry me until such time as it may be convenient to reduce my balance with you, otherwise must dispose of Great Falls stock as unless succeed in getting money from that source, do not see how can make any reductions before the coming fall.

Trusting that you will make a special effort to help me out in all matters pertaining to the Estate,

I remain

Sincerely truly

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