

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1892

DEC.

29-30

FOLDER NO.

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN  
ORIGINAL ORDER



GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

40-42 WALL STREET,

P. O. Box 756.

NEW YORK.

Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> 1892.

James J. Neil Esq  
St Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

I enclose statement of your account to  
date, with vouchers to cover so far as I have them,  
showing balance in my hands to your credit of  
\$4,866.<sup>19</sup>

Yours very truly  
Chas. F. Nichols



19, Rue de Sévres - Paris. Dec. 29. 92

Mr. J. J. Hill -

St. Paul.

Dear Sir:

I have lately come across  
a bargain in the shape of a  
painting by Meissonier & thought  
that you would perhaps be  
interested in knowing about it.  
It is his famous "Amateur de  
Tableaux" - The artist in his  
studio is showing some of his work  
to an amateur. - The panel is  
8 3/4 inches. x 7 1/2. - painted in 1859  
& has been engraved by Blanchard.  
It is of the same epoch & style as  
his chef-d'œuvre "The man at the  
window" - which is actually at  
the Luxembourg & will go soon  
to the Louvre. & which is estimated  
at 150,000 francs.



This one having two figures  
a equal in work would be  
worth at least 175,000. I  
can get it today for  
125,000. which is the lowest  
net price - to me. If you  
are interested I would  
give you the name of owner  
& let you make the transaction  
direct. - The usual commission  
charged here, is 10%. I  
would add only 4% to  
the above price. & would  
see to its being properly packed,  
insured, etc.

Please write me at once  
on the subject, and  
tell me at the same time if  
you are looking for anything

special let me know. for I  
have seen lately some famous  
"snaps" I could have bought the  
cabinet in Villerville. by Ch. Daubigny  
for \$700 - net. It may be yet for sale  
I don't know. There is no question as  
to its authenticity -

I also know of a fine study of a  
cow by Troyon. about 18 by 30.  
signed C. T. very finished. a  
beautiful specimen of his work.  
held at 18,000 frs. would be  
worth at least \$5,000 in N. York.  
one was sold here lately for  
over 30 thousand francs. no  
more important than this one.  
and I saw one sold at the  
V. Morda sale, single cow. for  
more than that.

The Meissonier paintings are  
increasing in value all the time.  
I know of one here held at  
600,000 frs. I saw it in London.



The fact is that such prices  
as are asked put them  
practically out of the market.  
This one <sup>"the amateur"</sup> belongs to a private party,  
who wants to sell - having need of  
money - & yet don't want the public  
to get on to his selling his painting.  
- I could put you on  
to anything of any of these  
masters here in Paris, & if  
you wish any information  
please let me know.

Awaiting a reply.

I remain

Very truly yr.

J. Desbarreux Larpenteur  
artist.

19. Rue de Sévres.

Paris - France.

I know also of very beautiful water color, highly finished as a miniature.  
A 1st. Detail. for 6000 frs. with at least 10,000. He will never  
anything more like it.



Dec 29. 1892

Dear Sir.

When I arrived home I found much  
long disgust that the statement of  
lands ordered prepared had not been  
sent you, owing to some misapprehension  
of instructions. I enclose it herewith.  
While not as full as I wanted it, it  
will give you a pretty good idea  
of the property.

The time agreed upon for closing  
the matter up expires ~~January 1~~  
December 31. As I told you the  
deeds have been made out to me  
as trustee and are ready for delivery—  
taxes paid, Abstracts of title etc Complete.  
If Mr Hill would prefer his land  
separate he is at liberty to select  
from there and I will make it right  
(which I think I can do) with the other  
stockholders. I hardly think we can get  
it entirely closed by ~~the~~ Saturday night  
unless we can all agree to meet



On that day which I would very much like to do. Will you please indicate Mr Hill's desires in the premises as early as possible? I have just returned from New York somewhat improved in health, but not yet able to do much - However I am anxious to close this matter at the earliest day possible.

Very Respectfully,  
J. Edgar Hoover



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