

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1892 AUG. 15

FOLDER NO.

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

40-42 WALL STREET,

NEW YORK.

P. O. Box 756.

134
63

Aug. 15th 1892.

W. A. Stephens Esq
St Paul. Minn.

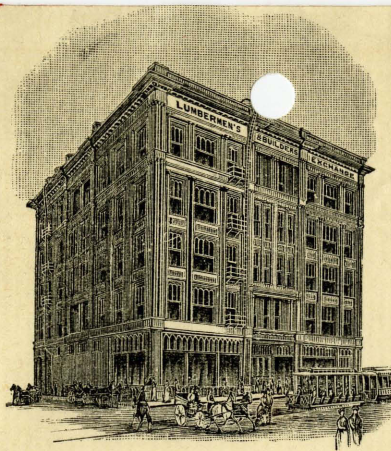
Dear Sir:

Please advise me whether Mr Hill
has received from Mr Skinner cables as follows
and if so whether they were Corps business or
personal business.

Jan'y 25/92	-	Charged at	18/9	{ By Co's business - sent in name of Stevens <u>No trace</u>
Mich 18/92		" "	16/0	

Yours very truly
Wm. A. Nichols
Secty

*W.A.N.
checking in
our files concerning
these cables. B.
8/22/92.
Now in By Co's files
that I can find*



EXPERT COURT WORK.

BLUE PRINTING.

OFFICE

CHARLES A. FORBES,
ENGINEER

FOR CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL.

COUNTY SURVEYOR DAKOTA COUNTY.

Maps, Plans and Estimates made for system of Street Grading,
Water Works, Sewerage, Etc.

ROOMS 401 AND 402 LUMBERMENS' EXCHANGE.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug 15th 1892.

Jas. L. Hill Esq.

Dear Sir

I take the liberty of
writing you, to solicit from you
the Engineering work connected
with the New Theological Seminary
lately donated by you to Arch Bishop
 Ireland and St Paul. I have been
in the City about 10 years so feel
that I am deserving of your notice
I have the Authority to refer you
to Mr Rundlett City Engineer.
Mr J. D. Estabrook late Park Commissioner
Engineer, C. S. Rogers of New? Rogers &
Oedway. J. W. Anderson of the St. Paul Natl
Bank - & others. Hoping some good thing
may come out of Nazareth.

I remain

Very Respectfully Yours
Chas. A. Forbes



State of Minnesota,
Executive Department
St. Paul,

August 15, 1892

Dear Mr Hill:

As you are doubtless aware, the State provides at least a thousand dollars for the purpose of painting a portrait of each outgoing governor. It will be necessary for me, therefore, to engage some artist to provide a portrait of myself between now and January. In addition, as you have often heard me say, I am anxious to have a good portrait of Mrs Merriam. Can you suggest the name of any one who would come here and paint a portrait of Mrs. Merriam and myself? I should be glad to have your judgment as to the best man to do the work. What do you think of young Muller? If it would not be too much trouble I would be glad to have you talk with him while in New York(if you think he is the proper person to do the work).

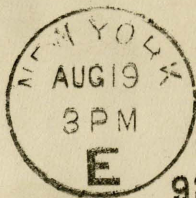
If you have any one else in mind, kindly suggest the name to me. I do not desire to put you to any extra trouble, for I know you are ^{very} extra busy.

Mabel is out spending a week with the girls at the farm.

Sincerely yours,

J. J. Hill Esq
Albemarle Hotel,
New York City

Executive Department.
St. Paul. Minn.



J. J. Hill Esq

~~Albemarle Hotel,~~

~~New York N. Y.~~

*St Paul
Minn*

[8-15-92]

30 Nassau Street,

New York August 15th 1892

Dear Mr. Will,

Mr. Sam & Will tell
me you are uncertain, whether you
can get off this afternoon & go to the
Country with me. I hope you will
not disappoint Mrs. Schiff, who counts
upon your coming. Moreover a nights
relaxation will do you lots of good.
Unless I hear from you to the contrary
I shall call for you at 1/4 past 3 o'clk
& we can then also have a full talk
in going & coming.

Sincerely yours
Jacob W. Schiff

To
Mr. Sam. L. Will

New York Aug. 15 1894

Mrs J. J. Hill

St. Paul

Minn

We have to day sent by the
A. E. Express to your
address, as above, a package containing
the articles enumerated below which
we trust will reach you safely and
in season.

Very truly yours,

Tiffany & Co.

5 Cases Silver

2 Liquor bottles

(Shots in one case)

DAILY, SUNDAY AND WEEKLY.

THE ARGUS

FARGO, N. D., Aug. 15, 1892.

Hon. Jas. J. Hill, St. Paul.

Dear Sir: Your telegram of this date received to-day. The name of my traveling man is Geo. W. Harrison. I received a 1,000 mile mileage book for him on Friday last from Mr. Whitney, so that he is fixed for the present. I think Mr. Whitney must have misunderstood my request at first. Harrison was traveling for the Minneapolis Tribune until he came on to The Argus on August 1st, and Mr. Whitney was not aware that he had left the Tribune. ~~Mr.~~ Harrison is doing better for The Argus now than any traveling man I have heretofore had has done. When I took hold The Argus was printing 52 quires daily circulation; we are now printing 70 quires on the average. I am confident the increase would have been much greater had not Edwards started the Forum. For awhile after he started our losses of subscribers ~~was quite heavy~~ were quite heavy, but for some months past we have been steadily gaining.

If you will allow me to trespass upon your time I would like to make a suggestion or two in regard to The Argus. We are a good deal hampered by the poor and worn-out condition of the plant. The press is an old rattle-trap which broke down soon after I took hold. I was fortunate enough to get hold of an ingenious machinist here, who, although not a press-builder, succeeded in substantially reconstructing it so that it has since

DAILY, SUNDAY AND WEEKLY.

THE ARGUS

FARGO, N. D.,

been in a much better condition than before the break-down; but it is still far from perfect and is what printers call a regular type-crusher. The type is old and worn and deficient in quantity, and the quantity is being constantly diminished by the breakage of letters on the press. In order to have enough type to go around I have just brought into use an old discarded font of long primer. I do not like the looks of it in the paper, but am obliged to use it in order to have enough type. I do not think it would pay to buy a new dress of type without buying a new press, as the old press would soon grind down the face of new type. And if a new outfit of press and type were put in, I would think it advisable to have a new building. The Argus building is an illy-constructed, barn-like affair in a bad location and not conveniently adapted to the business. Last winter my coal bill averaged over \$200 per month, while in the summer it runs about \$70--the latter figure showing the expenditure for power. We have a lease of this building for three years from last October, but Mr. Schuyler, for the Citizen's National Bank, says he will release us at any time if we desire to leave the building. I can run along here just as we are, and get out a fairly decent paper, but I am confident we could make a much better impression, do a much better business, and discourage opposition more quickly if the improvements I have suggested were carried out.

In regard to the business of The Argus, I have been very much disappointed in it myself. This is not a good newspaper town and the newspaper business here is overdone. Edwards has made a stronger showing than I

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DAILY, SUNDAY AND WEEKLY.

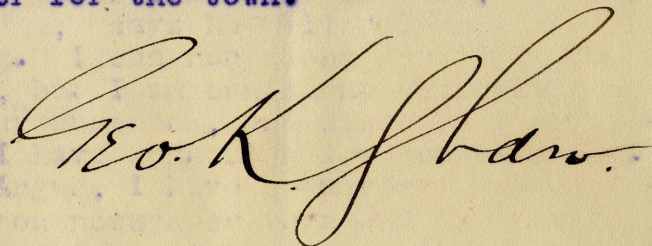
THE ARGUS

FARGO, N. D.,

expected he would. He has quite a following of a peculiar sort, and he has worked the sympathy racket for all there is in it. It is a mystery to most people where he gets the means to hang on, as I am confident that his paper must be losing money. He bought his outfit entirely ~~or almost entirely~~ or almost entirely on credit--and I am told that Marder, Luse & Co., the type-founders, not only sold him his type on credit but advanced him money also. He has the most remarkable faculty of getting credit of any man without resources I ever saw, and in the science of blackmail he is a genius.

I have some hopes that The Argus can be put on a paying basis this fall; but we are now in the dulllest month of the year, and advertising business is very light indeed. If Fargo should continue to grow and become a city of 15,000 or 20,000 inhabitants, The Argus might be made a valuable piece of property. But with its present population and business The Argus is a much too expensive paper for the town.

Very truly yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Geo. K. Shaw". The signature is written in a cursive style with long, sweeping strokes, particularly in the "S" and "A".



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