

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1891 NOV. 6-9

FOLDER NO.

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN  
ORIGINAL ORDER

C. A. DAIGH,  
Pres't & Gen'l. Manager.

A. B. SIBLEY,  
Secretary.

MORGAN BROOKS,  
Treasurer.

ST. PAUL  
413-JACKSON ST.  
DULUTH  
409-WEST MICHIGAN ST.  
CHICAGO  
931-ROCKERY.



AGENTS FOR  
National Transformers  
& Dynamos.  
the Munson Belting.  
Packard Incandescent Lamps.

*St. Paul, Minn. Nov 6th/91*

W. A. Stephens, Esq.,

c/o Great Northern Ry.,

City.

Dear Sir:- We think Mr. Hill has authorized you to send us a letter giving us authority to go ahead with the work in Mr. Hill's house. We have had this verbally but would like to have it in writing as a matter of record.

Our understanding is that we are to do the entire work specified in our letter to Mr. Hill with the exception of the conduit, which Mr. Hill has agreed to lay. We would also like to know whether we are to use the cable now at the station.

After waiting some time, we yesterday saw Mr. Mc.Bride but got no satisfactory information from him in regard to the underground conduit. He said that he was employed at the house after the underground conduit was completed, but that he had heard it said that the cable was laid in the wrong tunnel.

Mr. Daigh has arranged for a special slow speed multipolar dynamo for charging the storage batteries. It will be made to

[11-6-91]

W. A. Stephens, Esq. -(2)

order and delivery is guaranteed by the middle of next month.

We have the ground staked out for Messrs Lauer Bros. to commence work at once. We would like to have our man on the ground during the progress of the work.

Yours Truly,

THE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & SUPPLY CO.

By *Morgan Brooks*

Treasurer.



*St. Paul, Minn., Nov. 6, 1891.*

*Dear Sir:*

For some time past a sentiment has been prevalent among a large portion of the business men of this city, which recognizes the fact that St. Paul's commercial and industrial status would be more fully maintained by the existence of a distinctively commercial organization.

The financial depression that has pervaded all sections of our country, including the territory tributary to St. Paul, during the last four years has doubtless delayed the institution of a commercial association such as exist and flourish in many of the older cities of the East, South and West, but as we are now entering upon an era of renewed prosperity which cannot fail, if the business element in this community does its part, to result in great good to the city. It seems that a *Commercial Club*, organized from the now scattered ranks of the large majority of the men engaged in business and industrial pursuits, is not only a practical idea but an actual necessity.

The objects are to establish a permanent organization of the business men of St. Paul, to promote more intimate social relations among them by some of the ordinary club features, and consequently a more friendly feeling.

It should aim to take aggressive action upon every movement concerning the welfare of St. Paul or its citizens, and to encourage and promote the commercial and manufacturing interests of the city in every way possible, to advertise to the world the diversified advantages of our City and State, to ascertain the needs of the City, and assist in removing impediments to her progress, to foster and encourage through social intercourse a public spirit and feeling of loyalty which will inure to the benefit of the City, and to teach that whatever promotes the business interest of any class of citizens is for the benefit of all, and that whatever injures business, in any line, is against the interests of all.

For the purpose of considering plans and details toward organizing a *Commercial Club*, as above indicated, there will be a meeting held at Litt's Hall, Grand Opera House Block, at eight o'clock sharp, Monday evening, November 9th, to which you are cordially invited.

COMMITTEE OF ST. PAUL BUSINESS MEN.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

40-42 WALL STREET,

NEW YORK.

P. O. Box 756.

Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 1891

James J. Hill Esq  
St Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir.

Yours of 11<sup>th</sup> inst also telegram of 3<sup>rd</sup>  
advising your draft for \$25,000. duly received.

Draft has been paid.

Have borrowed today from Minneapolis Union Tr Co  
\$25,000. on call at 4% giving your note required by means  
your attorney, without collateral.

Yours very truly,  
Elliot P. Kirkland



EDITORIAL ROOMS.

THE ARGUS.

SUNDAY. DAILY. WEEKLY.

~~E. S. Tolan, Receiver~~

GEO. K. SHAW, MANAGER.

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA,

Nov. 7, 1891.

Samuel Hill, Esq., Minneapolis.

Dear Sir:

The people here--that is, all except the Edwards gang-- seem satisfied with the kind of Argus we are getting out--and the Edwards gang are dissatisfied because it is so good. We receive a great many compliments and are getting a good many new subscribers in the city, among them a number of prominent men who have not taken The Argus for years. We are really getting out a better paper than the patronage will warrant, but it is necessary for us to do this in order to maintain our ground. Edwards is making a personal canvass of the town especially against The Argus. He charges that "Jim Hill has robbed him of every cent he had, and when he gets his new paper started, by G--d, he'll show him." Edwards holds a club over a good many men here, and they are afraid to refuse to patronize his new paper--and sometimes his pull is strong enough to induce them to stop patronizing The Argus. We have lost some advertising in this way. But I have got a good advertising man on now, and we are gaining. Examine tomorrow morning's paper and you will see that we have some twenty-five columns of advertising against ten columns last Sunday. The fact of Edwards starting a new paper here is going to make it somewhat more costly to get The Argus on to a paying basis--just how much more costly I can't tell now. But in my opinion our only way to come out all right in the end is to keep The Argus up as good as

## THE ARGUS.

SUNDAY.

DAILY.

WEEKLY.

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~~E. S. TREN, RECOVER~~  
GEO. K. SHAW, MANAGER.

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA,

as it is now and wear the old devil out. We will make the newspaper business so expensive here that he can't stand it. Any paper that he can get out won't be in it with The Argus if the latter is kept up to its present standard. While some people here are afraid of Edwards I think the large majority will feel a pride in doing something to support a first-class morning paper here. The Edwards gang are saying that what we are doing now is merely a spurt, and that we can't or won't continue to publish such a good paper. If we keep up the pace and let Edwards severely alone, as I propose doing, we will have Fargo and North Dakota by the tail by next spring, and The Argus will begin to pay. When it does begin to pay, it will be worth \$50,000 at least.

If you have any suggestions to make in regard to conducting the paper I would like to hear them. I would also like to know what you think about leasing the job-office to the Walkers.

Very truly yours,

*Geo. K. Shaw*



Fargo N.D. Nov 7. 1891

Chas H Babcock, Esq

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Sir: The Walker Bros. have made a proposition through Mr Shaw for leasing the Job Department of the Argus Concern and purchasing the stock on hand. Mr Shaw has written to Mr J. Hill about the matter but the latter was too much occupied at the time with other affairs to consider the proposition. The Walkers are very anxious to get a reply and I thought perhaps you could have some action taken. I am informed that Mr. Shaw regards their offer a good one to accept. I know nothing about it and write you at the request of Mr Walker.

Yours Truly

A. C. Davis



## THE ARGUS.

SUNDAY. DAILY. WEEKLY.

E. S. TUCKER, READER.  
GEO. K. SHAW, MANAGER.

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA,

Nov. 8, 1891.

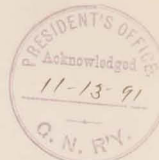
Samuel Hill, Esq., Minneapolis.

Dear Sir: About a week ago Edwards notified the postmaster here that we were not entitled to the corporation mail --that is, to the mail addressed to The Argus Printing Company. I immediately notified the postmaster in writing that no one but myself or The Argus was entitled to such mail and to deliver it to no one else. I acted under the advice of Mr. Amidon. This, under the ruling of the postmaster here, creates a dead-lock, and the mail is tied up in the postoffice awaiting a decision from Washington. The postmaster said that if we would agree upon a receiver for the mail he would deliver it to such receiver, he to apportion it as it properly belongs. But Edwards refused to agree upon any receiver. His game was to intercept our orders for advertising, job-work, subscriptions, etc., and our remittances. No doubt several hundred dollars of remittances are tied up in the postoffice now which properly belong to The Argus. This is going to make us run short of money sooner than I expected. I have notified the Citizens National Bank that as inasmuch as they guaranteed us title to the good will, we shall hold Schuyler responsible for any damage that may accrue to us by reason of the tying up of this mail. I have no doubt that the bank has a string on Edwards and could make him agree to the appointment of a receiver of the mail. Had not Mr. Babcock better correspond with Davis and Amidon with a view to taking legal steps to enforce our rights in the matter?

Very truly yours,

Geo. K. Shaw.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.  
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.  
BALTIMORE, 11-9-91.



Mr. Jas. J. Hill,  
President, Great Northern Railroad,  
Saint Paul, Minn.

My dear Sir:

You will probably recall my visit to Saint Paul last Spring with two or three of our Directors when we had the pleasure of meeting yourself and Son-in-Law at the very handsome residence you had about completed, and your great kindness in affording us an opportunity of seeing the inside.

On my return to Baltimore I took occasion to refer to this magnificent home you were building in Saint Paul, which has prompted the enclosed letter from Mr. Francis B. Mayer, which is self explanatory.

If the subjects that Mr. Mayer has are of interest to you, and you desire the painting or album, it will afford me very great pleasure to serve you in any way I can.

Mr. Mayer is an Artist of considerable reputation in this community, and has painted several very handsome pictures. His subjects are nearly all historic and original.

Mr. Mayer can meet you in Baltimore or New York, should you desire a personal interview with him.

If you have never tried the B. & O. on any of your eastern trips, it will afford us very great pleasure to haul your car and



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BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY,  
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.  
BALTIMORE.

J. J. H., 2.

party from Chicago to Baltimore, and thence to New York, also to  
extend you a most cordial welcome while in Baltimore.

Yours very truly,

*C. K. Lord*  
*C. K. Lord*

Third Vice-President.

Enc.

PETTIGREW & TATE.  
REAL ESTATE BROKERS.  
ODD FELLOWS BLOCK

R. F. PETTIGREW.  
SAMUEL L. TATE.

Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Nov. 9th 1891.

A. L. Mohler, Esq.,

Great Northern Road,

St. Paul, Minn.



Dear Sir:--

I sold Mr. Hill my herd of buffalos to be delivered here, but I think a man had better be sent with them. There is a first-class man here who understands handling the animals better perhaps than any other man in the United States. I wish you would send me transportation for Thos. Hardwick Sioux Falls to St. Paul and return and I will send him along with the animals.

Yours truly,

*R. F. Pettigrew*

*Mr. J. G. Hill, Post  
Do you wish  
transportation furnished?  
At Moller  
in Dakota*

*W.A.S.  
11-10/91*

*What is your pleasure?  
L.S.R.*



## A RICH VALLEY.

One Hundred and Forty Miles  
North and South by Eighty  
Miles East and West.

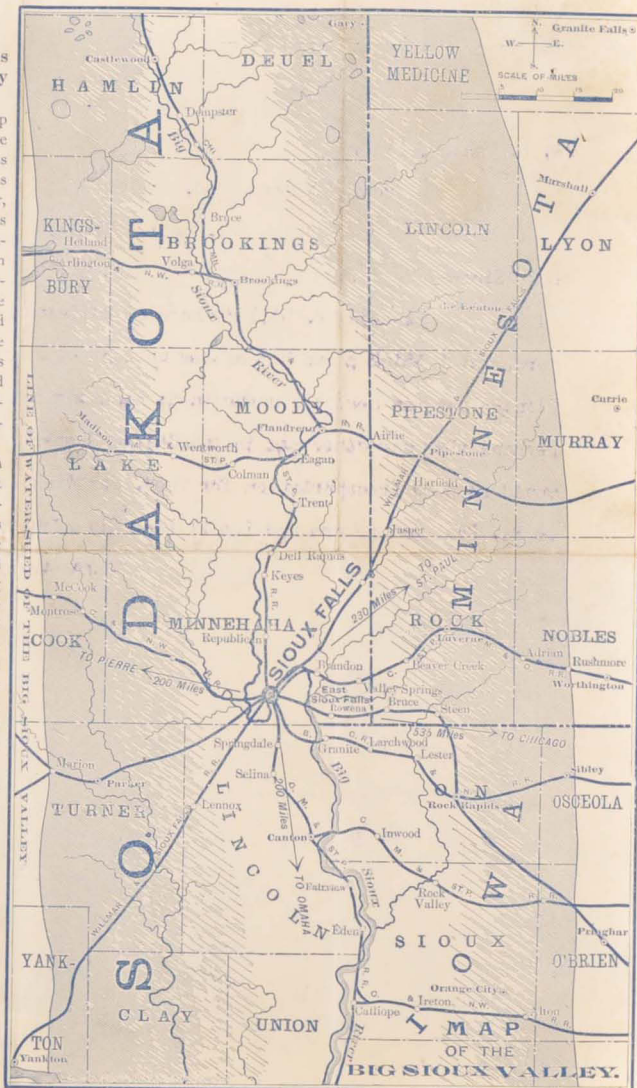
The shaded portions of this map show the land contained in the Valley of the Big Sioux River as indicated by the watershed lines on the east and west of the river, which includes the best portions of northwestern Iowa, southwestern Minnesota and southeastern South Dakota. Within these limits there are seven million one hundred and sixty-eight thousand (7,168,000) acres; more arable land than is contained in the States of Massachusetts, Delaware and New Jersey combined. For diversified farming, it has no superior on the continent.

A deep black loam, with enough sand to render it warm and quick underlaid by a fertile porous subsoil, possessing all the qualities necessary (as years of experience has demonstrated) for diversified farming, especially the producing of corn and kindred cereals. The grasses are rich and abundant, the celebrated blue joint prevailing. The valley is already noted as a favorable locality for fine stock raising. It is well watered in every portion and possesses as good railroad and market facilities as any valley in the world.

It is a remarkable fact that there has never been a crop failure in the Big Sioux Valley.

### THE MAP.

All railroads not contributing to the commercial importance of Sioux Falls are omitted. There are added three railroads—one from Sioux Falls to Parker, one from Sioux Falls to Yankton and one between Flandrau and Brookings. These are all projected and surveyed and may be constructed this year. The arrows indicate directions and distances from other cities.



Room 57.  
GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY BUILDING.  
SAINT PAUL.

November 9th, 1891.

James J. Hill, Esq.,

Care, L. E. Johnson, Esq.,

Helena, Montana.

My dear Sir:-

I beg to enclose letter from  
Lord Mount Stephen, dated October 30th to-  
gether with newspaper cuttings attached; and  
remain,

Very respectfully,

*W. G. Stephens*



BENTON & AMIDON,  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,  
FARGO, N. D.

JOHN B. BENTON. CHAR. F. AMIDON.

Fargo, N. D., Nov. 8, 1891.

W. A. Stevens, Esq.,  
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

I presume you will <sup>not</sup> object to a little information regarding the new management of The Argus, as it appears to us.

We believe that you have the right man in Major Shaw. The news paper business in this country during Territorial days had to be somewhat of the frontier character, but there is a strong constituency here now that demands a better paper. They have, however, been so long treated to the old style of paper that it may require some little time to secure their enthusiastic support. I have taken a good deal of pains to ascertain how the kind of paper that Major Shaw has been putting out has been taking with the better classes, and I hear nothing but words of praise. I believe that the publishing of such a paper for six months or a year, will give to the Argus a constituency and influence that will cover the entire state and lift the paper out of the position of a mere local enterprise. Of course you are aware that Major Edwards is about to start another paper, and he and his supporters have been doing all in their power to misrepresent the Argus and its present management, and we can anticipate nothing but a continuance of such tactics. Edwards has a large galaxy of his ilk who are running ~~bad~~ papers in some of the country towns, and they will echo whatever he says, so I expect that Major Shaw may find that he has quite an uphill business

BENTON & AMIDON,  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,  
FARGO, N. D.

[11-9-91]

JOHN B. BENTON, CHAS. F. AMIDON.  
2 Stevens

for a few months. I think Edwards' new paper is started largely for next year's political campaign, and he has gotten his money to a considerable extent from parties who expect to be largely interested in that campaign. I do not believe the City can support three daily republican papers and it is only a question how soon some of them must go to the wall, and judging by Edwards' past financial career we may expect his paper to be the first to go under.

Of course it is going to take some time for Major Shaw to get himself connected with the local life of the city, <sup>and</sup> to get acquainted with its leading citizens and get to understand its issues from an actual participation in them. This he can learn only by time and experience, and when he has acquired these, the paper I believe will become the recognized Republican organ of the State. If I am right in this, of course your investment will prove a good one from a financial point of view.

I trust that you received our bill that we sent you Oct. 20th and that the same is satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

G.F. Amidon.



309 Kasota Building  
Minneapolis Minn.  
Nov. 9 1891

Mr. A. Stephens Esq.  
St Paul Minn.

Dr. Sir:

I wish very much  
to obtain a position in the freight  
or traffic department of the Great  
Northern Railway.

Mr. Charles H. Babcock has  
suggested that I make a formal  
application through you for the  
same. I understand he has been  
kind enough to mention to you  
some facts connected with my  
former business. I have you  
him with a letter from Mr. L.  
Cunningham of Chicago which I  
hope may interest you in this con-  
nection. I remain

Yours Respectfully  
C. H. Babcock

Form No. 1.

# THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages, beyond the amount of tolls paid thereon, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

This is an UNREPEATED MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager.

NORVIN GREEN, President.

NUMBER	SENT BY	RECD BY	CHECK
350	CH	CH	10 Pms

RECEIVED at St. Paul, Minn. 7:30 P. M. Standard Time

Nov 9 1891

Dated Boston Mass 9

To J. J. Hill Esq. N. Northern Ry. Bldg

May we expect remittance so we can use this week

Irving and Casson

Checked  
Nov 9/91



Form 100

# THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY. 655P

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for confirmation, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages, except the amount of tolls paid thereon, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission. This is an UNREPEATED MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager.

NORVIN GREEN, President.

NUMBER	SENT BY	REC'D BY	CHECK
356 ch	neg	SPd	

RECEIVED at St. Paul, Minn.

M. Standard Time

650p Nov 19 1896

Dated Milford Conn 19

To Mrs Jas Hill

Summit ave

Have written today your letters  
received only yesterday  
Jas H Hill



James J. Bell  
city



[ 11-7-91 ]

Minnesota Historical Society.

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SIR:

*A Regular Meeting of the Executive Council  
will be held at the rooms of the Society, on Monday,  
Nov. 7, at 7.30 o'clock P. M.*

J. F. WILLIAMS,

Secretary.

• • LITT'S HALL • •

• Grand Opera House Block •

8 P.M. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1891.

*Mr. J. H. Hill*

PLEASE PRESENT THIS AT DOOR.





# Minnesota Historical Society

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