

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1877 JUNE 9-20

FOLDER NO.

7-15

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

Des Moines, Iowa
June 9th '77

James J. Hill Esq
St Paul. Minn

My Dear Sir;

I saw
Mr Parmelee this A.M. and after
considerable talk over the land
matter I am glad to say that I
got a favorable promise from him
as to the interests in Sections Seven
(7) Seventeen (17) and Twenty one
(21) and am inclined to believe
that we can get control of those
Shares (4/12) within the coming
week.

I proposed to pay cost for
the Shares he represents and add
a bonus of Three Thousand (\$3000.00)
Dollars. I urged that as the parties
were decidedly in the minority and
not here to attend to their interests
or take active control of them that
it would be best, and consistent
for him, to advise their acceptance

of the offer. He said that he was afraid the price was too low and referred to the recent newspaper talk of a Railroad in that locality and then asked "whether we would freeze his parties if they held on". I told him that newspapers did but little toward building a Road and that the prospect of one was dim or far in the future and that it should not influence his conclusions and that as to "freezing" any one he need have no fear, however it seemed to frighten him and after saying that "he guessed we might" freeze his men" he offered to do this. He would write to his parties and advise them to take the bonus of \$3000 - if we would also pay all expenses incurred for Prospecting and similar work. This I agreed to and tried to get him to close now as Agent but could not. So that as one of the parties is in Texas and the other in S Western

Forra it will require a few days to get an answer but I have great faith in their taking his advice and shall look for replies by telegraph on or before the 15th inst.

We figured on a basis of Forty Doro & 5% (\$42⁵⁰) Dollars per acre. We arrived at that after calculating all expenditures, which would in the aggregate cause the land to average that figure.

Now if the parties conclude to sell on the terms named we get a deed from Parmelee of the entire interest and with no further claims against the land from any source. The 5 shares are merged in mine. I could not purchase of him at fair prices, as he is as well posted as you or I, but as his interest was only a contingent one I fixed it with him so that so far as you or any future owners are concerned it is the same as though I had bought

his share.

I see no obstacle now to our securing the entire ownership and trust that it will be so.

I have seen Father also and we can count on the whole of Section Twenty nine (29) at \$20.00 an acre. Regarding Section Twenty One (21) he is not prepared to say but will let me know before he goes East, say by the 13th. He is not going to St Paul as I telegraphed him to come East instead. I shall try to get the land in the latter Section at \$25.00 an acre. These lands we better secure at once. Especially Section 29. The seeds for 280 acres of it are now here. These are the best coal lands in the field which can be bought at any low figure and I think it hazardous to move slow in their purchases, at least no slower than I am compelled to for prudence sake, for should word get East regarding my Pros=

specting and the prospect of a Rail Road he could not touch those lands at any reasonable figure.

I am ready to furnish my proportion for purchase of both sections and wish a reply from you at the earliest possible moment as to your intentions. Write me early and if you do not wish to join in these and have no objections Mr Mason, of this City, would be glad to join me, or join you and me if desired.

I will see about the County Bonds next week and write you.

I will telegraph you as soon as Parmelee hears anything.

Yours &c
Hamilton

[Blank No. 1.]

The North Western Telegraph Co.

The rules of this Company require that all messages received for transmission shall be written on the message blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

C. H. HARRIS, Gen'l Supt.
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Z. C. HARRIS, President
H. B. HINSDALE, Secretary
KENOSHA, WIS.

Dated, *St. Louis Moines La 10*, 187*7*
Received at *St Paul Minn* 10/8
To *Las Mill*

*Meet you at Grand Pacific
Sunday Same tonight*

Hamelton Browne

Spaid

Office The Michigan Salt Association.
MANUFACTURERS AND

Dealers in all Grades of Salt.

GENERAL OFFICE.

East Saginaw, Mich., June 11th 1877

E. B. Saunders Esq
St Paul

Dear Sir - Four of the
8th to hand and voted - The Chamberlain
& Consents. are the Boats that I have
chartered for you. They were the only
Boats that were offered for Detroit. and
I chartered them after I recd your tele-
gram saying pay 14 & if you cannot
do better. We had to give them 10,000
Bbls in order to get them. The three
Boats will carry 14,000 Bbls. but they
agreed to come for 10,000. They will
be loaded tomorrow. We are now selling
here at 80 & per Bbl. We do not quote
at that price. And will not sell any
salt to go to any of the Lake Ports at
any such figure. but we are selling our
lots at that. to furnish some parties.
I do not think we shall be selling at

[6-11-77]

Office The Michigan Salt Association.
MANUFACTURERS AND

Dealers in all Grades of Salt.

GENERAL OFFICE.

East Saginaw, Mich., 187

that price long. The 3000 Bbls salt
that you want for Milwaukee we will
put in to you at 80¢ and will ship
it to Milwaukee under our contract for
11¢ per Bbl. We will not sell you the
bal of the contract, a little over 12000
Bbls at the 80¢. unless you would
order it shipped right along - but the
3000 we will put in at that figure
who shall we consign to at Milwaukee
and when shall we ship -

Very truly
D. G. Holland



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