

Des Moines, Iowa
April 13th 77

Geo J. Bill Esq
St Paul - Minn

My Dear Sir:

Your telegram
at hand yesterday.

I will go to Ft D
on the 14th or 16th and expect to see
you by the 19th inst.

In case I am
not at Ft D or Judd on your arrival
you will find me at Lackawana.

I hope that
you will arrange to stay on the
ground two or three days so as to
thoroughly understand the situation
and know fully our surroundings.

I shall try to
get Father's conclusion regarding

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the West side lands before I go north so as to be able to agree with you on what we shall do.

I do not clearly make out by your telegram whether I am to draw on you again, or that you have remitted me the amount with which to lift or redeem the protected Draft. I will wait until Saturday and if I do not hear by that time I will then draw again. Please leave word with Harry not to let my Sfts go to Probest or be returned, as I shall not likely draw for any amount that is not needed or that you would object to. I hated to have that Sft come back here. I have no money to redeem it with and it made me feel very cheap at

the Bank.

I do not know whether I can have your map finished or not by the 18th. I had one about done and the Binder spoilt it in mounting it.

Hoping to see
you sure on the 19th I am
Yours &c
Harry

Des Moines. Iowa
April 14th 77

Jas J. Hill Esq
St Paul. Minn

My Dear Sir;

I draw
on you to-day for \$175.00, which you
will please honor, to be used as
follows.

Pay ^t of ret ^d . Aft 2 nd April	149.14
Probate fees	2.00
Expenses - next week.	23.86
	<u>\$175.00</u>

On my arrival
at Ft D next Monday (16th inst)
I shall draw on you for amount
of Tax sale certificates - fee 21
and fee 17. amount about \$60.00
and also for Stevens wages for

[4-14-77]

work done on Sec 59. which was
began on 3rd and finished on
the 12th inst, with very favorable
results, the particulars of which
you will learn best when you visit
the premises next week. Wages
due I will be about \$30.00 which
for the work done (70 foot hole) is
the cheapest job I know of.

Stevens is
now at Sec 17 (west side) and is
likely to get through soon. I want
to settle with him each week or
as he finishes each locality.

Expecting
to see you next week I am
Yours &c
Hamm

Land Office of B. Grayson,

Established 1855.

(Over First National Bank.)

Fort Dodge, Iowa, April 20 1877

Jas J. Hill Esq
 St Paul, Minn
 Dear Sir:

I came up from Sec 17 last evening for my mail and found your telegram of 18th awaiting me. I was disappointed in seeing by its contents that you had not started, and telegraphed you concerning the matter and asked when would you come. I went down to the work this morning & ret^d just now but as yet have no reply to my telegram.

At this season of the year rains are expected but so far we have had but little. Nothing that would effect your visit here - and just now the weather is of the best. I would like to have seen you here this week. Things look nice.

I enclose some Newspaper items. Newspapers take liberties. We finished our work on Sec 29 and are now on Sec 17. On Sec 29 we found the two "working veins" in place & O.K. From indications I think this section is about on the S.E line of the field. It is well worth

[7-20-77]

Land Office of B. Grayson,

Established 1855.

(Over First National Bank.)

Fort Dodge, Iowa, 18.....

Dear Sir:

securing. As also sections 21 and 17.

We are down, this evening, 44 feet on Sec 17 (SW of SW qr) and find everything so far as it should be. Having drilled on all sides of this land we find it as plain as reading to note what we pass through and are coming to in our work. Nothing blind about it, stratas follow in perfect order. After finishing sec 17 I shall go to E 1/2 of D.E. qr sec 21 and put down a hole. Then to sec 13 on Crooked Creek.

At each place we are leaving our matters so we can put down a proof hole for you or others without trouble.

I have final word by telegram from Father as to terms re on land chosen for prospecting & purchase.

I suppose it is unnecessary for me to say, and in my doing so I do not wish to annoy you, that my needs and troubles make the delay of selling an interest very hard on me. We have drifted

[4-20-77]

Land Office of B. Grayson,

Established 1855.

(Over First National Bank.)

Fort Dodge, Iowa, 18.....

Dear Sir:

along now six months and each month I have hoped for relief. Each month my burden seems heavier. The \$2150⁰⁰ due Mrs Woods is bothering me and with my unsettled debts I am in constant fear, and fettered in our dealings.

I have worked very earnestly with Father to keep him patient with me and to get his consent to further operations. What he has done and now promises to do (West side) is all with the hope or view of getting me out of debt and I keep assuring him that "surely next month will bring a result" but so far I have disappointed him. I am sure that something ought to be done at once, in fact I've got to do something.

I have worked quite hard for a month past on the West side in the confident expectation of immediate action with those lands, if I was every way successful, and I do hope it will be so. I know you realize and appreciate the situation and cannot blame

[4-20-77]

Land Office of B. Grayson,

Established 1855.

(Over First National Bank.)

Fort Dodge, Iowa, 18.....

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Dear Sir:

me if I seem impatient. I hope next week will bring some action.

The result of our present work will give us a definite & detailed knowledge (not heretofore known to anyone) of the length & breadth of that Coal field. I have some points to explain when I see you. J. L. Platt in conversation has hinted at some things which I also reserve for a talk.

I draw on you for \$40.00 to settle the work done on Dec 29.

Our Tax Certificate not ready yet. will be next week.

As soon as you make the "turn" contemplated on an interest in either the East or West side we must pay our Taxes for 1876 and \$280.00 due for Payment on some of East side land. Secs 7 and 17

I have a map here for you and guess I will not Express it

[4-20-77]

Land Office of B. Grayson,

Established 1855.

(Over First National Bank,)

Fort Dodge, Iowa, 18.....

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Dear Sir:

as it is little cumbersome.

I go to Des M to-morrow
and return on 23rd. Mrs B is ill with rheumatic
fever and I want to see her - in meantime
Peters has some 20 odd feet of soapstone &
slate to drill through so nothing can occur
while I am absent.

Expecting to see you
sure next week and that you will be
pleased with my arrangements & development
on the west side

Yours &c
Ham

Land Office of B. Grayson,

Established 1855.

(Over First National Bank.)

Fort Dodge, Iowa, Apr 20 1877

Wep Hill Tacker
St Paul. Minn

Dear Sir:

I have drawn a Right Draft on
Mr Hill, this day, for \$40.00 which in case
of the absence of H please honor.

Yours Truly
H. Boone

Wrote Mr Hill by this mail.



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