

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1877 SEPT. 2

FOLDER NO.

8-18

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

Milwaukee Sept 2^d 1877
Messrs Hill, Saunders & Acker
Gentlemen-

Enclosed please find statements
of last month's Cash a/c which I hope you will find
correct, the 10 tons Coal sold Mr. Kitchens by Mr. Saunders
@ 4²⁵ will credit you in a/c when collectible - also find
statements of bare loads Aug 31 noon sent pulled out while
Saturday am to scales & issue for same - have not
been loaded yet to be taken out - Mr. Elmore is very much
in favor of having both scales put in his yard for
benefit of both parties is willing to stand his proof
of it, think it would be great saving to both of us
in the ~~same~~ matter of weighing, I told him would
mention it to you - yours of 31st sent in relation to complaints
from Austin & Farmington I also enclosed you telegram
sent from Hy. Reed yesterday noon, can his trouble be
the same - as I have already written you the late train
played smash with our Coal, at the same time I have
tried to be very careful in getting all the Coal in a
shipping condition, scattering it in yard to dry & handling

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over 200 tons receiving all, it may be possible
that they have got some dirt coal in their cars - the
also up for coal not going forward faster faster
waiting you for it. I also enclose you names of
parties whose orders remains yet unfilled up to
last night -

Dealers have commenced action, & go on the
30th but they say they do not always get it -
we¹ left yesterday for 600 tons lights, this I can take
care of by putting in front of them not yet gone
between shed & store coal, but unless can get rid of
that faster will not be able to take care of their bill
that Mr. Hill until would have one about last of last
week - have you made arrangements as to Tom's
Cage of Blues - expected letter today from you where
the H & P Bentonth transport goes, have car loaded for
him waiting & as there is great scarcity of cars RR folks
will growl if I had it, could get no LC cars but got
Hutchinson - Payne of ETC is out on roads & it may be
he has something to do with Reed's order - got cards OK
over past the thing - ground settling all over yard but nothing
shows anywhere than shells open & coal runs out -
Evan Clair blocked up RR Co. James Farley
will receive no more for work for that point. J. H. Simpson

Missaukee Sept 2^d 1877-

Order remaining unfilled to date -

J F Trice 2 Cars Store

Northfield -

J F L G 1 Car Store

Eau Claire

J B St Co 1 Car Store

Rel Store 1 " Nut

1 " Blues

J J Nelson 2 Cars Store

Algona Ia 1 " Nut

1 " Blues

W A M St 4 Cars Nut to be shipped on 3rd 5th 7th & 10th

Chgo City -

H P Benton 1 Car Store to be shipped 5th

Wm Greepink 1 " Nut 9

1 " " return 13

1 " Store 15

Lomas Bros Greco Ia 10 1/2 Tons Blues

Robt Hoffschmidt 1 Car Blues -

Canary Ia

[9-2-77]

Not help you out, I certainly am very much
discouraged by the report you make, I have
labored as hard & as faithfully as I could to
serve your interests, but it looks as though I have
been more of a detriment than a faithful servant
& if you think that to continue me in my
present position will be of a detriment to the firm's
interest, I shall have to make up my mind to give
way to some party more capable of feeling the
Pitt - I wish you would advise me definitely
whether to continue shipping or not, what loss I
might call in goods containing you might think different.

Respectfully Yours

W. H. Simpson

I send you a Chicago Union by this mail.

OFFICES:
622 SIXTH ST., DES MOINES, IOWA.
OGDEN, BOONE COUNTY, IOWA.
FORT DODGE, WEBSTER CO., IOWA.

DES MOINES RIVER LAND OFFICE.

John Browne, Agent.

Des Moines, Iowa
Sept 2nd 1877

Geo J. Hill Esq
St Paul, Minn

My Dear Sir;

I wrote you on the 28th ulto. sending you also some papers pertaining to the Prospecting Company.

The letter promised me I have not yet rec^d but should like to have done so - more especially that I might know what you learned about the drill and to know what it means to do.

I telegraphed you on the 31st ulto enquiring whether Willing would take stock and the Treasurership in the Company. I thought it best to offer it to him so that if we wished to place some stock in St P that he could help us.

Duncombe has been here several times of late. It is now said that he has arranged to build a Broad Gauge Road from Ft Dodge to Garner. The Mil & St P to operate and stock the Road. I see it so stated in Chicago & Iowa Newspapers and I am told that he claims it to be so. I am

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FORT DODGE, WEBSTER CO., IOWA.

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dear that it is to the interest of the Mil & StP Road to take the project in hand owing to the changes that will result from the completion of the Iowa Central to Albert Lea. for then Minnesota will have a direct line (independent of the Mil & StP) to the Oskaloosa Coal Banks. And the trade hitherto done by the Mil & StP in connection with the Iowa Central at Mason City will be greatly interfered with. To counteract this loss or competition it will be natural for the Mil & StP Road to run a line from Garner to the Webster County Coal fields and establish a competing source of supply with a through outlet to Minneapolis and St Paul. In short the completion of the Washburn Road and the Iowa Central Extension compels the Mil & StP Company to hasten the connection always intended by them, viz; Garner to Ft Dodge. The gain and incentive is sufficient and I believe is being acted on as reported.

The progress made by Smucke has had another effect, which I predicted in my last letter, viz; the abandonment of Smarts Extension via Humboldt to

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DES MOINES RIVER LAND OFFICE.

John Browne, Agent.

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OGDEN, BOONE COUNTY, IOWA.
FORT DODGE, WEBSTER CO., IOWA.

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Minnesota - at least for the present. Ducombe's success or prospects are already sufficient to satisfy the Smart party that they will be compelled to stop when they reach Wright Co. that they cannot raise money to build a Harrow Gauge Road running almost parallel and having to compete with the Iowa & Minnesota and its connections. The President, Jas Callaway, told me yesterday, "that if Ducombe went on as now probable that they would have to stop when they had extended from Ames to Wright County - and that he expected it would so result."

Ducombe did a shrewd thing for Ft Dodge when he headed off Smart with his Ft D and Humboldt Road and perfected the job by getting this Harrow connection on its feet.

The Road from Ft D to Humboldt will be completed by November. The extension from Ames to Webster City by January.

I was anxious for you to have seen Ducombe before this and learn the real status of affairs. I have not felt like going to him or others without knowing my position. I done enough of that

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in June. If we did not mean, or had not the time, to go for these Taxes "on our own hook" we ought to have laid in with Duncombe during the past sixty days and had a finger in the work and its probable advantages. As it is, if the Mil & StP Company intend building the connection, Duncombe with these Taxes voted him has gained vantage ground we might have had. With a low figure from D for his old Road bed and these subsidies voted us we would have been in nice condition to go to the Mil & StP folks and, provided this Albert Lea matter has effected them as I state, drove a bargain. Wright County gives D over \$40,000 and the others in proportion.

It will be well for us to see how matters stand as early as possible. And I hope that may be soon.

I would like if you would let me know what is the probabilities of No action - Also whether he will go into the Company and what you learned of the drill.

I am Yours &c

Hamilton Browne

THE DES MOINES, AMES & MINNESOTA RAILROAD.

How the Work is Being Pushed On—A Cheering Letter From Mr. Smart in Which He Shows That He Means Business. [9-2-77]

(From the Humboldt Independent.)
Mr. C. H. Brown having received the following letter from Mr. Smart, Vice President of our narrow gauge, handed it to us to select therefrom such notes as we might deem of interest to our readers. We find no word that need be left out. Like all of Mr. Smart's sayings everything has a point so we give the whole letter:

Des Moines, Iowa, Sept. 7, 1877.
C. H. BROWN, Esq., Dear Sir.—Yours received and contents noted. We let the grading for the first twenty miles of our road last Tuesday, the work to be finished in five weeks, with a tacit understanding that the same parties could grade to Webster City providing they gave satisfaction on the first part. We are busy getting right of way and staking out for the contractors.

Our intention is to let all the work this fall as far as Rutland so as to give all that want to a chance to work out their taxes. But our engineers are busy now and cannot get there for several weeks.

It is possible that the 20 miles is all we can iron this fall but it will be run through in the spring. We hope to visit you next fourth of July on a railroad. There is no wind in this, it is our sincerest honest expectation. Yours,

J. J. SMART.
P. S. We have contracted for 38 miles of iron, (if we need), its delivery to commence from 8th to 14th of Sept., and 300 tons each week until we say stop.

who was honest.

—The railroad company, in answer to the letter from the Post-office Department, published in our last issue, have forwarded the following:

Sir—The Crooked Creek & Webster City Railroad Company hereby agree to carry the United States Mail between Lehigh and Judd, Iowa, each way daily, the pay for said service to be fixed hereafter under acts of March 3rd, 1873, and July 12th, 1876, provided the said railroad company are subjected to no additional expense of any kind in so carrying the mails.

W. C. WILLIAMS, Pres.
To J. L. FAENCH,
Act'g Sec'y Asst. P. M. General, Washington, D. C.

We may now expect daily service to Judd in a very short time.

[9-2-77]

Landing Sept. 2/77

Messrs. Hill Saunders & Cleker
St Paul
Gents.

Yours of Aug 31/77
at hand & content noted.

The Price for the Coal is
all right but time is 60
days instead of 30 days.

Hope the Coal proves to be
good & I think we will have
a good trade on same.

Yours &c
Robt Hufschmidt



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