

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1881 AUG 21 - 24

FOLDER NO. 12-27

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

OFFICE OF

"NORDSTJERNEN."

NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPER.

M. WESENBERG, Editor.

Grand Forks, D. T., Aug 12 1881

Hon James J Hill

Genl Manager Sh. P. M. & N. R.R.

St. Paul. -

Dear Sir. - The enclosed
letter of Commissioner Johnson
almost explains itself. In
accepting invitation to
the Scandinavian Editorial
excursion I mentioned that
I only held a 1000 mile ticket
with not enough mileage
left to carry me to St. Paul
and asked for a pass in. The
request not being granted,
of course I could not come.
And yet hardly a week passes,

6-11-(1)(4)

without this paper blowing
for the Red River Valley, and
equally so for both sides
of the river. I send you to-day
a copy of Grand Fork Herald, con-
taining an extract in translation
of the blowing of the Nordstjernen,
when the road was opened via
Fargo & Hill City. I send also
a copy of the following number
of the paper doing equal justice
to the Minnesota Side of the Valley.
This has not been translated,
but I believe you have Scan-
dinavians who can translate
it, otherwise I should have
done so. In this article especial
stress is laid upon your rebate
system, going into minutest
detail, and plainly saying that
your rebate lands are fully as
free as government land on
this side of the river. I believe,

[8-1-1]

OFFICE OF

"NORDSTJERNEN."

NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPER.

M. WESENBERG, EDITOR.

Grand Forks, N. D., 188

I have done some good blowing
for this valley and for your road.
I believe my own interests
and everybody's interests
here are closely identified
with the interests of your
road and the development
of the valley, and therefore
benefits being mutual.
I always blow to the best
of my ability. Have repeatedly
tendered my columns to
your Land Repl. In view of
all this I believe my request
for a trip pass in to St. Paul
to join an excursion gotten

6-11-(2)
up by the road itself, is not
very extravagant. I venture
to say, that my paper has al-
ready attracted more ^{immigra-}tion
to the valley, than the com-
bined articles in the various
Scandinavian papers repre-
sented in the excursion, will
do. To enable me to more fully
attend ~~ing~~ to the whole valley,
will you not kindly grant
me a standing pass over
your various lines. I do
not think the company will
suffer in its interests by such a
favor.

Yours &c
M. Hesenberg

{ WITH WESENBERG }
8-1-81

REVIEW OF THE TRIP.

On last Sunday morning a special sleeper belonging to the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba company, in charge of commissioner Johnson, left Chicago with the party on board, and arrived in St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & MANITOBA
RAILWAY COMPANY.
EMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.

[WITH WESTERN EG 8-1-81] F. 801.

A. E. JOHNSON,
Commissioner of Emigration.

ST. PAUL, MINN.,

July 18 1881

M. Wescenberg Esq
Nordstjerne Grand Forks D.T.
Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of July 14th
and am glad to hear that you will join the excursion in
person. I regret that I cannot furnish you a pass to
St. Paul as requested, but as I have a special train for
the party I am not in a position to apply for extra passes.
You can join us in St. Paul Monday evening the
25th inst, in Fergus Falls Tuesday evening the 26th
inst or at Aida Wednesday morning, or at Crookston
about 10 or 11 same day (Wednesday morning) Please let
me know when & where you join.

Yours truly

A. E. Johnson
Comm of Emigration
A. E. J.

Recd
5/18/81

Grand Forks, D. T.
Aug '22 1881

Dr. James Hill Esq.

Dear Sir: I have just moved
up to Grand Forks to take charge
of some Congregational and
missionary Stations at Crookston
Grand Forks and several other
places along your Railroads in
the Red Riv. Valley, and I shall
have to travel on your Roads
a good deal. Although I have
had the favor of receiving help
from you, it will still become
quite heavy expenses to me
compared with my income in
these new places. This, and my
conviction of your good will
toward the Christian work,
have emboldened me to ask, if you
could favor me with a Free Pass

in your lines in my work here.
It would be a great favor toward
me and the cause I am working
for - P. C. Sletten and B. Sampson
of Crookston,
yes with permission mentioned
as references.

If it should please you to
favor my request address
Rev. J. Tharaldson
Grand Forks, D. T.

Yours truly
J. Tharaldson

N
7
P

Manchester Mass

Aug 3rd

[1881?] 27

Mr Charles Hill

Thanks for
your favor of July 25th
enclosing annual statement.
it certainly is a fine one
must say very surprising
to me I had no idea
you could show any such
earnings on your stock
until you told me in
Chicago. right then I
sold my stock, as does
not look as if would,

get it back at lower
figure than sold; the
Burlington people here do
not own up to having
bought any but I believe
they have -

Weather here is cool & fine.
I hope to be here all of
August. if you are in
New York during that time
with you would come
over ^{or take in little salt air} make me a visit.

I take it Spring wheat
has been considerably dam-
aged in Illinois & other
your very truly
Marshall Field

J. 151 R. 54 Orange T. O

Grand Forks Co
D. T.

Aug 3/81

J. I. Hill Esqr.
Sir.

Seeing you
are grading your Road
through this Town, and
not having had the pleasure
of meeting you, I take this
opportunity of offering you
if you intend ^{understands you} locating Depot
in this district (as I do) of giving
you a site on the $\frac{3}{4}$ of
Sec 1.

This Quarter Section the road
cuts in two about 40 Rods
North from the South line,
is High and dry Land, is
Located on the main Gravel
Road from Ojawa, from the

North, South and West, with
good access to it. Is located
Ten miles from Ogata,
and size or extent of where
the proposed junction
of the Two Roads is likely
to be. Is deeded Land.

Is a very desirable location
120 Rods from the Timber
and the Turtle River.
In connection with this
will give whatever is
customary in right of way,
ground for 3 Tracks, and
whatever further may be
wanted.

Would be glad before locating
you would look the situation
over.

Yours Truly

Wm G Williams
County Commr.

*Send
up the line*
New Buffalo Dakota 8/8/87
Mr James Hill
You Supy St Paul & N. W. Ry
St Paul Minn.

Dear Sir.

I have talked with a large number of the farmers
in Towns 141 & 142 in R. 5th along the line of
the div of your R.R. that crosses the N. P. R.R.
near Coblesetter, and it seems to be the general
desire of the people (with one or two exceptions)
that you will establish stations at or about
where your road crosses ~~The~~ Simabrown Secs.
13 & 14 in T. 141 & when it crosses ~~The~~ Sim
abrown Sects 20 & 21 in Town 142

The first named point will be about 308 Stations
from the branch going north from this line
north of Wheatland, and the 2^d point will
be about 312 Stations from the 1st named place

These two points will be the best calculated
to give the greatest accommodation to the greatest
number of people and by far the best situated
to keep the grain from going to the N. P. R.R. at New
Buffalo. They will also give the best wagon roads.

There are a large number of enterprising farmers
located about the point first named who have
now at least 3500 to 4000 acres broken within a radius

of three miles of this tract. I have 300
 acres broken for crop next year on Sec 12
 and will break the balance of the Sec next
 year and others as fast as I can in the
 same proportion. We have no doubt
 that something could be done for you
 if you will be pleased to give us a
 station ^{at about 1.5 miles} in Town 14 N R 54 W
 Please let me hear from you
 and oblige

Yours Truly
 W E Woodman

Butte, Montana, Aug. 22/81.
Jas. J. Hill Esq.

Dear Sir:— Your favor of the 10th
has been received.

There is a general land law in this
Territory, under which Companies can
incorporate. Should you want me to
organize a Company here in your
interest, I will attend to the matter
promptly, and will see that everything
is done properly. The law specifies
that two million of rods must be located
within a year from the time the charter
is granted. I presume you will have
no difficulty in getting a copy of
this Territory's law in St. Paul.

The country west from Butte
toward Cadotte Pass, for 50 or 60 miles,
is rolling prairie, and which a road
can be easily built. This would bring

you to a point near Fort Shaw.
From Fort Shaw to a point well up
the Northern River, there are no serious
difficulties to overcome although the country
naturally becomes more broken as you
approach the mountains. Cadotte's
Pass is near, or at the head of the
Northern River. A resident of this place
who has passed over the mountains at
Cadotte's many times, tells me that
the ascent is so gradual, you would
hardly know when you had reached the
waters flowing into the Columbia River.
Passing over the mountains you would
naturally follow down the Blackfoot
River into the Missoula valley.

Cadotte's Pass (if my information is correct)
is very valuable to you in case
you should wish to push westward
to Oregon or Washington Ter.

All that triangular shaped country between
the Missouri & Marias rivers and
bounded on the West by the Main Range,

is very important to your Company.

I enclose a small map which may give you some new ideas. The route by which you would come into this Country, is practically the same as the old Mesquiquete road, taken by the first expedition. By this route you avoid Mountains and Bad Lands. I am confident no road can ever be built into Montana as cheaply as ^{by} the Northern or Milk River route.

Should you decide to obtain a charter for a road from Buford, via Milk River valley, Benton and Cadotte pass to some point on the western boundary of Montana, would it not be well for you to obtain a charter for a branch from Benton via Judith Basin to Martinsdale at the forks of the Musselshell River. This last is a very important Country, and will be jockeyed up by the Northern Pacific Co. unless you

Should wish it from Centw. See
addition to the fine stock and agricultural
resources of this last named country, there
~~on~~ ^{is} the extensive silver mining
district recently discovered in the Beck
Mountains, which bids fair to out-
rive the Leadville country. -

Should you wish me to do so, I
will employ J. J. Haley of this place
to accompany me over the Mountains
at Costello and perhaps Lewis & Clark
Pass, and I will make the most careful
examination that I can, as a civilian,
and report to you. -

I remain

Very kindly yours
Paris Gibson.

10/5/81
Hemlock Minn
August 21st 1881.
J. J. Hill Esqr
Genl Manager &c
Dear Sir

On behalf of Miss
L. A. Miller an intimate friend
of my wife and a teacher in the
Lincoln School St Paul I would
ask for a pass for her that she may
make us a visit and get the benefit
of a few weeks of country life.
her limited salary of four hundred
and fifty dollars per year ~~which~~
which she is supporting her self and
an aged Mother. Mr & Mrs Miller
an old settler and worker, will
hardly admit of the expense and
unless you in your generosity and

on behalf of the cause of educa-
tion will kindly furnish her with
a pass she will be compelled to
forego the pleasure of a visit and
the benefit of a few months of country
life after her close confinement
to the school room for several
months, by supplying visits now
against you will confer a great
favor upon a very deserving
person.

Yours very truly
H. D. Peckham.
late Genl Ayr Davidson -
Educator and now ~~and~~
not very successful farmer
at this place.

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POWER PROVIDED.
FURNISHED ROOMS.
Desirable Offices for
Physicians, Lawyers and
all Business Men
wanting.

St Paul, Minn. May 23 1881

J. J. Hill

Dear Sir

I bin to your office
several times to see you about
that note I wanted you to take
the dividend on my stock &
pay the interest on note & apply
helps on principle I would
rather not have to take up
the whole at present please
let me know your decision
I was out to take yesterday I
think every thing well I think the
business will improve every year
W. M. F. Davidson

Stoughton, Ont.

Aug 23rd 1887

Dear J. J. Hill

After leaving your pleasant home I called on old friends at different points and reached St. H. on Friday last. -

Charlie starts for St. Paul in a few days - pleased with a prospect of definite work, to be made profitable to himself, in proportion to his own faithfulness and business grip. -

Samuel is cautious and conscientious. - If possible he will come with Charlie and spend a week or two with you. See what he is and talk to him accordingly. - I think he has

found that I have no chance of
development here.

I have thought much of
James and Lewis. - There are
many teachers with scholarship
enough to fill the hall, but none
whom I would dare to recommend
as likely to win the hearts and
retain the confidence of the boys. -
Knowledge after all is to the
teacher only what colors are to the
artist. - tact, insight, patience,
and sympathy are needed in order
to give a fitting relation to light
and shade and develop a
perfect picture. - If I had the
boys here under my own eye
the right man might be found.
On leaving St Paul, an

envelope enclosing \$500 was handed
me, with a message that I should
know how to apply it. Received
without misgiving in the same
spirit which prompted the gift,
I return a simple "Thank you"
and we understand each other.

I thoroughly enjoyed my
trip - and thank thee and all
thy household for the hearty
hospitality extended to

Your old friend & teacher

W Wetherald

Much love in the right sense of
the word to dear Mrs Wells, Mamie,
James Louis Clara Charlotte Ruth
and Rachel. God bless them all.

Stearns Ontario

Aug 24th 1887.

Dear James I Hill

This introduces my son
Charlie who purposed to be faithful
in service and aims to get an
intelligent grasp of the business.

He is accompanied by
his brother Samuel who visits
you in response to your kind
invitation.

Faithfully

Wm Wetherald



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