

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

1881 DEC 19 - 31

FOLDER NO.

12-31

JAMES J. HILL PAPERS

PLEASE RETAIN
ORIGINAL ORDER

Montreal

Dec 19. 1851

My dear Will

I have read, your letter of 12th,
to Waugus, with a great deal of interest &
satisfaction, and am very pleased to hear
of the continued progress of the "Shedding of what
we all here, call that blasted old Rail-road",
with what you say about your ^{intention}
with Mr Oakes. I fancy, from all I have
heard of him. That if we had only
him to deal with, we should soon
bring all our differences with the
N.P. to a settlement. But as matters
stand & which a man of the egotistic
stamp of Villard is in control, it will
not be easy to arrive at any reasonable
a permanent agreement. Villard, I fancy,
will be apt to lead him to reject any
treaty of peace that does not secure
to satisfy his vain desire to obtain
a triumph.

12-19-23
I would not mind seeming to gratify him
in his foible. provided we did not sacrifice the
substantial advantages of the position to which
we are justly entitled. In dealing with such
a case as the U.P. it is with ^{two} ~~one~~ should
not forget that the composition of the U.P.
board is so constituted that Villard or
Oakes may not always be a ^{person} ~~able~~ ^{to settle}
matters in the way they would like, ^{or}
they will see us as we are. with our small
& perfectly homogeneous board. Should
also make much allowance for their distrust
of us. (I mean the new members of the U.P. board)
they have been told that we are a bunch of
unprincipled rogues with whom it is
not safe to have any dealings. Nothing
but time & experience will cure this.
Sargent & Gray have been at the
bottom of this mischief. The former
has killed himself & the latter must
in the end follow suit ~~in time~~.

[12-19-81]

The basis for

I should be very glad indeed could a full
 & final settlement of all matters in dispute
 between the two companies, be agreed to
 between you & Mr. Baker. Anything that
 you both agreed to, would stand a very
 good chance of meeting with the full
 approval of all concerned. At all events
 it will do good to make an earnest effort
 to reach such a conclusion. As to the
 land matter, between ourselves, I possess
 my understanding of it is more in accord
 with your pretensions than with your
 view. And I remember perfectly well
 mentioning this upon the point, as a matter
 of judgment & expediency, and he said
 plainly. That while he considered our
 case a very good one, he would, if
 in our place, take half of the land
 in dispute rather than run even
 the slight risk, as he thought, involved
 in leaving the question to the Court.

and honestly, I confess I do not attach much importance to the indemnity land. I think I said. whatever they got, no matter where, or what they got for them. whether cats or dogs. we should get half. If they got nothing - we got nothing. This was in my understanding of what took place when we made the preliminary agree. Personally therefore I should consider it a capital disposal of the question. If you can come to some arbitrary settlement of the whole with Webster. Of course may be wrong in my version of what took place with Billings & you & Salisbury - may be correct. And your views may have been in accord with Billings at the time. All I can say is to give you then his line as it stands in my own mind. If you need the rest of our

[12-19-87]

friends decide to let the question be settled
by the Court. I am agreeable, & will not
say a word if the result should be against
us, & it should be so, we can survive.
Perhaps the worst thing that can happen
us, would be to keep the weather open,
& unsettled, occupying our attention & time
when we have so many other things to
look after & require our whole attention.

I am very glad the weather has been
favorable for finishing up our work in
Dakota &c. and especially so to have
been by the way, you would be able to
have a certificate to pay for 116 miles
new road. This with the 5 miles not
covered by bonds last year, will give
us bonds now $121 \times 12 = \$1,452,000$ which
will help the way to liquidate some of its
debt. This by the way is a matter
we shall have to deal with at once
and upon upon some plan by which

[12-19-91]

the present debt will be extinguished, and
new outlays provided for. The immediate
changed position of the (by & the daily
increase in the number of our shareholders
have to be considered. All these matters
I would like to discuss among ourselves before
I sail on 18th day. I would like you
to come down ^{here} with Mr Van Horn. He is
to come here direct from Winnipeg and
expects to arrive about 6th or 7th. I
hope you will be able to come with him.
I am anxious to have your advice &
help in getting him fairly started on
his "big job". Your visit will give
us a good chance to discuss and settle
all our plans for the next season
work in Minnesota & Dakota.
Your savings are astonishing ^{as yet}
I hope they will keep up. I feel
sure

[12-19-21]

they will. We should have been in a
rather tight place without these big
increases. I mean financially. We
must get our house in this respect made
more "safe" - we have proof that the
you told me about your friend that the
house to be a R.D. is not in the market.
Having our decision on existing bill
tempting to sell. I have never since
thought of the thing. Being fully resolved
on holding on together and doing my
best to aid in making the property
what I believe the future (near) has
destined it to be. (It is always on
good thing to have destiny on outside)
I firmly believe none of us have yet judged
accurately the position the road will
occupy as a property in 5 years hence.
But what you say about Paul
& will write to W. M. M. as that
probably

6

[12-13-81]

The present position of the fuel question
is unsatisfactory as, for the road,
or for those who are supplying it with
coal at prices so much under the
market value of the coal, the
matter must be dealt with on
a permanent basis by
which the road will be ensured of
its fuel. ^{Mr. Tolson} will discuss this
you come down, and to help us to reach
a conclusion I wish you would
bring with you a memorandum
of the actual position of our coal supplies
and as the year is drawing to a
close, it would also be well for us to
have a similar memo of the position
of all our outside matters so that we
might see where we are & to arrange
for the future. I imagine something

[12-19-11]

We will have to be settled about the land
to be taken from the water power
by the Min. Union Co. This
and all such matters it would
be well to arrange before I sail.
I am glad to see Mr. Power is infusing
life into the Land Dept. I think
we have all been guilty of a little
neglect of it.

I am glad you spoke Merritt
about the Chicago property. I would
rather put it in his way than
in that of any other line.
Many thanks for the trouble you
have taken to get Willie's affairs
settled. What I would like to get
him home here had I been there
the sale to Mr. Fox would not have
fallen through. Hoping

To see you here with your wife & children to live with you & all your family & to see you

Chas. S. Caffrey, President.

PHILADELPHIA FACTORY,
AND
WAREHOUSES,
CHESTER ST. ABOVE RACE.
(BETWEEN 4 & 6TH.)

Chas. S. Caffrey Company,
Carriage Builders.

Camden, N. J. Dec. 21st - 1884.

James J. Hill Esq
St. Paul Minn

Dear Sir

We are pleased to acknowledge the receipt through Mr. Sloan of an order from you for one of our Top Road Wagons, which we have booked according to his directions.

Will ship same about 20th of Feb. which we trust will be in good time, and can assure a most satisfactory carriage.

Thanking you very kindly, we are
Very Respect. Yours
Chas. S. Caffrey Co.

JOHN S. KENNEDY.
J. KENNEDY & CO.

J. S. KENNEDY & CO.

NEW YORK

21st Dec 1881

My Dear Mr. Hull,

I duly recd. your favor of 16th inst. and the package of the two skins. The skin came to hand yesterday. Thank you very much for your kind thought of me. My skin is quite delighted with the skin and expects to have it made up into a Carriage or Sheep robe and when fixed up it will certainly look beautiful. I assure you we both appreciate your kindness very much. The other skin together with your letter I have handed over to Mr. Thorne who returned from Montreal this morning. As he had been signing Canadian Pacific R.R. Bonds.

When in Montreal about 2 weeks ago Mr. Stephen said he was going back you to be on here the end of that week to meet him & Mr. Angus so that we could have a conference. He has since my telegram of yesterday to which I have your reply this morning. I had told Mr. Kennedy that you would be here with Mr. Angus & Stephen next Monday night at our Christmas gathering and how she will be

disappointed. Hope now that we will have the pleasure of seeing you very next month when you come on with Mr. Van Mower. Have you heard anything of or from Will Baker lately? The last letter his family had from him said he was on his way to St. Paul where he expected to be about 1st Dec. and since then they have heard nothing.

I am glad you have sent out the Certificate for the completion of Road in Dakota so that we will be enabled to get the Bonds against it. Another year we must manage this thing differently.

I finished my testimony in the Sahlgren & Co. case last Saturday and it went forward to St. Paul on Monday. I would be obliged by your seeing that Mr. Otto and Judge Young push the case on as rapidly as they can and bring them to a hearing and conclusion at the earliest possible moment so that I may get my accounts as soon as possible and get my discharge from the Court. This has already been delayed too long; a great deal longer than was necessary.

Hope you are well and all your family and wish you and them a very merry Christmas. Happy New Year. I remain,
James J. Kelly Esq.
St. Paul, Minn.

Yours very truly,
John S. Kennedy



Dec 22 1881
Jas Mill
St Paul Minn.

Dear Sir: We send you by
Express today, the Gem Brilliant,
so mounted that it may be worn
as a Hair Ornament, a Brooch,
or a Pendant as you wish.
We are confident that you
will be thoroughly pleased with
this, and we are gratified to sell
you a Gem of such rare excellence.

Very Respectfully,
N. Matson & Co.

Claims for Errors and Damages must be made immediately on receipt of Goods.

N. MATSON
L. J. NORTON

Mr James Hill

Chicago,

Dec 27 1881

Paul Hime

Bought of N. MATSON & CO.,

State and Monroe Streets,

IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS OF

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, CLOCKS AND JEWELRY,

TERMS,

TOOLS AND MATERIALS.

One You Brilliant

11000 00

149 Cedar St. New York
Dec. 22nd 1881.

My Dear Mr. Hill.

I found on
my return from Montreal
yesterday a most unexpected
surprise awaiting me in your
very kind & handsome gift of
a musk ox skin. I certainly
dined most wonderfully well
on it, for I had been writing
through the furriers establishments
in Montreal to find a handsome
skin to use as a rug & had
returned empty handed, when
behold your present arrived.
Besides being a curiosity it

is a very fine skin, very far
superior to any I have ever seen,
& I am certainly many times
obliged to you for your kind
thoughtfulness of me in sending
it. When you next come back
I shall hope to know it by you
in person. I am reminded by
that you promised when last
here that you would surely
next time keep the promise
made before of at least
coming to visit with me. I
shall be glad to have you come
& stay with me, but failing that,
shall insist upon your keeping
head beneath my roof &
please make your plans accordingly.

43-92

When I look back the earnings of your next trip
up is not a new quiet departure to leave the
house for the coming year just up to your skin's
comfort.

With renewed thanks for the skin &
hoping that you have next month a bit of
that makes up the season. I am, Sir, Very Truly
Yours

J. W. H. May
at Rome.



W. Edwards.

Dec 25th 1881

My Dear Mr. Hill

It is not pleasant to break in on your Christmas, but I have accepted some \$5.00 drafts expecting to be ready to meet them after 15th as you suggested; bleaching is in the way and I cannot afford to let drafts go over; they come due this week.

If not convenient to see ~~now~~ ^{now} I enclose you for temporary use, place with ^{the} Natl & Paul for Cr. 1st Natl Fargo, for my %.

Pardon the importunity but "the poor ye always have with you" is the preacher's Christmas Song!

Yours Truly
W. Edwards.

65 WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK

2nd December 1891

My dear Mr. Hill,

I am in receipt of your favor of 24th Inst. and am glad to find that the fire was not so disastrous as I had been led at first to suppose. I caused my firm to write to Kaldwin & Philips immediately to see if they could not hasten the delivery of some portion of the 25 Engines, which they have engaged to deliver as next April & they but they write that it is impossible.

Thanks for your kind interest in making the enquiry about Will Baker. His father & mother have not heard from him since October and they are afraid something is wrong.

I have a letter from Mr. Olin today saying my invoice had been received and that the Hallberg cases would be pushed to a hearing and I hope we will soon get a decision.

Have the lost Coupons been found and are any accounts being adjusted before the Court as far as possible?

Mr. Stephen returned to Montreal last night. Mr. Angus arrived today and Mr. Angus

and the members of their family here will go to Montreal to-morrow night.

Andrew Lord leaves tonight for St. Paul. I am making my arrangements to be in Montreal when you and Mr. Home are there about 2 weeks hence. Please advise me later on the next day when you will be in Montreal to oblige.

Yours very truly
John H. Kennedy

James J. Hill, Esq.
St. Paul
Minn.

Stenographic Letter of Partners

JOHN S. KENNEDY
J. KENNEDY TOD.

J. S. KENNEDY & CO.

NEW YORK 29th Dec 1881

*WKS
5/10*
James J. Heill Esq,
Vice President
St. Paul

Minn.

Dear Sir

We beg to advise
the sale, for your account,
of 100,000 Dakota Eas @ 103%
100,000 " " @ 103 1/2%
2,000 " " @ 104%

We remain

Yours very truly
J. S. Kennedy & Co.
C. W. Northole

Withnell House,

KITCHEN BROS.

Omaha, Neb.,

Dec 31 1881

Mr. Rice

My dear Sir

Well I have been Texas up &
down & through port & found the Cities
stems Centred by Texas & the
Emigration I heard so much of is coming
from the Eastern Cotton States 7/10 of
which is of the poorest kind from
a Soil worked out & used up & then
sprayed upon by traders until they
beg or borrow enough to get to Texas
with them expect to Cultivate the
Soil with an old Slab sided Mule
& the old Wood plow of 50 years ago
No Northern Emigration to any section
worth mention I would rather
freeze to Mos in the year than
live amongst such a class

Would not invest my little store
much less the money of my friends
I must have a Country where there
is RR & Gov lands & where there
is emigration & Enterprise I have
passed & tomorrow leave for Pacific
Coast to look over Washington Territory
Tacoma on the Sound & Spokan
falls in Eastern WA the climate
is milder than there in Eastern Montana
or Dakota & I want to see it

I hear the Angus has for President
& for V.P. the VP - I must say
of Northern Ca that Atlanta is a
fine growing Metropolitan City & is
absorbing all the trade of Northern
Ga. But Smith Ark is a growing
City of them but no Northern people
there - they come from Penn & Miss
I am practically convinced that
emigration moves on parallel lines
I wish you may find time to drop
me a few lines & give me your practical
views I will tell you more when
I see you. Write me in regard of the
Cause of C. H. Prescott Money O. R. & C.
Patterson organ. Prescott was a banker at
Kansas City - Nothing more happy than
I am Truly
D. E. McKim

Montreal, 31st Dec^r 1881.

My dear Mr. Hill,

I enclose copy of a letter from the Department of Agriculture in answer to my request that they should submit a specimen of the Condon ticket proposed for Government Assisted Immigration for approval before it is issued, and intimating the importance you attached to keeping the Manitoba Company's rates unchanged it being intended that the reduction agreed to by Mr. Stephen should come from another source. I don't think there will be any difficulty in giving effect to the arrangement in the manner you propose, without compromising the Manitoba Co or asking from it an excessive contribution. Of course Mr. Mansel and you will understand that Mr. Stephen had no desire to interfere needlessly with your passenger tariff and,

while it might have been better to await your further communication, his action was influenced by regard for the interests of the Manitoba Company in as large a degree as for the C.P. Ry - as he believed it would be exceedingly injurious to our interests in Minnesota were it to appear that we were endeavoring to extract from our present exclusive connection with the North-West Province all the advantages of that position, without showing sufficient regard for our allies. - Already it was beginning to be suggested that most of the unpopularity and trouble experienced by the Government and the C.P. Ry arises from the exclusive connection referred to, and could be obviated by inviting another Railway to exchange traffic at the International Boundary. It was represented that the Northern Pacific would gladly abandon all designs further North, for a share in the C.P. business, and that the South Eastern and other schemes would be instantly dropped.

if the monopoly was thus broken. We don't intend to purchase peace at such a price; and I merely mention what was suggested that Mr. Marvel and you may understand the influences that would induce us to adopt a policy of reasonable concession in the interests of our Minnesota property.

Mr. Intyre and other Railway men here and in New York having experience in the rules that generally govern passenger rates did not appreciate your argument regarding discrimination. Considering the Government Assisted Emigration so entirely a question of through business, which neither originates nor terminates on your line, they thought you would be free to carry it at any reduction without affecting your local rates - just as do other Railways traversing Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota; but perhaps you have occasion to stand more in awe of the State Commissioner and have in your local surroundings a more jealous public to

deal with. — All these dangers it will be our aim, no less than yours, to guard against as far as possible, but you must also sympathize with the difficulties we encounter in dealing fairly with C. P. Ry interests and at the same time protecting the Minnesota Enterprise that we have equally at heart. — When we have the pleasure of consulting with you here we shall doubtless discover some way of meeting the wishes of Government and of our C. P. friends without undue injury to ourselves. —

We have perused your financial statements and your programme for the coming year with much interest and will be prepared to discuss them with you when you come. — Meantime to complete the survey I would suggest a statement of how you intend to deal with the Minneapolis Union Ry, how much the work will cost and what amount

you think it should be bonded for
 Your Note of 28th is to hand. We are
 assured by Sir John that the South Eastern
 Charter will come under his control and
 that he is making satisfactory progress
 with other matters of a kindred nature.

I may mention before closing that we
 do not expect the Govt Assisted Immigration
 for the first year will amount to much;
 and the C.P. Ry is so directly interested
 that it will contribute very freely in aid.

Wishing you Mr. Maxwell and the Officers
 of the Company generally, a very happy &
 prosperous New Year I remain

Faithfully yours

M. D. Angus.

James I. Hill Esq
 St Paul. Minn.

[12-31-81]

Copy

Department of Agriculture
Ottawa, Canada 30th Dec 1881

My Dear Sir,

I will see that a specimen of the Coupon Ticket is sent to you before it is issued.

As respects the point of your telegram to make no apparent reduction in the price of the ticket by the St Paul, Minn. & Man. Ry. I think it would be met by our advertising these passages as a Special Government assistance in the same way that we have done with reductions of Ocean passages hitherto made.

For instance, the steamers now advertise the regular rate to Quebec to be £6.6 stg, while the Government Assisted Passage on a government order is £5. and £4 for Female Domestic Servants. This however we shall make much lower and particularly on our Manitoba Tickets with their long mileage.

The reductions we propose on the Manitoba Tickets will not apply to the ordinary migrants from the Province but only to bona fide immigrants from the outside.

Of course we shall not only be glad but feel it to be necessary to make the tickets issued conform to your views.

Believe me &c

Yours Truly

(signed) John Lowe

R. B. Angus Esq

Canadian Ry Co Montreal



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