

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1880 SEPT. 1 - 30

FOLDER NO.

12-15

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN  
ORIGINAL ORDER

ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS &amp; MANITOBA R.Y.

St Paul STATION, Sept 1 1880.

J. J. Hill Esq  
Grand Rapids  
Dear Sir:

My family are desirous  
of visiting Lake Minnetonka, Tawawa,  
and if not inconsistent with your  
rules the granting of a pass for them  
would be gratefully appreciated  
by

Very truly,  
J. J. Hill  
J. J. Hill



Washington, D.C. (1005 Set)  
Sept 1, 1880

J. S. Mill, Esq.  
Genl Mgr. S. P. M. & M. R. R.  
Saint Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

My wife is now en route to visit Minn.  
While there she would like to visit her brother at  
Grand Forks S. D.

If your former Secy of Chamber of Commerce,  
and now Washington correspondent of St Paul paper,  
and of some papers in other states may be included  
in the editorial "etc" to whom you grant R. R.  
concessions, he will be gratified if you will pass  
Mrs. John, her mother to Grand Forks & return.

Cordially yours  
H. T. Johns

Respectfully

Yr. Obedient Son

United States Land Office,

Page D. L.

Sept 6, 1850.

Dear Sir

I found the enclosed map of your Riv. in the office this morning in looking over some old papers & presuming that it must belong to some of your officers I enclose it.

Very truly Yours

C. C. Jones

J. J. Hill Esq

Genl Manager

Major Hatch -

This is map prepared by Mr. Dodge last year - Has a map of definite locations between Grand Forks and Grand and of track (gate) been filed in U.S. Land office

Grand Forks 1st  
Sept 1850  
Hatch



E. V. HOLCOMBE,  
Gen'l Manager.

H. SWINFORD,  
Sec'y-Treas.

OFFICE OF

"The Winnipeg & Western Transportation Co., Limited."

P. O. Drawer N.

157  
Winnipeg, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 1880

A. S. Hagas Esq.  
Saint Paul. Minn  
My Dear Sir

\$1525.20

On exact calculation the balance due  
(Principal & interest) on the ul-Ray Estate and  
Beauchard notes amounts to \$1530<sup>93</sup>, draft  
for which (less exchange say  $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) please find  
Enclosed.

Be kind enough to inform Mr. Kittered of the  
remittance, as it was from him directly, that I  
received the notes with instructions to collect.

W. Swinford has attended to the transfer  
of stock, with necessary collections, and will  
 remit proceeds of same today.

Very Respectfully

Yours Obedt. Servant

E. V. Holcombe



"THE WINNIPEG & WESTERN TRANSPORTATION CO., LIMITED"

Winnipeg, Sept 7, 1880

R.B. Angus Esq;  
St. Paul, Minn.  
My Dear Sir:

On exact calculation the balance due (principal & interest) on the McKay Estate and Blanchard notes amounts to \$1530.93 draft for which (less exchange say  $\frac{1}{2}\%$ . 73) please find enclosed.

Be kind enough to inform Mr. Kittson of the remittance, as it was from him directly, that I received the notes with instructions to collect.

Mr. Swainford has attended to the transfer of stock with necessary collections, and will remit proceeds of same today.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant  
E.V. Holcombe

\_\_\_\_\_  
NORTH WESTERN TELEGRAPH CO.  
DATED, Winnipeg 1881  
RECEIVED AT St. Paul, Minn. 5/9  
TO, H. C. Ives St. Paul Minn & M. Ry.

Please pass R. Dowler "Mate" from St. Paul to St. Vincent on our account on his own application.  
E.V. Holcombe

\_\_\_\_\_  
ISAAC M. MASON,  
St. Louis, Mo., May 9, 1881  
Mr. J.J. Hill  
Gen Manager St.P.M. & M.  
R.Road St. Paul, Minn

Dear Sir:  
The ----- Mr. R. Dowler I have employed as mate for Cap't Holcombe, and he is to pay his fare from St. Paul to Winnipeg and he refers me to you to furnish Mr. Dowler the pass.  
Yours truly,  
Isaac M. Mason

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grand Forks, April 29, 1881  
J.J. Hill Esq:  
Gen Manager  
Dear Sir:  
Cap't I.M. Mason of St. Louis is about to engage for me a Captain for one of our boats. Will you be kind enough to grant a pass from St. Paul to St. Vincent- on Cap't Mason's letter of request to that effect, and oblige

Yours truly,  
E.V. Holcombe





Henry Ames & Co.  
Pork Packers,

Care of J. & C. Follen Sts. St. Louis Sept 7 1880

Mr J. J. Hill & Co  
St. P. M. & N. R.R.

St Paul, Minn.

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

I called on you  
some days since with a letter of introduction  
from Mayor Rand of Minneapolis, but you  
were engaged, and I had an interview with  
Mr \_\_\_\_\_ Supt of Car. Division &c. - which has been doubtly  
explained to you. - I propose to build a Hotel on the Lake  
and want to know what bonus you are willing  
to give to have the Hotel located on your road.  
I propose to improve on the St Louis, which will make  
mine the very best summering house in the north  
west. - Your prompt reply will greatly oblige me, I want  
to get my foundation in the winter & have my house  
ready by July 1<sup>st</sup> 1881, of course any bonus offered by  
you is bound upon, my giving you satisfactory reference  
&c

Yours Truly  
Geo. D. Hyde

Hixkley Locomotive Co.

14/9/80 429 Albany St.  
Boston, Mass. Sept 8 1880

J. J. Hill Esq

G. Munnings

St Paul, Minn & Manitoba R.R.  
St Paul

Sir,

When your  
road is in the market  
for Locomotives, we  
should be pleased to  
hear from you.

Respectfully,  
Hixkley Loco. Co



## Excelsior Coal Company.

Oshkosh, Iowa, Sept 9<sup>th</sup> 1880.James J. Hill Esq  
St Paul Minn  
Dear Sir

I was not able to go up  
there this week but had a man there who makes  
me a favorable report and from what he says  
have no doubt but what there is coal there and  
coal that is good. now the question is what  
kind of an arrangement do you desire to make  
do you want me to go there and open the  
mine and run it or what proposal have you  
if any to make. I would like to know soon  
as I have other offers some of which I shall accept  
if do not make one with you I have put this  
off until I get a definite proposal or rather until  
I know what you propose to do. Mr. Prior says tell  
you what kind of a manager I am as he knows all  
about my ability in that line but your success  
is a pretty fair standard by which to judge  
a person by. if you have anything to offer please  
let me hear from you at once and if you will  
send me a Pass over the river I will go and  
see the coal myself and from there go to St Paul

Yours Truly Geo. Bentley

ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS, & MANITOBA RAILWAY COY.

MOLYNEUX ST JOHN,  
AGENT

15, Tower Chambers, Water Street  
Liverpool. 13 Sept<sup>r</sup> 1880

R. B. Angus Esq<sup>r</sup>  
St Paul

Dear Sir

I answer to yours of the 28<sup>th</sup> August;  
The lithographic stone came duly to hand.  
With regard to the proposed Commission of 10 per cent. on  
tickets over our line to Manitoba, I had already enquired  
into this subject and do not recommend your acceding  
to the proposal, at least for the present.

The principal Steam Ship Companies here have  
what they call a "Conference" which is a meeting  
of managers to regulate their joint attitude and  
terms towards the public and Railway Companies. They  
allow 5 per Cent to agents on all American Railway  
tickets, and having recently discovered that  
some Companies are surreptitiously allowing 10 &  
even more they are taking measures to stop  
it. They regard this action as a direct competition



with themselves as it is, for they receive the 10 per cent,  
and they have given the Sinc and N.Y. Central to  
understand that whichever resorts to the objectionable  
method will incur their active opposition. They say  
they send thousands every week over both these  
lines and have it in their power to direct the tide  
as they wish. As between these two probably they  
have. At any rate they will do all they  
can against any line that gives the 10 per cent  
to Agents and they will dismiss any Agent they  
find taking it. This information I obtained from  
the passenger Manager of the Inman, and last  
week the Liverpool Agent of the Sinc told me  
they calculated to burst these 10 per cent men.  
As we are on most friendly terms with the  
managers of these S.S. companies I do not think  
it would be sound policy to fly in their faces  
while the matter is in its present position.

The question of giving a commission to inland  
Agents on the lands sold to persons whom

[9-13-00]

## ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS, &amp; MANITOBA RAILWAY COY.

MOLYNEUX ST. JOHN.  
AGENT

18, Tower Chambers, Water Street

3 Liverpool.

1888

They may send direct to our Land Office in  
St. Paul is a different matter. The Steam Ship  
Companies have not any interest in the question, and  
several of the best of them have given me lists of  
their agents and marked the names most likely  
to be useful here. My letter of August 19<sup>th</sup>  
will have explained my reason for thinking  
that the offer of a commission to inland agents  
would be useful. The enclosed Circular will  
explain the operation, though I may mention  
that Mr. Montgomery of the Dominion line told  
me some Companies were paying 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and one  
12 per Cent Com<sup>n</sup>. I don't think however that  
it would be advisable to offer as high a  
Commission as those mentioned by him or perhaps  
6 per Cent. would meet the case or even 5 per Cent.  
I should propose to try it on a few Agents



to begin with, though that plan is not altogether  
free from danger in the event of its being found that  
we were paying a Commission for nothing. I do not  
however think it can go far wrong in its working in  
England. By it we secure the men on our land  
who thought they go to Minnesota may go on  
north south or west — or we do not pay a  
Commission. And I should not propose to pay  
unless the name of the intending buyer was communicated  
to me and a ticket of introduction sent to the  
Land office at St. Paul, by the Agent looking.  
I should mention that one of the Managers of the  
Steam Ship Co. does not think that the inland  
Agents can determine the destination of an immigrant  
to any extent. This is the opinion you hold as  
shown by your letter but I must confess that I  
do not quite agree with that view. There are  
members whose Agency business is a secondary  
consideration with them but there are many who  
really make a business of it. These men

[9-13-80]

ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS, & MANITOBA RAILWAY COY

MOLYNEUX ST JOHN,  
AGENT

5

18, Tower Chambers, Water Street

Liverpool.

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will naturally circulate the pamphlets of those Companies paying a cow in preference to others. If however the plan does not command itself to you we can go on working without it and see how we are getting along by the early Spring. You yourself have an intimate knowledge of England and any decision upon this matter arrived at by yourself and Mr. Hill is quite as likely to be right as one formed over here.

There has been a little correspondence about West. Read & Bell's report. I sent you a letter of Mr. Williamsons and now send you a further one of my own to the Times. My statements were sent day corroborated by Mr. Bellairs in the Times, who said in his letter that he knew the subject intimately. I hope he does, but from some of his letters in other papers I should be inclined to leave margins. The panorama has started, beginning in some small places. Sumner, Eric and myself are going out to see it this week.

Faithfully yours

Molyneux St John

P.S. Read & Bell say - 2nd Col. page 7 Appendix under heading "Minnesota" that Miss Cullis go to Ontario the fellow, hence to Chicago. Surely this is not correct?



THE  
Minnesota Historical Society  
SAINT PAUL

To James J. Hill.

Sir: At a regular Meeting of this Society, held in its Rooms,  
on September 13<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1880 you were unanimously elected

A Life Member.

In testimony whereof, The Society has affixed its Seal  
to this Diploma, and caused the same to be attested.

J. Fletcher Williams  
Secretary

Henry D. Sibley  
President





ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & MANITOBA  
RAILWAY COMPANY.  
GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE.

240.

JAS. J. HILL,  
Gen'l Manager.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Sept 14<sup>th</sup> 1880

N. D. Gurney Esq  
St Paul

Dear Sir

10313 Yours of the 14<sup>th</sup> has been received, offering the use of your Granite Quarry and Tools, for which accept our thanks. We may accept the offer, but it is possible the Contractor will furnish his own Stone.

Yours truly

Jas J. Hill

Genl. Mgr.



OFFICE OF

County Superintendent of Schools,  
GRANT COUNTY, MINN.

Herman, Sept 22 1880

J. J. Willinger Dear Sir  
I inclose to you a pair which  
from you last Spring. I was obliged  
to make the trip before the pair came  
as you were gone east when I applied  
for it. I now need it very much  
and if you will be kind enough to  
grant me another I shall be very much  
obliged in due time.

Respectfully Yours

Thos B. Hudson  
Grant County Elevator



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